

## CITY OF ERRORS

<http://cityoferrors.com/>

City of Errors is a cross-media platform dedicated to the promotion of civic engagement in big cities. An online space with documentaries, interviews and most importantly user videos and photo-stories giving *ideas, examples and lessons\** on how to be a responsible citizen.



### Project Summary

City of Errors is a cross-media platform providing inspiration, motivation and fun tools to become an active part of the struggle for sustainable, livable and humane cities. It allows users to upload, crowd source and remix visual content on things that matter to them most and make mash-up videos to share with the world.

By combining online documentary and mobile and social networking with user generated content, City of Errors lures users out to the public space and makes civic engagement an entertaining activity. Far from being simply a symbolic or artistic endeavor, City of Errors does not stop at creating social awareness through its documentaries. It plunges into the real problems of the big city by providing its inhabitants with a learning-by-doing toolkit, a database of practical ideas on how to be a responsible citizen and a channel of direct community empowerment through video-art.

Adding the element of creativity and empowerment in simple things like caring for the environment, helping members of the community or using one's skills to intervene to the errors of the public space, it offers not only civic interaction but also an important tool for active engagement: Online video-editing.

### Our Story

City of Errors was created in 2009 in the Greek Doc Lab organized by EDN. It was an idea on paper about a feature-film on the everyday problems of the city of Athens, by the title *Life in A City Full of Errors*. In 2010 the film proposal was awarded with the Doc On Air Award in the Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival, a 7000 euro development money award. The prize was awarded by ERT who however did not proceed to co-produce the project.

Nevertheless the project went into development in 2011 and participated in DocXChange a two-part workshop and pitching session for cross-media projects organized by Hot Docs and Filmkontakt Nord. There, it became a cross-media project not anymore on the errors of a city, but on the ways we find to fix them.

After a long search for a guerilla team that would make things happen with or without cash, a 3 member team was created and in 2012 with absolutely no funding. Together we launched [cityoferrors.com](http://cityoferrors.com), initially just a website with a trailer and 3 short films. As the project became known to the wider public, the team quickly started growing and creative people came on board because they believed in the project's social impact. We are now a large team of people who have devoted hours of labor into City of Errors because we believe in the social innovation behind this project. The relevance of the project with the needs of our times, the need for collaboration especially, has resulted to our now strong online presence all over Greece and some even abroad. City of Errors is included in [Guardian's](#) interactive map of best city blogs and we were recently mentioned by [Forbes](#) as the "Greek geeks that boost civic engagement in harsh times".

Our team has also achieved the unthinkable four years ago: to create a popular online documentary platform identified with civic engagement and overcome the lack of funding. Now our aim is to take City of Errors around the world and create an experience that will have an impact to the way we support campaigns, causes and people that engage in active citizenship.