



Irish Film Institute

IFI

Documentary

Festival

26–30 September 2018

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OPENING FILM –
IRISH PREMIERE

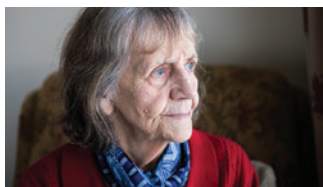
Minding the Gap

Wednesday 26th (20.20)

Bing Liu filmed his friends Zach and Keire for years, capturing their skateboarding antics and camaraderie as they negotiated the transition to adulthood in the economically deprived town of Rockford, Illinois. As the years go by and Zach learns he is to be a father, Liu begins to shift focus, his confidence as a filmmaker growing as he tackles the veiled subject of the trio's variously damaged upbringings, cycles of abuse and toxic masculinity. Winner of the Audience Award at Sheffield Doc/Fest, Liu's moving debut feature displays insight, nuance and great visual flair. **DOM**

DIRECTOR: BING LIU / 93 MINS / USA / 2018 / DIGITAL.

This screening will be followed by a wine reception in the IFI foyer.



The Life After

Thursday 27th (18.00)

3,532 people were killed and 47,541 injured as a result of The Troubles in Northern Ireland. Here we are presented with testimonies of families who were bereaved from the early days of the conflict in 1969 to the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. With many of the murders unsolved, these families ploughed on with their disrupted lives, and now seek not vengeance but recognition of their loved ones, and of the injustices they have suffered. **SOF**
DIRECTORS: BRIAN HILL AND NIAMH KENNEDY
89 MINS • IRELAND-NORTHERN IRELAND
2018 • DIGITAL.

Followed by a Q&A with directors
Brian Hill and Niamh Kennedy.



The Curious Works of Roger Doyle

Thursday 27th (20.20)

Composer Roger Doyle prepares for the staging of *Heresy*, his first opera, in Dublin in 2016. This film closely follows the rehearsals and preparations for the production, and explores over four decades of the surreal and otherworldly music of the 'Godfather of Irish Electronica', merging Roger's own reflections on his practice with contributions from long-time collaborators actress Olwen Fouéré, filmmakers Joe Comerford, Bob Quinn and Cathal Black and others. **SOF**
DIRECTOR: BRIAN LALLY • 105 MINS • IRELAND
2018 • DIGITAL.

Followed by a Q&A with Roger Doyle
and director Brian Lally.



WORLD PREMIERE

An Engineer Imagines

Friday 28th (18.00)

This cinematic homage to Peter Rice, one of the most distinguished engineers of the late 20th century, traces his extraordinary career from his Dundalk childhood to his work on the Sydney Opera House, the Pompidou Centre and the Lloyd's Building, right through to his untimely death in 1992. Marcus Robinson uses stunning time-lapse photography and revealing interviews to tell the story of a genius who has stood in the shadow of architectural icons. Until now. **SOF**
DIRECTOR: MARCUS ROBINSON • 88 MINS
IRELAND • 2018 • DIGITAL.
Followed by a Q&A with director
Marcus Robinson.



A Woman Captured

Friday 28th (20.30)



For more than ten years, 53-year-old Marish has been held captive by another woman, Eta, who takes her wages, tasks her with relentless chores and is verbally and physically abusive. Director Bernadett Tuza-Ritter paid Eta to film Marish on the proviso that she and her family are never shown, a stricture that affords her incredible film its distinctively claustrophobic aesthetic. Astonished at Marish's life of suffering, and the hold Eta has over her, Tuza-Ritter gradually convinces the terrified woman that escape is possible. **DOM**

DIRECTOR: BERNADETT TUZA-RITTER
89 MINS • HUNGARY • 2017 • DIGITAL
SUBTITLED.

Followed by a Q&A with director
Bernadett Tuza-Ritter.



Irish Shorts Programme

Saturday 29th (13.30)



The Irish shorts programme showcases emerging talent in observational, expository, participatory and poetic forms of documentary filmmaking. This year's selection includes: *The Reek* (Jamie Goldrick, 7 mins); *Johnny* (Hugh Rodgers, 7 mins); *For When I Die* (Paul Power, 10 mins); *Mother and Baby* (Mia Mullarkey, 18 mins); *Inhale* (Sean Mullan, 15 mins); *The Last Miner* (Luke Brabazon, 7mins); *Pigeons of Discontent* (Paddy Cahill, 9 mins); and *Hey Ronnie Reagan* (Maurice O'Brien, 11 mins). **DK**

VARIOUS DIRECTORS • IRELAND • 2017-2018
DIGITAL.

