



SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL | *a lot to SEE.*

For immediate release

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California Arts Council Grant for SEEFest

Los Angeles, September 20, 2013 - The California Arts Council announced this week that 84 California arts organizations will receive grants from the *Creating Places of Vitality* program funds. SEEFest is one of the proud recipients of this important arts grant award.

The *Creating Places of Vitality* program is rooted in the California Arts Council's vision to create a state where arts and culture are viewed by residents and policymakers alike as not just important, but indispensable to quality of life, to healthy communities, and to state and local economies. "We strongly believe that investment in these local partnerships will result in positive change for California's rural and underserved communities," said **Craig Watson**, Director of the California Arts Council. "Through the *Creating Places of Vitality* program, the California Arts Council's statewide impact is felt, as we support of 23 counties, including 13 rural counties."

SEEFest will partner with the Long Beach Cinematheque and local artists to create cinema programs with contemporary and classic films from over 15 countries of South-Eastern Europe, enriching and connecting underserved communities including those in Santa Ana, Long Beach, and San Gabriel Valley through the art of film.

About

The **California Arts Council** is a state agency governed by an 11-member policy-setting council appointed by the Governor and the Legislature to advance the state through the Arts and creativity.

<http://www.cac.ca.gov>

The **South East European Film Festival**, SEEFest presents cinematic and cultural diversity of South East Europe to American audiences and creates cultural connections through films, artistic and social events.

<http://www.seefilmla.org>

Long Beach Cinematheque is dedicated to educating, connecting, and enriching audiences through the art of cinema.

<http://lbcinema.org>

www.seefilmla.org