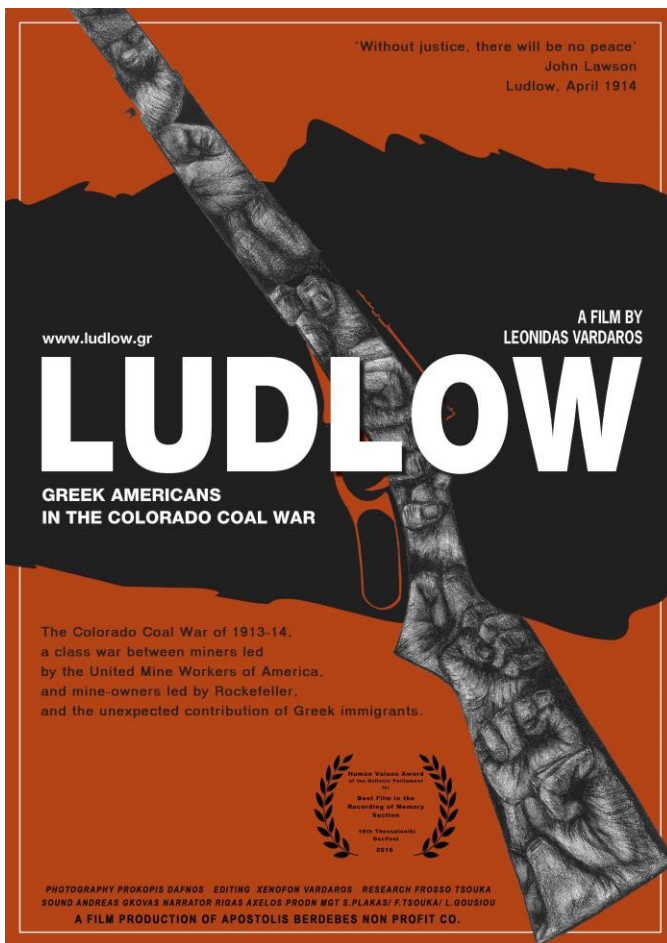


**Press Release, March 19, 2016**

“Human Values Award” of the Hellenic Parliament  
For “Best Film in the Recordings of Memory section” of the 18<sup>th</sup> TDF  
“Ludlow, Greek Americans in the Colorado Coal War”

“Apostolis Berdebes” nonprofit company, producer of “Ludlow, Greek Americans in the Colorado Coal War” by Leonidas Vardaros, is proud to announce that the documentary was selected as “best film in the Recordings of Memory section” of the 18<sup>th</sup> Thessaloniki Documentary Festival and awarded the “Human Values Award” of the Hellenic Parliament.

The jury stated in its rationale: *“The award is bestowed to Leonidas Vardaros’ “LUDLOW, Greek Americans in the Colorado Coal War”, a film that highlights through rare archival material, an unknown facet in the history of the American labour movement, with focus on the role of the Greek immigrants”.*



The documentary narrates the story of Greek immigrants at the beginning of the last century, who ended up in distant Colorado working under inhuman conditions in the coal mines of Rockefeller and his fellow mine owners, and who together with immigrants from 22 other countries revolted and wrote a proud page of American labor history, known as the Colorado Coal War of 1913-14.

It is a story not often mentioned in history books, but alive in the memory of the children and the grandchildren of the men who fought for their life and dignity. They recount their family history with pride and anger in their voice, pride for their forefathers and anger for the injustices they were faced with.

Despite the millions that Rockefeller spent to erase the memory of this story, our research uncovered the real events in local newspapers of the period, in records found in the archives of local universities and historical societies, and in the work of dedicated historians and researchers.

Our team, consisting of director Leonidas Vardaros, cinematographer Prokopis Dafnos, researcher Frosso Tsouka, editor Xenofon Vardaros, sound engineer

Andreas Gkovas, and narrator Rigas Axelos, gave its best in this truly collective effort. The production management was carried out by the members of “Apostolis Berdebes” non-profit, Stefanos Plakas, Frosso Tsouka, and Lina Gousiou. The producers owe special thanks to the music group Romiosyni for the first ever professional recording of the Colorado strike song “The Union Forever”.

For more information about the film, please visit our website [www.ludlow.gr](http://www.ludlow.gr) and our [Facebook page](#).

**Ludlow is dedicated to the Greek American Community  
whose support made this film possible**