

MAMI

Mario Banushi



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Trailer : <https://vimeo.com/1100243327/56ca54ad0c?share=copy>



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Running Time

The duration of the performance is approximately 65min with no intermission

Touring Company

15 People Touring

- 1 x Director
- 6 x Actors / Performers

We kindly ask that appropriate accessibility measures be ensured, including flights, local transfers, accommodation, dressing room and stage access.

- 1 x Set & Costume Designer
- 1 x Tour Lighting Designer
- 1 x Lighting Desk Programmer
- 1 x Composer or Sound Engineer
- 1 x Tour Manager
- 1 x Production & Stage Manager
- 1 x Stage Technician
- 1 x Technical Manager

Touring Freight

A cargo load of approximately 10 EPAL-certified European Standard Pallets (1.20m x 0.80m x 2.20m each), securely packed and optimized for efficient truck loading or air freight. The packaging method may vary based on cargo type, including stretch wrapping, strapping, or protective coverings for secure handling and transport



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Creator of a stage language all his own, the 26-year-old Albanian-born Mario Banushi is already touring the world with his first plays, "Goodbye, Lindita" (2023) and "Taverna Miresia—Mario, Bella, Anastasia" (2023), and is hailed internationally as the wunderkind of Greek theater. If, in his previous works, the theme was mourning, in "MAMI" it is the source of life. For in Banushi's personal mythology, the almost homonymous words "mami" and "mam" become identical. Mami, as in mother. Mam, as in food. One pulls out one's heart and offers it to another like a warm loaf of bread.

Drawing inspiration from personal experiences, Banushi creates an unholy shrine to the mother-child relationship. To celebrate it. To exorcise it. To fill it with vows and curses. To fall in love with it. For, as he himself notes, "I have always said that birth is love in reverse."

The stage becomes a landscape of memory. As eerie as it is familiar. The performers, immersed in silence, create moments of profound emotion and urge us to recognize and confront our own memories, our own relationships, and the emotional legacy we carry.

This breakout director's new creation is a visual poem about the mother-child relationship. A show that is a tribute to the women who nurtured us.

Read more at Onassis Stegi web page : <https://www.onassis.org/whats-on/mami-mario-banushi>

Bio



©Andreas Simopoulos

Mario Banushi was born in 1998 and lived in Albania until the age of six, before moving permanently to Greece. He studied acting at the Drama School of the Athens Conservatory, from which he graduated in 2020. The same year, he made his first short film *Pranvera*, with which he participated in the 2021 Tirana International Film Festival. His first work as a stage director was the performance *Ragada*, which was created and presented in a house in Athens, during the pandemic lockdowns.

His next work, *Goodbye, Lindita*, premiered in 2023 at the experimental stage of the National Theatre of Greece, and quickly accumulated an enthusiastic audience and rave reviews, resulting in consistent sold out shows and international invitations from esteemed festivals and theatres, such as the International Theatre in Amsterdam, the Adelaide Festival in Australia and the Bitef in Belgrade in which Mario received the Bitef Special Award “Jovan Ćirilov” and the Politika Award for Best Director.

His third work, *Taverna Miresia – Mario Bella Anastasia*, was presented in July 2023 at the Athens Epidaurus Festival for three sold-out performances and has been touring internationally since the beginning of 2024. Mario Banushi’s trilogy is usually referenced by the title *Romance Familiare*, which means family romance in Albanian.

His latest work, *MAMI* is an international co-production between Onassis Stegi [GR], Berliner Festspiele [DE], Odéon - Théâtre de l'Europe [FR], FOG festival / Triennale Milano Teatro [IT], & Espoo Theatre [FI], Festival d’Avignon [FR], Grec Festival Barcelona [ES], Théâtre de Liège [BE] and Noorderzon Festival / Grand Theatre Groningen [NL]. It will premiere on the main stage of Onassis Stegi in Athens, in February 2025. In line with his previous works, *MAMI* will be a powerful performance of visual excellence, with “a dash of magic”.

Mario Banushi is an Onassis AiR Fellow for 2023-24 through the Dramaturgy Fellowship.