The Irish Shorts Programme Audience
Award, presented at the screening, is
kindly supported by Screen Scene.



Losing Alaska

Saturday 29th (15.30)

The 375 residents of Newtok, Alaska watch their homes disappear into roiling seas as winter storms steal their coastline and melting permafrost erodes the edges of their town. Tom Burke's (*The Liberties*) elegiac study follows the community as they struggle to maintain their traditional Yup'ik culture, a subsistence lifestyle of hunting and fishing, and build a new town on safer, higher ground. **SOF**

DIRECTOR: TOM BURKE • 82 MINS • IRELAND
2018 • DIGITAL.

Followed by a Q&A with director
Tom Burke and composer Gerry Horan.



Gurrumul

Saturday 29th (17.00)

Celebrated for his extraordinary singing voice, the late Indigenous Australian multi-instrumentalist Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu was on the cusp of breakout success when he died at the age of 46, having approved Paul Williams' film just three days prior. Blind from birth, Gurrumul was a private figure, with little appetite for the expectations of celebrity that his innate ability with traditional song would bring him. Blending footage of his idyllic home life on Elcho Island in the north-eastern Arnhem Land, with sequences from his final world tour, Williams' film is a fitting tribute to a remarkable talent. **DOM**

DIRECTOR: PAUL WILLIAMS • 96 MINS
AUSTRALIA • 2017 • DIGITAL.



Our New President

Saturday 29th (18.40)

The story of Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign is recounted through a collage of Russian propaganda clips in Maxim Pozdorovkin's (*Pussy Riot: A Punk Prayer*) provocative film that sheds light onto the extent of the Russian fake news apparatus, which goes so far as to suggest that Hilary Clinton lost the race on account of being cursed by a Siberian mummy. From polished state-sanctioned media to DIY pro-Trump curios culled from the darker corners of the Internet, the assemblage of footage is amusing and troubling in equal measure. **DOM**

DIRECTOR: MAXIM POZDOROVKIN • 77 MINS
RUSSIA-USA • 2018 • DIGITAL • SUBTITLED.



Katie

Saturday 29th (20.30)

Katie Taylor, Olympic Gold Medalist and multiple European and World Amateur Championship titleholder, turned professional and attempted to rebuild a faltering career after a disastrous campaign at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Renowned documentarian Ross Whitaker gamely takes on this notoriously private and reserved subject, unravelling the deeply personal reasons that have driven her career choices and revealing a woman of undeniable charisma and warmth who is fuelled by a champion's grit and determination. **SOF**

DIRECTOR: ROSS WHITAKER • 85 MINS • IRELAND
2018 • DIGITAL.

Followed by a Q&A with director Ross
Whitaker and members of the Taylor family.



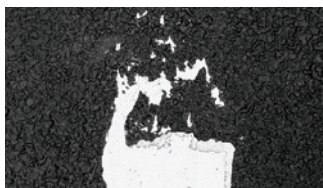
The Man Who Wanted To Fly

Sunday 30th (13.00 & 13.30)

Eighty-something Cavan bachelor Bobby Coote left school at 13 and says his reading and writing isn't great. He spends his days fixing clocks and making violins from old furniture. But he's never lost sight of a lifelong dream to take to the skies. Inviting the help of his neighbour Sean, and the derision of his brother Ernie, Bobby sets about building a runway and a hangar and investing his life savings in his own private plane. **SO**

DIRECTOR: FRANK SHOULDICE • 82 MINS IRELAND • 2018 • DIGITAL.

Both screenings will be followed by a Q&A with Bobby Coote, director Frank Shouldice and DOP Dave Perry.



When All Is Ruin Once Again

Sunday 30th (17.40)

Though firmly embedded in Gort and Crusheen in the west of Ireland, this powerful documentary essay quickly transcends the local to reveal national, even universal, truths. Capturing a rural community as a motorway carves through their land, director Keith Walsh (a Gort resident) weaves an epic recessionary tapestry of his neighbours in bog lands, farms, fire-sides, race tracks and hurling pitches and reflects on the value of memory and the impermanence of existence. **SO**

DIRECTOR: KEITH WALSH • 80 MINS • IRELAND 2018 • DIGITAL.

