ANEMON PRODUCTIONS, FLACH FILM PRODUCTION and TOOLBOX FILM
present

BUGBOY

a film by LUCAS PALEOCRASSAS

in co-production with ARTE G.E.I.E, ERT, THE HELLENIC FILM & AUDIOVISUAL CENTRE
in association with DR with the support of CNC, DANISH FILM INSTITUTE, PROCIREP - ANGOA
world sales AUTLOOK FILMSALES

BUGBOY

a film by Lucas Paleocrassas

LOGLINE

The unlikely friendship between a boy and an insect reveals the transformative power of nature.

SYNOPSIS

BUGBOY follows George, a shy teenager with misaligned eyes who struggles to connect with others after his parents' traumatic divorce. Finding refuge in the world of insects, he bonds with a cricket named Isabella, who inspires him to reimagine his place in the world. Through a portrait of transformation and self-discovery, it reminds us that even the smallest creatures can help us find where we belong.

TRAILER

https://vimeo.com/1236456338

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long SYNOPSIS

16-year-old **George** is a withdrawn teenager struggling to connect with others. Marked by his parents' traumatic divorce and a condition that misaligns his eyes, George has grown disillusioned with human relationships and finds refuge in the microcosm of insects.

One summer, he bonds with an adventurous cricket he names **Isabella**. Through this fragile yet fearless companion, George learns resilience, empathy, and the courage to reimagine his place in the world. Inspired by Isabella's presence, he decides to undergo a risky eye operation, hoping to open a path toward new friendships.

As George navigates adolescence, his relationship with his father becomes increasingly important: weekends at his dad's house, surrounded by insects and the care of his grandmother, offer him acceptance and safety, yet his father's love can also feel suffocating. Confronting this dynamic—and his mother's absence—becomes a crucial step in his growth.

By spring, George faces a profound dilemma: should he leave behind the safety of the insect world to focus on human connections, or find a way to balance both?

Filmed over three years, **BUGBOY** is a compelling portrait of transformation and self-discovery. Through the lens of George's unusual bond with nature and his complex relationship with his father, the film explores how fragility can coexist with strength, and how even the smallest creatures can teach us what it means to belong.

DIRECTOR'S note

My work often explores how children and teenagers perceive the world as they search for their identity, with a particular focus on introverted young people who feel different and struggle to connect socially.

When I first met 16-year-old George, I was struck by his extraordinary passion for insects. Over the past three years, he has welcomed me into his life, allowing me to witness how his parents' divorce and his impaired eyesight have deepened his sense of isolation and loneliness.

The trust and intimacy that developed between us opened a window into the details of George's everyday existence. I observed how his world, and that of his family, became intertwined with the microcosm of insects, which provide him both refuge and inspiration.

Narratively, I draw inspiration from modern fairy tales about outsiders: characters who seem peculiar to others but possess a unique perspective into our world. My connection to George lies in this shared sensibility and in his profound respect for nature.

I believe his story is not only a portrait of adolescence but a reminder that self-acceptance and resilience can grow from the most unexpected places and that even the smallest creatures can reveal the fragile beauty of our world.

bio

LUCAS PALEOCRASSAS is a documentary filmmaker based in Athens, Greece, whose work explores how young people navigate moments of change, identity, and belonging. He is drawn to introverted teenagers who are outsiders, and see the world differently.

His previous feature FINAL YEAR (2022) premiered in competition at the Thessaloniki Documentary Festival and went on to receive the Best Feature Documentary Award at the Olympia International Film Festival for Children and Young People, as well as Best Greek Documentary at AegeanDocs.

He is a recipient of the ARTWORKS Award and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Artist Fellowship.

credits

BUGBOY

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