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CONCEIVED AND DIRECTED BY
MARIO BANUSHI

WITH
VASILIKI DRIVA / KATERINA KRISTO,
DIMITRIS LAGOS, EFTYCHIA
STEFANOU / ILIA KOUKOUZELI,
ANGELIKI STELLATOU, FOTIS
STRATIGOS, AND PANAGIOTA YIAGLI

SET & COSTUME DESIGN
SOTIRIS MELANOS

ORIGINAL MUSIC & SOUND DESIGN
JEPH VANGER

**LIGHTING DESIGN AND ASSOCIATE
DRAMATURG**
STEPHANOS DROUSSIOTIS

ARTISTIC COLLABORATORS
AIMILIOS ARAPOGLOU, THANASIS
DELIGIANNIS

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
THEODORA PATITI

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS &
TOUR MANAGEMENT**
NIKOS MAVRAKIS – TOOFAREAST

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT
RENA ANDREADAKI – TOOFAREAST

LINE PRODUCTION
IOANNA PAPAKOSTA - TOOFAREAST

**AUDITIONS & RESIDENCY
COORDINATOR**
KONSTANTINA DOUKA GKOSI –
TOOFAREAST

TOUR LIGHTING DESIGN
MARIETTA PAVLAKI

TOUR SOUND ENGINEER
KOSTAS CHAIDOS

SET ASSISTANT
SOFIA THEODOROU

COSTUMES ASSISTANT
NIKOLETA ANASTASIADOU

SET CONSTRUCTION
MICHALIS LAGKOUVARDOS

SPECIAL CONSTRUCTIONS
ALAHOUZOS BROTHERS, ALEXANDROS
LOGGOS

SPECIAL LIGHTING CONSTRUCTIONS
GIORGOS IERAPETRITIS

**REHEARSAL TECHNICAL
COORDINATION**
ARISTIDIS KREATSOULAS - TOOFAREAST

REHEARSAL ELECTRICIAN
KONSTANTINOS MAVRANTZAS



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REHEARSAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT

STEFANOS NTAOULAS, IASON
PAPANTONIOU, GRIGORIS ZKERIS,
PARIS ASIMAKOPOULOS

IN COLLABORATION WITH

OMAZ CIVIC NON-PROFIT COMPANY

COMMISSIONED AND PRODUCED BY

ONASSIS STEGI

CO-PRODUCED BY

BERLINER FESTSPIELE [DE], ODÉON –
THÉÂTRE DE L’EUROPE [FR], FOG
FESTIVAL / TRIENNALE MILANO TEATRO
[IT], & ESPOO THEATRE [FI], FESTIVAL
D’AVIGNON [FR], GREC FESTIVAL
BARCELONA [ES], THÉÂTRE DE LIÈGE
[BE], NOORDERZON FESTIVAL / GRAND
THEATRE GRONINGEN [NL]

SPECIAL THANKS

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KYRIAKOU, KATERINA LIATSOU,
JULIAN MOMMERT, DIMITRIS
PAPAIOANNOU, PETROS PAPAZISIS,
GIORGOS SOFIKITIS, THEODOROS
TERZOPOULOS, PINELOPI
TSOUTSOUVA, ELENA VISERI,
CHRYSSI VIDALAKI, MARK YEOMAN &
RAYDUN BOLK AND THE TEAM OF
GRAND THEATRE GRONINGEN, ALL
THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE AUDITION
WORKSHOPS, TINA PAPANIKOLAOU

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WERE MADE POSSIBLE WITH THE
SUPPORT OF**

THE ONASSIS AIR DRAMATURGY
FELLOWSHIP [GR] AND THE CENTRE
CULTUREL HELLENIQUE—PARIS [FR]

SUPPORTED BY

THE ONASSIS STEGI TOURING
PROGRAM.

Onassis Stegi's Touring Program

Touring Support and Outreach Our Mission

Fostering and supporting artists on a constant and long-term basis lie at the core of the existence of Onassis Stegi. Our mission through the Touring program is to strengthen the presence and status of artists in every corner of the world and throughout Greece, and at the same time forge innovative networks tightly intertwined with the nexus of the international scene, with and for the artists.

Onassis Stegi boosts the prominence and visibility of contemporary Greek works of dance, theater, music, and visual arts on an international level, helping artists unleash their full potential. In practice, this is achieved with the coordination of international and national tours for the Onassis Stegi productions; the realization of co-productions in collaboration with cultural institutions across the world; the participation of artists in international networks; the support in furthering the artists' capacities and learning pathways as they expand their audiences; and the enhancement at large of their interpersonal contacts with international programmers.

With the support of the Touring program, Greek artists turn their gaze outwards. In the last decade, more than 80 Onassis Stegi productions have been celebrated across hundreds of performances hosted by cultural venues all over the world.

The program is tailored to each production and offers its support to works of artists and groups who live and create in Greece primarily and on the condition that they have been included in the programming of the Onassis Stegi.

For more information about the touring grant offered by the Onassis Stegi's Touring Program please contact:

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Read more about the program at : <https://www.onassis.org/onassis-stegi/onassis-cultural-export-program>