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South East European Film Festival Los Angeles 2016 Focus on *Cinema of Exile*

Los Angeles, April 2016 - The many faces of *exile*, both external and internal, slated for 11th SEEFest, set to run April 28 – May 5, include stories both piercing and lifting that share as many facets of the human experience of exile as there are films. A full slate of high quality features and timely documentaries begin on Opening night April 28 at Ahrya Fine Arts theater with the premiere of Bosnia's Oscar entry *Our Everyday Life*, directed by Ines Tanović, who will attend the screening.

The festival was designed to showcase the cinema from South East Europe, a part of the world that is as tumultuous as it is fascinating. "We are deeply honored to have several wonderful films on the program that do what cinema does best, take us up close and personal with real people on a perilous trek toward uncertain future," says SEEFest Founder and Artistic Director, **Vera Mijojlić**.

A full slate of high quality features and documentaries include a young boy's journey across hostile borders in search of a father in Visar Morina's *Babai*, from Kosovo/Germany; documentary about refugees *Logbook_Serbistan* by the celebrated Serbian director and lifelong rebel, Željimir Žilnik; romantic comedy from Australia about Greek-Muslim love, *Alex & Eve* by Peter Andrikidis; Bulgarian coming-of-age *Losers*, a self-deprecating reference to the society at large by Ivaylo Hristov; Serbian morality tale about corrosive hidden truths, *A Good Wife* by celebrated Eastern European actress-turned-director Mirjana Karanović; love story on the mine fields dotting the border-crossings between Turkey and Greece, *Riverbanks* by Greek director Panos Karkanevatos; photographer's album of the 20th century in *The Eye of Istanbul* from Turkey, by Binnur Karaevli and Fatih Kaymak; riveting political thriller *Why Me?* by Tudor Giurgiu from Romania; and more films ranging in cinematic sensibility from quiet observation to irreverent humor.

About SEEFest

The South East European Film Festival in Los Angeles is an annual competition festival. It presents to American audiences films from, and about 18 countries of South East Europe, showcasing diversity of cultures and cinematic talents. SEEFest was twice the recipient of the prestigious festival grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and five other awards for programming excellence from the State of California, County and City of Los Angeles, and Cities of Beverly Hills and West Hollywood.

SEEFest runs April 28 – May 5, 2016 at Ahrya Fine Arts and Music Hall in Beverly Hills, the Goethe-Institut Los Angeles and West Hollywood Council Chambers/Library. Festival passes are on sale via Universe ticketing. Tickets for individual films are available at laemmla.com and at the door.

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