Followed by a Q&A with director Keith Walsh and producer Jill Beardsworth.



Lovers of the Night

Sunday 30th (15.30)

Seven elderly Cistercians in Kildare open their doors to a young German-Irish filmmaker.. 88-year-old Alberic, a passionate Munster rugby fan with a fine sense of humour, interlaces their stories, reflecting on faith and revealing the vulnerability of old age. This accomplished first film captures moments of profundity, joy and affection in the monks' daily devotion to God and to each other. **SO**

DIRECTOR: ANNA FRANCES EWERT • 57 MINS GERMANY • 2017 • DIGITAL.

Screening with *Silent Order*, a 1948 film about Cistercians in Roscrea.

Followed by a Q&A with director

Anna Frances Ewert.

Kindly supported by the Goethe-Institut Irland.



The Judge

Sunday 30th (16.00)

Judge Kholoud Al-Faqih was the first Palestinian woman to be appointed to one of the country's Islamic Shari'a law courts, which adjudicate on matters of divorce, child support, domestic violence and abandonment. A jovial presence in spite of seemingly insurmountable obstacles to progress, Al-Faqih campaigns to redefine how the frequently misinterpreted Shari'a laws are perceived and implemented, bringing her years of experience as an attorney representing abused women to bear on her challenging and much opposed new role. **DOM**

DIRECTOR: ERIKA COHN • 80 MINS USA-PALESTINE • 2017 • DIGITAL • SUBTITLED.



Sunday 30th (18.00)

At a hospice on the Isle of Wight, four people with terminal illnesses experience the year their lives will end. Granted uncommon access, director Steven Eastwood approaches his challenging theme with sincerity and compassion, building trust with the patients to a degree that one man permits the filmmaker to be present at the moment of his death. Offering exceptional representation to the sick and dying, *Island*, in the director's own words, shows death to be natural and everyday but also unspeakable and strange. **DOM**

DIRECTOR: STEVEN EASTWOOD • 90 MINS • UK • 2017 • DIGITAL.

Followed by a Q&A with director Steven Eastwood.

CLOSING FILM –
IRISH PREMIERE

The Silence of Others

Sunday 30th (20.30)

The forty-year legacy of General Franco's dictatorship and the irrepressibility of memory and history is explored in this stirring film – winner of the Grand Jury Prize at Sheffield Doc/Fest – which unearths the battle of civilian campaigners to overturn an act passed in 1977 that whitewashed the regime's crimes against the Spanish people. Victims seeking recognition for murdered loved ones and repatriation of remains come together to confront perpetrators who have enjoyed impunity for decades. **DOM**

**DIRECTORS: ROBERT BAHAR, ALMUDENA CARRACEDO • 96 MINS • SPAIN-USA
2017 • DIGITAL • SUBTITLED.**

Followed by a Q&A with co-director Almudena Carracedo.



Panel Discussion

Documentary Making in Ireland Today

Friday 28th (12.00)

The IFI, in association with Screen Producers Ireland, is holding a discussion on the state of documentary production in Ireland today. As audiences change and producers look for the next big hit, Irish and international speakers will discuss the challenges and successes they have experienced in getting documentaries made. The types of content that receive funding; who is commissioning and distributing content; and the impact this has will be foremost in the discussion.

Tickets €5

Tickets

- **Tickets** cost €11 except for the opening film which includes a post-screening reception (€15). Free list suspended.
- **Daily Membership** costs €1.50 (which will be added to the individual ticket price).
- **Become an IFI Member!** Membership is required for all festival films. Day membership of €1.50 will be added to the price of your ticket if you are not a member, so why not become an IFI Member for only €35 (€20 for concessions) per annum! Enjoy fascinating and award-winning cinema all year round for less and a host of other benefits. Sign up at the IFI Box Office or online.

- **Special Package Price** 5 films for €45. Available in person at the IFI Box Office only.

- **IFI Café Bar** Enjoy a delicious meal in the intimate surrounds of our fully licensed IFI Café Bar. Reservations: (01) 679 8712.



The F-rating is a classification reserved for any film which is directed and/or written by a woman.

