

# Stefania Lampoura: 2001, a Greek-Dutch Odyssey

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*Throughout the sketch everybody except Stefania and the "echo"shouter wears a sheet as a "toga" so please bring your own sheet!*

## 1. The meeting of the gods

*People: Stefania (Jante), Zeus (Bas), Athena (Lavanya), Poseidon (Mikas)*

*Props: Laserpointer*

*Setting: In the corner Stefania is playing with a laserpointer, interrupting the beam to make short pulses, the gods stand at a distance taking to each other.*

*Athena:* He, Zeus, what about this Greek girl on the Island of Groningos?

*Zeus:* What about her, Athena?

*Athena:* I feel sorry for her: she has been stuck on this boring freezing northern island for 7 years now. She wants to go home to Greece, but she has been captured by this nymph, Kalypso, which will not let her go before she is in the Guinness book of records for making the shortest laserpulse ever.

*Zeus:* Well, you may be right. It is quite an impossible task, and who cares anyway. It's more of a job for a Lithuanian anyway.

*Poseidon:* Well, I think she deserves to suffer a bit more. After all it was her who stole my anti-mouse-arm mouse, and now I have to do all these silly exercises, I'm the laughing stock of all the gods. No mortal being should be allowed to do such a thing to a god unpunished! She should at least successfully complete one experiment before she is allowed to leave.

*Zeus:* I will send my messenger, Hermes, to Groningos to tell Kalypso that she should give the girl a different project. She should find back my favourite nymph Echo, who so mysteriously disappeared after the unfortunate affair with this charlatan, Narcissus.

## 2. On Groningos.

*People: Stefania (Jante), Kalypso (Raoul), "echo"shouter (Frank)*

*Props: Cardboard box*

*Setting: Kalypso looks at Stefania who keeps on waving in front of the laser.*

*Kalypso:* Turns to Stefania and says: "Hmmm, I just received a message from the gods, and apparently they want you to do something about echo's"

*Stefania:* Echo's? What are they, and what should I do?

*Kalypso:* (picks up box) and shouts:"Echo" in the box

*Echo-shouter* (from the back): echo

*Kalypso:* Did you hear that? That was an echo. Of course you can also do a 2 pulse echo (shouts echo twice in the box)

*Echo-shouter* (from the back): echo

*Kalypso:* Or a three pulse echo (shouts echo three times in the box)

*Echo-shouter* (from the back): echo

*Kalypso:* And this way you very easily determine the entire energy landscape of any protein you like!

*Stefania:* Eh?

*Kalypso:* You try it yourself!

*Stefania:* Shouts once, then twice and then three times in the box, but no echo emerges.

*Kalypso:* Keep on trying until you succeed. The gods have decided that you cannot leave for Greece before you do.

*Stefania:* Keeps on shouting "echo"

### **3. Back to the Gods**

*People: Stefania (Jante), Athena (Lavanya), Poseidon (Mikas)*

*Props: Cardboard box*

*Setting: Stefania still shouting "Echo" in the box all the time.*

*Poseidon: What the hell is that noise?*

*Athena: That is Stefania trying to find Echo!*

*Poseidon: She is driving me mad! And why is she yelling in the box anyway?*

*Athena: Beats me! Apparently Hermes has screwed up the message again.*

*Poseidon: Ah, he hit the bottle again*

*Athena: Full of ouzo again, I'm afraid!*

*Poseidon: Well I've had it, Zeus is not here anyway, I damn her to the underworld: to Amsterdamnos, to visit my brother Rienk van Hades so she can keep him awake for a while!*

### **4. In Amsterdamnos with Hades and the cyclops**

*People: Stefania (Jante), "Rienk van" Hades (Rienk), Cyclops (John)*

*Props: Laser pointer, one eye, to be put on John's head*

*Setting:*

*Stefania: Excuse me sir, have you seen Echo?*

*Hades: He, where do you think you are? This is the underworld, you know! We don't do favours here. You have to work for me, and you will never get out of here (Satanic laughter)!*

*I'll put you to work in my laser-dungeon. There's another lost soul dumped there. A cyclops, trying to align a laser with one eye (Satanic Laughter) I'm so evil! Look over there: (points at cyclops).*

*Stefania: (walks up to cyclops)Have you seen echo?*

*Cyclops: (bending over all the time in order to show his "eye") He, I've only got one eye! I'm happy when I do not run into the wall all the time, so I have no time to look for people named echo!*

*Stefania: Oh, I'll never get back to my beloved Thessaloniki!*

*Cyclops: Thessaloniki! Hades must really hate me, to send me a Bulgarian to work with.*

*Stefania: I'm not Bulgarian!*

*Cyclops: O, of course, I should have seen immediately from your looks that you are Turkish! Anyway woman, show me what you can do with a laser!*

*Stefania: I sure will (points laser into the eye of the cyclops).*

*Cyclops: AAAAAAAHHH My eye, you burned my only eye out! Now I will never get my KNAW fellowship!*

*Stefania: Says "beeee" and escapes from the underworld and wanders around, shouting "Echo"*

### **5. The sirens**

*People: Stefania (Jante), Athena (Lavanya), Sirens (Sofia, Olaf, Sandrine), Uszo (Delmar)*

*Props:*

*Setting: Stefania walking around, calling for echo again*

*Athena appears*

*Athena: Poor girl, just go that way, and you will find what you are looking for. But be aware: don't be tempted by the sirens.*

*Stefania walks on.*

*Sirens (on the other side of the stage)(very luring voices): Mensa, mensa at 6 o'clock. Mensa, mensa at 6 o'clock, hurry up, it's almost time!*

*Stefania hesitates, but finally walks up to the sirens:*

*Sirens:* please have a seat. Would you like ouzo?

*Stefania:* Oh, my favourite drink, yes please I could use some ouzo.

Uszo appears:

*Stefania:* Who are you?

*Uszo:* I'm Uszo, and I am your worst nightmare! You need to write 20 gigabytes of job applications every time before you get food from the mensa! And you need to write it in italics!

*Stefania:* in Italics? But I'm Greek!

*Uszo:* You just sit here and start typing.

*Stefania:* But there's no computer.

*Uszo:* I told you: I'm your worst nightmare (and walks off)

## **6. Finale**

***People:* Stefania (Jante), Echo (Manolis)**

***Props:* tape with "Sirtaki?"**

***Setting:* Stefania is sitting on the floor depressed, and puts the box over her head, and starts shouting echo again.**

*Stefania:* Echo

Then finally there is a reply.

*Echo:* Echo (appears on stage, walking in a funny way)

*Stefania:* Who are you?

*Echo:* I'm Echo, you finally found me!

*Stefania:* But why are you walking in such a strange way?

*Echo:* Well, I have to move to this really weird energy landscape you know! But now you have found me, is there anything I can do for you?

*Stefania:* There is only one thing in the world that I want, and that is to go back home to Thessaloniki.

*Echo:* You silly girl, you could have gone home all the time. Just have to click your heels, and repeat "there's no place like home, there's no place like home"

*Stefania* clicks her heels and says: "there's no place like home, there's no place like home".

Everybody gets on to stage and starts dancing the sirtaki with Stefania.