

Film explores reality of Macedonia

BY MARIA GALINOVIC

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IF YOU are a woman born in St George into a Macedonian family, married to a German and living in Europe, the question of culture and identity could become a puzzle.

"Who am I?" and "what is identity?" are common questions asked by first-generation Australians such as Petra Zlatevska who straddle the old culture of the parents and the new ways of the new country.

Ms Zlatevska, a lawyer, describes herself as bicultural different from her parents and undoubtedly different from the children she might have in the future.

For her, understanding where you come from is an important part of the jigsaw puzzle that makes up identity.

So when she heard about a documentary film project, A Name is a Name, she wanted to become involved.

She came home to promote the film which is sure to be of interest to fellow Macedonians and anyone else interested in the notion of place being vital to identity.

"It often takes a stranger to shed new light on an issue and start informed debate," Ms Zlatevska said.

A cross between a documentary and a feature film, A Name is a Name is a classic road film made over seven months.

An Icelander director Sigurjon Einarsson comes to Macedonia, rents a motorcycle, and travels around the country talking to people from all classes and backgrounds about what it means to be Macedonian.

In the background is Macedonia itself, its stunning landscapes, monasteries and mosques, historical and archeological sites, towns and cities.

Ms Zlatevska said Einarsson was a filmmaker who liked to shed light on various causes.

The film features music by Morten Harket, lead singer of Norwegian rock group A-ha, Icelandic bands Sigur Ros, Mum and Earth Affair, Britain's Graham Nash, Monte Negro from California and Macedonians Kiril Dzajkovski and the late Tose Proeski.

The film premiered last Friday at the State Theatre, Sydney.

See a trailer:
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I would like to know when the film will premiere in Perth WA? Thankyou! Melissa

Posted by **Melissa**, 4/03/2010 1:32:00 PM, on St George & Sutherland Shire Leader

hi Melissa, you should join 'a name is a name' film group on facebook. All screening details are listed on the film's group.

There are plans for an April screening in Perth, but stay tuned. Petra

Posted by **pepi**, 24/03/2010 3:17:52 AM, on St George & Sutherland Shire Leader

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Who are we? Petra Zlatevska and Zoran Lozevski organised the film's screening. **Picture by John Veage**



Macedonian Identity: Film still from Anna Maria Sigurjonsdottir

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