Programme notes by:
David O'Mahony (DOM)
Sunniva O'Flynn (SOF)
Dean Kavanagh (DK)

Booking

www.ifi.ie/docfest

IFI Box Office
01 679 3477

6 Eustace Street
Temple Bar, Dublin 2

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SCREENSCENE
NEP Creative Technology

Festival Guests

Tom Burke: *Losing Alaska*



Tom Burke has been directing and editing documentary film and video projects for over a

decade. At Areaman Productions from 2007 to 2017. He was able to mix factual television projects with more aesthetically driven Irish Film Board-funded short form documentaries. In 2017, he established Broadstone Films in order to pursue his feature documentary and fiction project ambitions. Feature and shorts titles include *The Liberties*, *The Venice of the North*, *Bloody Good Headline*, *In Bed with the Irish*, and *Generation Sex*.

Almudena Carracedo: *The Silence of Others*



Born in Madrid, Spain, Almudena Carracedo is based in the US, where she directed and

produced her debut feature film, the Emmy Award-winning documentary *Made in L.A.* She is a Guggenheim Fellow; a Creative Capital Fellow; a Sundance Time Warner Documentary Fellow; a United States Artists Fellow; and the recipient of an honorary doctorate from Illinois Wesleyan University. Prior to *Made in L.A.*, she directed the short documentary *Welcome, A Docu-Journey of Impressions*, which won Silverdocs' Sterling Prize.

Steven Eastwood: *Island*



Steven Eastwood is an artist-filmmaker working between the cinema and gallery, who has screened and

exhibited internationally, and completed two feature length films *Buried Land* and *Island*. Eastwood has been the recipient of numerous grants, awards and commissions. He is Reader in Film Practice at Queen Mary University London, where he leads the Centre for Film & Ethics and has oversight of PhD by practice and the MA in Documentary.

Brian Hill/ Niamh Kennedy: *The Life After*



Brian Hill is an award-winning director of both drama and documentary. His films have been shown by all major UK broadcasters and in many other countries around the world. He has been nominated eight times for BAFTA awards, winning three of them. For the last twenty-three years he has been managing director of Century Films, one of the UK's leading independent production companies.

Niamh Kennedy has been involved in the development and production of feature documentaries, TV documentaries, scripted feature films and TV dramas in the UK and Ireland. She has produced and directed award-winning short films and is now directing long-form documentary projects.

Frank Shouldice: *The Man Who Wanted to Fly*



Frank Shouldice is an award-winning journalist and playwright who has been working with the investigations

unit of Ireland's national broadcaster RTÉ, he makes his feature documentary debut with *The Man Who Wanted to Fly*, an affectionate character portrait with an unexpected Hollywood twist. A published author and winner of Prix Europa for his radio documentary work, his plays have graced stages all over the world.

Check the IFI website for further guest announcements.

Bernadett Tuza-Ritter: *A Woman Captured*



Bernadett Tuza-Ritter is a Hungarian independent film director and editor

specialising in creative documentaries and fiction. She studied directing and editing at the University of Theatre and Film Arts Budapest. In 2013 she worked as a director in the project *Cinetrain – Russian Winter* which won the audience award at Vision du Reel documentary festival. A member of HSE and Hungarian Film Academy, *A Woman Captured* is her first feature length documentary.

Keith Walsh: *When All Is Ruin Once Again*



Keith Walsh has been filming since he was 13 years old. Over the past 25 years he has

worked specifically in non-fiction-directing, shooting and editing his own work with long-time collaborator Jill Beardsworth. Their work has screened at over 50 festivals worldwide and picked up several awards. He has also edited and filmed for some of the country's finest documentary makers.

Ross Whitaker: *Katie*



Ross Whitaker is a documentary maker responsible for the feature documentaries *Saviours* (2007);

Unbreakable: The Mark Pollock Story (2014); and *Between Land and Sea* (2016). His other documentaries include the award-winning television documentaries *The Bailout* (2011); *When Ali Came to Ireland* (2012); and *Anthony Foley: Munsterman* (2017); and short documentaries *Bye Bye Now* (2009), *Home Turf* (2011) and *The Toughest Road Back* (2015). He is a former Festival Programmer of the IFI Documentary Festival and editor of Film Ireland Magazine.