



IRISH SCREEN AMERICA NAMES AWARD RECIPIENTS, SHORT FILMS ANNOUNCED FOR 2018 FESTIVAL

Irish Screen America, the organisation which promotes Irish filmmakers in the U.S., has named the recipients of their Rising Star Awards, ahead of their annual festival. The Irish Screen America festival is a **bi-coastal event**, taking place in New York from 19th – 21st October and in Los Angeles from 26th – 28th October. The festival also announced actor cum director Hugh O’Conor as the second ever recipient of the **Jim Sheridan Award for Achievement in Irish Filmmaking**.

Jim Sheridan is a patron of the festival and was one of the earliest directors to work with the young Hugh O’Conor as an actor. The two have enjoyed a long history, since O’Conor played the young Christy Brown in Sheridan’s Oscar® winning debut film, *My Left Foot*. O’Conor went on to star in many more films over the years, including *Chocolat* (2000), *Handsome Devil* (2016) and *Mary Shelley* (2017) and has broken out as a director in his own right, having directed many short films over the years. This year, O’Conor completed his first feature film as a director, a coming-of-age dramedy called ***Metal Heart***, which will open the 2018 Irish Screen America festivities in Los Angeles, as a members-only gala screening.

Since its inception, Irish Screen America has grown in tandem with the Irish film industry and connected Irish films with audiences and distributors in the U.S. and promoted upcoming Irish talent within its North American creative network. Previous recipients of Irish Screen America’s Rising Star Award include actors Barry Keoghan (*Dunkirk*) and Nika McGuigan (*Can’t Cope Won’t Cope*) and directors Cathy Brady (*Can’t Cope Won’t Cope*) and Tom Ryan (*Twice Shy*) among others.

The recipients of this year’s **Irish Screen America Rising Star Awards** are: screenwriter Máire Campbell, whose Northern Irish family drama ***Grace & Goliath*** will premiere in both New York and Los Angeles; director Vincent Lambe, whose



true crime drama ***Detainment*** has picked up awards in Poland and Denmark; and actor/producer Natalie Britton, who produced two of the selected shorts, the dark comedies ***Egg Day*** and ***Sam Did It***. Director Donal Ó Céilleachair, whose sea voyage documentary ***The Camino Voyage*** opens the New York leg of the festival is the recipient of the **ISA Documentary Award**.

Detainment plays as part of an Irish short film showcase. Other selected short films include ***Take Me Swimming*** (Director Claire Dix), ***My Future Self*** (Director Jake McKone), ***Smoked Mackerel / Ronnacháí Buí*** (Director Ciarán Charles), ***Wave*** (Directors Benjamin Cleary & TJ O'Grady-Peyton), ***Troubles*** (Director Jonathan Harden) and ***Sister*** (Director by Aoife Duffin).

Egg Day and *Sam Did It* will screen as part of a short film programme showcasing films made by Irish filmmakers living in Los Angeles. Other selected films include: ***Tae Talk*** (director Liam Alex Heffron), ***No Irish Need Apply*** (director Bill Fitzpatrick), ***The Beast*** (director Lorcan Fox), ***Bless Me Father*** (director Paul Horan), ***The Owl*** (director Neil Winterlich) and ***Sucking Diesel***, the first episode in a new web series (director Maurice O'Connell). Filmmakers will be in attendance for a group Q+A after the screenings.

These mixed media collections of short filmmaking showcase the wealth of Irish talent working on both sides of the Atlantic. A highly anticipated part of ISA's annual festival, they will screen in addition to the previously-announced feature film line-up, which includes *Metal Heart*, *The Camino Voyage*, *Grace & Goliath* and coming-of-age prison drama, ***Michael Inside***.

Irish Screen America is sponsored by Fís Éirinn / Screen Ireland, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Culture Ireland, Tourism Ireland, the Irish



Film Institute and Aer Lingus. Irish Screen America: Los Angeles takes place in conjunction with Ireland Week.

Irish Screen America: New York takes place from **Friday 19th - Sunday 21st October** at NYU's Cantor Film Center.

