



Aegialis Hotel & Spa  
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## PRESS RELEASE

### 8th International Meeting of Culture and Tourism - YPERIA 2010. Aigiali, Amorgos, Greece.

We are pleased to announce that the 8th International Meeting of Culture and Tourism, YPERIA 2010 took place successfully from 7 to 12 of April at the AEGIALIS Hotel & Spa in Aegiali – Amorgos Island in Cyclades and welcomed representatives from 18 different countries.

The convention was organized by the Women's Cultural Association of Tholaria in cooperation with Aegialis Hotel & Spa.

The main topic of this year's Convention was "**ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF TOURISM**", including:

- ✓ **Eco tourism and environment.**
- ✓ **Health tourism**
- ✓ **Hiking and herbs on Amorgos**
- ✓ **Amorgian - Mediterranean Gastronomy**
- ✓ **Religious Tourism**

A new entry to YPERIA 2010 was :

- **Amorgos Festival of Short Tourist Films**
- **Meeting of Tour Film Festival Organizers** from different countries.
- **Greek Film Academy**

YPERIA 2010 International Meeting on Culture and Tourism organized for the 1st Short Tourist Films Festival of Amorgos. With screenings of films about paths, herbs, monuments, people and places of Amorgos the festival aims to promote and present the natural beauty of the island but also the Historical and archaeological monuments of the island, health tourism, walking tourism, the Mediterranean diet and religious tourism.

After the welcome speech of Mrs Irene Giannakopoulos - President of the Organizing Committee & the Cultural Association Tholaria but also hostess of "Aegialis Hotel & Spa" -, the Mayor of Amorgos, Mr. Nikolaos Fostieris and Mr. Antonios Vlavianos, member of the Organizing Committee presented their greetings.

A projection of movies by Mr and Mrs Edith Lebon, Vangelis Vassalos, Provopoulos Elias and Michel Constant followed presenting the historical paths, herbs, monuments, people and agriculture activity of the island.

For religious tourism, religious monuments of Amorgos, health tourism, the Mediterranean diet have spoken respectively : Dr. Isidore Pachoundakis, Prot Sinodinos Thomas, Prof. Emmanuel Marmaras Architect and Town Planner Mr. Athena Wallace and journalist Mr Marios Kalfoglou.

On Friday, April 9, the known director Mr George Dampasi conducted his work and presented the Greek Film Academy, organized for the first. Speeches and parallel projections from the journalist Aris Malandraki (a holiday in old Greek cinema), the film critic Mr. Notis Forsos (International Film Festival - 50 years association with the Greek cinema), the Director of the Studio "Parallel Circuit" Mr Argiro Mesimeris (Film archives and intercultural tourism) took place in the evening.



On Saturday, April 10, a meeting was held with lectures and film screenings from the Organizers of different Tourism Film Festival (Poland , Romania , Serbia , Portugal , Russia , Italy , Spain , Latvia , Tunisia , etc.), coordinated by Mrs Ewa Kotus, president of the International Film Festival in Poland.

Different subjects were discussed:

“ The influence of films on tourism” by the Portuguese Prof. Francisco Dias

“The use of literature in creating documentaries” by the organizer of the festival Alternativa Serbia Mr. Bosko Savkouvik.

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederiko Chopin, two short movies from the directors Jerzy Szkamzuk and Piotr Stawinski were presented.

The conference ended with a discussion, the distribution of awards as evidence of participation in the Festival and a summary of the Meeting by the lawyer and journalist Emmanuel Lignos , President of the Cycladic Press .

The participants visited sightseeing and monuments of Amorgos ( Tholaria, Panochoriani, Virgin Monastery Chozoviotissa , Chora, the Archaeological Museum , etc. ). From Potamos participants followed the icons procession to the Monastery of Chozoviotissa, after it passed in all the villages of Amorgos .

On Saturday, April 10, after visiting the City Hall of Chora, the film by Katerina Tsourlakis ' Amorgos ' and produce by the Municipality of Amorgos was screened and follow by the show "The Insect " from the dance group " bubble ". Baked raki and xerotigana were offered.

The large delegation of Poland (journalists, TV crew , photographers , etc. ) awarded diplomas of honor and memorabilia to the President Irene Giannakopoulos , to Father Thomas Synodinos, to the Mayor of Amorgos Mr. Nicholas Fostieri to the Professor and archaeologist Mrs. Lila Maragou and to Mr Anthony Vlavianos .

Lunches and dinner were offered by the following restaurants: " Ambrosia" at Aegialis Hotel & Spa" with wine tastings, cooking demonstration, farewell dinner with live music ( violin and lute ) , " Lakki " , " O Chontros " , "Kostaras " and " To limani tis kuria Katina" at the port of Aigiali, " Nikos Taverna "in Lagada , " Panorama" in Tholaria .

There were also screenings with movies from Tunisia, " The paths of Andros " by George Dampasi , " Keros " by Marina Kounenaki , "Leros .... the Malta of the Aegean " by Vassilis Mentogiannis.

Tholaria and Lagada dance groups headed by Mrs Annita Gryspos presented their work .

Special musical note to Mrs Maria Pomianowska, who presented music and songs of Poland with traditional stringed instruments. At the venue of the event was help a permanent watercolors exhibition " Olive " by the French painter Michel Constant and a photo exhibition from Amorgos by seven artists from different countries.

The Conference was held under the auspices of the General Secretariat of Aegean and Island Policy.

Sincerely,

**Irene Giannakopoulos**

**President of the Cultural Association**