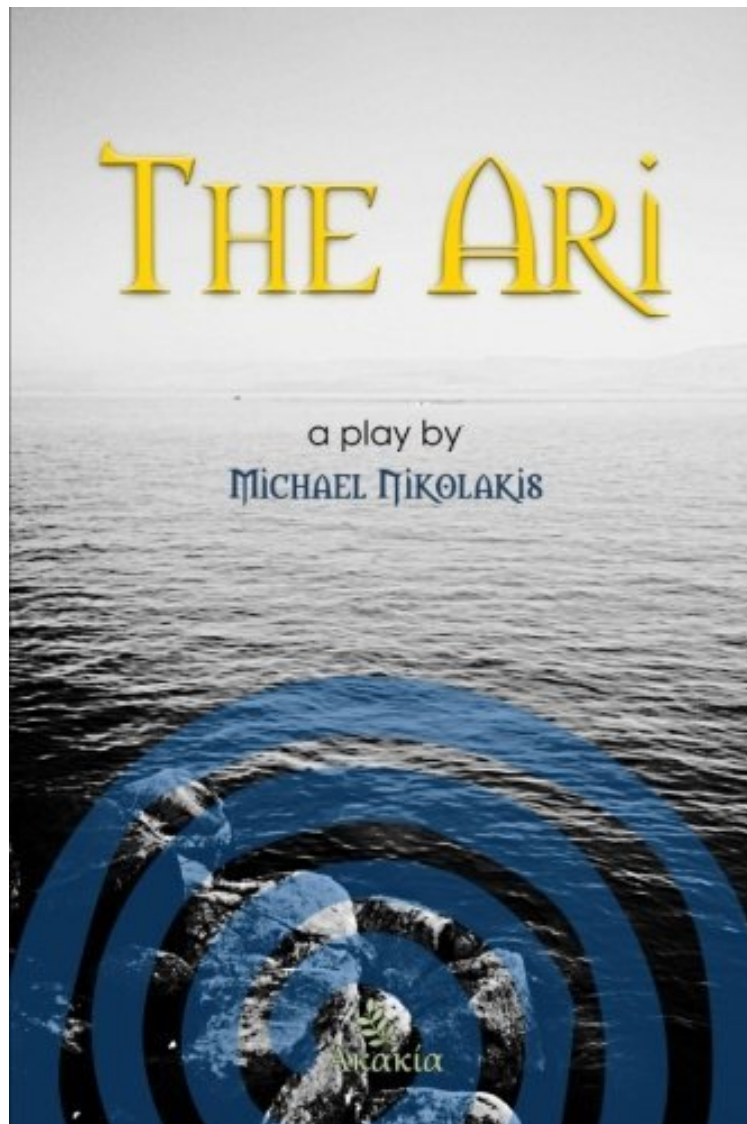


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The Ari

Michael Nikolakis

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Michael Nikolakis : The Ari before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ari:

The most famous Kabbalist of all times, Isaac Luria or known as the Ari (the Lion), came to this world to teach the wisdom of Kabbalah to one student only, Chaim Vital. As the Ari did not physically write anything, his student Chaim

was the only person who recorded the teachings. Years later, his son Shmuel Vital edited and published the writings that we have now. However, some of the deepest secret writings were buried with Chaim in his grave. Against his father's will, Shmuel dugged out the secret writings... Shmuel is the narrator of his father's and the Ari's story. This is the story of teacher and student moving through different stages in their spiritual development in order to reach the ultimate goal: Final Redemption - meaning, to bring Messiah, to bring the end of pain and suffering in the world. Will they achieve their purpose?

About the Author Michael Nikolakis was born in Athens and holds a BA in English Studies from the University of Athens. He continued his studies in England with an MA in English/Theatre from the University of Reading and a PhD in Politics/Theatre/Cultural Studies from the University of North London (now London Metropolitan University). His doctorate thesis, *Staging Identity: Postcolonial Processes in Contemporary Irish Drama*, has been referenced in numerous subsequent academic publications. Michael has lectured in Theatre Studies at universities in England and Ireland. Michael has collaborated with various theatre groups in England and Greece for the production and staging of plays by William Shakespeare, Samuel Beckett, Vaclav Havel, Edward Albee, Caryl Churchill et al.