Irish Screen America: Los Angeles takes place from **Friday 26th to Sunday 28th October** at Loyola Marymount University.

For more info and to purchase tickets, visit www.irishscreenamerica.com.

IRISH SCREEN AMERICA: FEATURE FILM LINE-UP

The Camino Voyage

Friday 19th October – NYU Cantor Film Center – 7:30pm

Director Q+A with Dónal Ó Céilleachair

Michael Inside

Saturday 20th October – NYU Cantor Film Center – 7:30pm

Director Q+A with Frank Berry

Saturday 27th October – Loyola Marymount University – 8pm

(no Q+A)

Grace & Goliath

Sunday 21st October – NYU Cantor Film Center – 4pm

Saturday 27th October – Loyola Marymount University – 4pm

A Mother Brings Her Son to be Shot

Sunday 21st October – NYU Cantor Film Center – 7pm

Director Q+A with Sinéad O'Shea

Metal Heart

Friday 26th October – Members exclusive gala screening

Director Q+A with Hugh O'Conor



IRISH SCREEN AMERICA: IRISH SHORT FILMS

Saturday 20th October – NYU Cantor Film Center – 3pm

Saturday 27th October – Loyola Marymount University – 2:30pm

Take me Swimming

A son must overcome his own conflicted feelings and honour his father's intentions to keep his mother alive, despite her expressed wish to the contrary.

Director Claire Dix

Cast Barry Ward, Olwen Fouéré, BJ Hogg

Producer Roisín Geraghty

Duration 15 Mins

My Future Self

This clever time travel comedy was shot 16 years apart with the same actor in the lead role. Jimmy, a middle aged man is given an opportunity to meet his younger self and in turn reverse his fortunes.

Director Jake McKone

Cast Rebecca Mowatt, Lee Osborne

Producer Liam Beatty

Duration : 4 Min

Smoked Mackerel / Ronnacháí Buí

The arrival of Irish language students into a remote village leads local best friends Colm, Maeve and Peadar into unknown territory. First stop - the Atlantic Ocean

Director : Ciarán Charles

Cast : Sinéad Ní Fhlatharta, Pádraig O Laoi & Cian MacDonnchadh

Producers Ciarán Charles

Duration : 16 Min

WAVE

A man wakes from a coma speaking a fully formed but unrecognizable language baffling linguistic experts from around the globe.



Directed by Benjamin Cleary & TJ O'Grady-Peyton
Cast - TJ O'Grady Peyton, Emmet Kirwan & Tiny James
Narrated by Jarvis Cocker
Produced by Rebecca Bourke

Duration 14 Min

Troubles

A troubled traditional Irish musician reenters the fold after a long absence. An emotionally stunted friend wants to offer an apology. When words fail them both, music is all they have to bring them together.

Director: Jonathan Harden
Cast: Fra Fee, Niall McNamee, Tony Devlin
Producers: Jonathan Harden, Bronagh Taggart

Duration: 12 Min

Sister

Sister explores what it means to be a sister and the obligations we face when all we want to do is run away.

Director: Aoife Duffin
Cast: Aoife Duffin, Lucy Miller
Producers: Catherine O'Flaherty, Kieron J. Walsh Aoife Duffin

Duration: 8 Min

DETAINMENT

Two ten year-old boys are detained by police under suspicion of abducting and murdering a toddler. A true story based on interview transcripts and records from the James Bulger case which shocked the world in 1993.

Director: Vincent Lambe
Cast: Ely Solan, Leon Hughes, Caleb Mason, Will O'Connell, David Ryan, Tara Breathnach
Producers: Darren Mahon, Vincent Lambe, Robert Dwyer-Joyce

Duration: 30 Mins



IRISH SCREEN AMERICA: LOS ANGELES IRISH SHORT FILMS

Sunday 28th October – Loyola Marymount University – 2pm

Post-screening Q+A with filmmakers

Tae Talk 2

Colin is a dedicated dad and talented designer. But there's little room for doting daddies in Falic Females. Tae Talk 2: a dark take on sexism suited up in comedy.

