

# MARIA

A film by Nina Danino on The Transfiguration of Maria Callas, UK, 2023

[ninadanino.co.uk](http://ninadanino.co.uk)



*'Only when I was singing did I feel loved...to sing is an expression of your being, a being which is becoming.'* Maria Callas, 19??

*Stunning woman, stunning artist. Impossible heights*

In MARIA, a new experimental film by Nina Danino, Maria Callas is seen in recordings of different performances - Norma, Tosca, Medea. She is transfigured in an audio-visual ICONOSTASIS (a wall of icons) of different archive formats and newly shot footage. MARIA is a hypnotic, cinematic,

immersive and transcendent vision of an icon, an artist and a woman who expresses the glory, abandonment and loneliness in her life as an opera singer and whose voice in opera embodies the expression of harshness, of sorrow.

MARIA is Nina Danino's 5<sup>th</sup> feature length film and a sister film to the recent SOLITUDE (2022) with Nico (Velvet Underground) as icon, screen and poet. The two films form a diptych about powerful iconic women building on Nina Danino's longterm artistic practice exploring the voice and religious iconography.

Key ideas: Inscription-monologue, transfiguration - a change that glorifies, longing, a lone wolf, bravura, whistles. Intertitles: Iconostasis, Thumos, Catharsis, the Greek Orthodox Death prayers ending with the Trisagion, Père Lachaise, The Dead Brakhage, MEDEA by Pier Paolo Pasolini, The Doors.

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Country of Production: UK

Year: 2023

Running Time: 80 minutes

Screening Format: DCP, ProRes422HQ, H264 (mp4)

Sound: 5:1 or stereo 25fps

Original Formats: 16mm, S8, 35mm, VHS

Aspect Ratio: 1.85 : 1

Language: English

Colour and Black and White

Enquiries

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Archive Consultant Kate Griffiths  
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