Director - Liam Alex Heffron

Cast - (order of appearance) Jenn McGuirk, Marcus Lamb, Sinéad O'Riordan, Claudia Carroll
Marcus Lamb and baby Mylo Geoghegan

Producers Orion Productions with Jenn McGuirk

Duration: 5 minutes

Q&A attendee(s) Jenn McGuirk and Sinéad O'Riordan

Sucking Diesel (web series, ep1)

If there was an 11th commandment, he'd break that one as well.

Director : Maurice O'Carroll

Cast : Johnny Elliott, Eddie Jackson, Sinead O Riordan, Ben Condrón, Steve Gunne, Tom Lawlor,

Producers : Sinead O' Riordan, Maurice O' Carroll

Duration : 10mins

Q&A attendee(s) Sinead O'Riordan

No Irish Need Apply

A seven minute short exposing anti Irish bigotry from the classified pages of Boston's daily newspapers, 1880 's - 1890's.

Director Bill Fitzpatrick

Producers Bill Fitzpatrick

Duration: 7mins

Q&A attendee(s) Bill Fitzpatrick



The Beast

DEERS CARVE OUT A LIFE IN THE CITY

Director LORCAN FOX

Cast THE DEERS OF RICHMOND PARK

Producers LORCAN FOX, GUSTAVO NORIEGA (GFX), ALASDAIR BOYCE (DOP)

Duration: 5 mins

Q&A: Lorcan Fox & Gustavo Noriega

Bless Me Father

In a small Irish town where secrets are rare, a local man goes to church to confess his.

Director: Paul Horan

Cast: Francis Magee, Phelim Drew, Glynis Casson

Producer: Dawn Mac Allister

Duration: 15mins

Q&A Attendee: Paul Horan

Egg Day

A dark comedy short about the egg retrieval process during a couple's IVF.

Director: Gracie Mercedes

Cast: Gracie Mercedes, Damien Fahey, Mindy Cohn & George Ketsios

Producers: Natalie Britton & Kate Hamilton

Duration: 10mins

Q&A Attendees: Natalie Britton (producer), Damien Fahey (co-writer/co-star) & Gracie Mercedes (director, co-writer, co-star)

Sam Did it

Sam is about to meet his celebrity idol... the only problem is, Sam works in a morgue... and his idol is dead

Director: Dominic Burgess

Cast: Alfred Molina, Dominic Burgess, Harley Jane Kozak

Producers: Natalie Britton, Dominic Burgess, Casey Graf, Ari Schneider

Duration: 10mins

Q&A: Natalie Britton, Dominic Burgess



The Owl

Nick (Emmet Kirwan: Dublin Oldschool) arrives uninvited to his best friend's birthday party, where he discovers why his friends have abandoned him.

Director: Neil Winterlich

Cast: Emmet Kirwan, (Dublin Oldschool). Aoife Duffin, (Moone Boy).

Producer: Oorlagh George, (The Shore)

Duration: 13mins

Q&A: Neil Winterlich.

-ENDS-

For further press information email fitzgerald.william@gmail.com.

Ireland Week 2018

IrelandWeek 2018 returns to Los Angeles, 25th Oct – 4th Nov, after the sell out success of last year's inaugural events.

The flagship event of the week once again this year is IRELANDCON – The Ireland Conference, celebrating creativity and innovation across, Tech, Trade, Culture And Entertainment. IRELANDCON will take place this year on Thursday Nov 1st at LMU's brand new state of the art campus in Playa Vista, deep in the heart of the emerging tech scene in Silicon Beach. LMU Playa Vista Campus will house graduate programs for LMU School of Film and Television.

Once again, this year will see dozens of events happening across Los Angeles, covering Live Music, Theatre, Visual Art, Film and TV, Sport, and Animation as well a many other areas of interest not just to the Irish Diaspora here in Los Angeles, but to those keen on doing business in these fields in Ireland.

For more information www.irelandweek.com