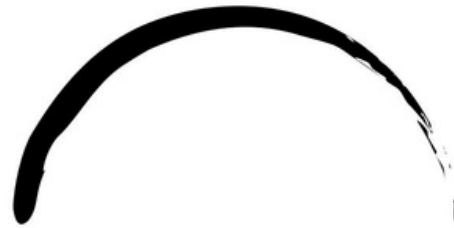


Galway Film Fleadh



Programme Guide

July 11th - 16th 2023

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This schedule was updated on 03/07/23. For the most up to date schedule and for Panels, Events, Masterclasses and beyond, please visit galwayfilmfleadh.com.

Please Note: Due to circumstances beyond our control, the times of films may change at short notice. These changes will be posted on our website and on the noticeboards in the Town Hall Theatre and Pálás Cinema.



Irish Cinema

A Greyhound of a Girl

Family animation, A Greyhound of a Girl, follows Mary (11) who has an insuppressible passion for cooking – she dreams of becoming a great chef. Her grandmother Emer, with whom she has a very special relationship, encourages her to make this dream come true. But every path has its pesky obstacles, and facing them turns into quite an adventure. Mary thus begins a journey across the barriers of time, in which four generations of women come together.

Enzo d'Alò's animated adaptation of Roddy Doyle's novel is a delicate coming-of-age story, sprinkled with irony. With a cast that includes Brendan Gleeson, Sharon Horgan, Rosaleen Linehan and Charlene McKenna

Director: Enzo d'Alò

Screenwriter: Enzo D'Alò, David Ingham, Roddy Doyle

Producer(s): Paul Thiltges, Adrien Chef, Xenia Douglas, Mark Cumberton, Richard Gordon, Vilnis Kalnaellis, Riina Sildos, Artur Kubiczek, Guy Collins

Cast: Brendan Gleeson, Rosaleen Linehan, Sharon Horgan, Charlene McKenna, Mia O'Connor, Paul Tylak

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 15:00

Runtime: 89 mins

A Passing Place

Conor King, in his feature debut, brings us across the landscape of Achill Island as we watch Lucy and Sam struggle with the environment they live in. Having grown up in London, Lucy is only just adapting to life with estranged family in the Irish countryside when a mysterious object appears in the sky. The possibility of first contact sparks a new sense of motivation, leading her to explore the island on which she has been struggling to settle over the past few months. Lucy's plans soon clash with her father's overprotective reaction and her brother's apparent disconnection to the appearance of the object, which has coincided with his own doubts as to whether this small, remote island is really the best home for either of them.

Director: Conor King

Screenwriter: Conor King

Producer(s): Deirdre King, Conor King

Cast: Imogen Allen, Conor King, Vincent Patrick, Brian McCarthy, Katrina Blair, Gina Burke, Shane McCarthy, Barry McNamara

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 21:00

Runtime: 94 mins

Apocalypse Clown

From director George Kane, Apocalypse Clown, follows a troupe of failed clowns as they embark on a chaotic road trip of self-discovery after a mysterious solar event plunges the world into anarchy. Jenny, a conspiracy clickbait reporter, is looking for a way to broadcast the truth to the whole world. The Great Alphonso, a pompous ex-TV clown celebrity, spots his chance to resurrect his career and reclaim the fame he so craves; while Bobo, Pepe, and Funzo, desperately try to escape the wrath of some vengeful human statues. They will meet for a final clown show proving, that the end of the world can also be a funny business.

Director: George Kane

Screenwriter: Demian Fox, George Kane, Shane O'Brien, James Walmsley

Producer(s): Morgan Bushe, James Dean

Cast: David Earl, Natalie Palamides, Amy De Bhrún, Fionn Foley, Tadgh Murphy, Ivan Kaye, Pollyanna McIntosh, Tony Cantwell

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 21:30

Runtime: 102 mins

Ballymanus

On the 10th May 1943, something came ashore on Ballymanus strand in rural Donegal, Ireland. The next day, nineteen people, mostly children, were dead. A generation of the small townland was lost. Calls for answers were silenced by the authorities. No one has been held accountable. The disaster is unknown outside of the close-knit community, and barely spoken of within it. Ballymanus tells the story of one of the worst tragedies in modern Irish history, through the words of the victims' descendants and the memories of the few remaining survivors.

Director: Patrick Sharkey, Seán Doupe

Screenwriter: Patrick Sharkey, Seán Doupe

Producer: Patrick Sharkey

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 15:30

Runtime: 53 mins

Irish Cinema

Ballywalter

Eileen (Seana Kerslake) is a caustic, unrepentant University drop-out whose dreams of a successful life in London have fallen by the wayside. Back at home with her mum, she makes ends meet by working as an unlicensed driver in her ex-boyfriend's minicab. Shane (Patrick Kielty) has exiled himself in Ballywalter following the break-up of his marriage, but now he's trying to get his life back on track by enrolling in a stand-up comedy course. When Shane calls a taxi to get him to his classes, Eileen answers and a surprising connection is made. As the two spend time together shuttling back and forth, a beautiful friendship develops, leading both of them to a moment of realisation. Shane reintegrates; Eileen makes peace with herself and who she really is. Finally, she can stop running and just drive.

Director: Prasanna Puwanarajah
Screenwriter: Stacey Gregg
Producer: James Bierman, Nik Bower
Cast: Seána Kerslake, Patrick Kielty

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 15:30
Runtime: 88 mins

Croíthe Radacacha

Director Ciara Hyland explores the hidden stories of eight female couples who were at the heart of the Irish Revolution that freed Ireland from the British Empire. These women's likely lesbianism has largely remained unexamined, denied and hidden from history - until now. These women were extraordinary in the lives they lived - they were radical in their politics, in their feminism, their socialism and their devotion to freedom and equality. In the end, many of them picked up a gun and went and fought for that freedom and equality. They suffered huge losses but ultimately lived life on their own terms - where the personal was political and their private lives were as radical as their public. This is also the story of 'doing gay history' - the difficulties of finding evidence of love that by necessity had to fly under the radar, the glimpses we get of how people lived in the past and the burden of proof placed on examining gay relationships. This is a documentary about 'the love that dares not speak its name' - found at the very heart of the Irish Revolution.

Director: Ciara Hyland
Screenwriter: Ciara Hyland
Producer: Ciara Hyland, Ann Dalton

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 11:00
Runtime: 70 mins

Double Blind

Seven strangers enrol in a seemingly routine drug trial at a pharmaceutical facility, but soon discover an unexpected side effect - they are unable to fall asleep. Concerned for her patients' safety, the supervising doctor advises the pharmaceutical representatives to stop the trial, though they are more interested in the drug's potential on the market than the safety of some "lab rats".

As the drug's effects finally begin to diminish and the participants grow tired, they realise that if they fall asleep, they will die. Chaos ensues when the facility suddenly goes into lockdown, and the participants must fight to stay awake for another 24 hours, after already being awake for almost five days straight.

Director: Ian Hunt-Duffy
Screenwriter: Ian Hunt-Duffy
Producer: Simon Doyle
Cast: Pollyanna McIntosh, Millie Brady, Abby Fitz, Shonagh Marie, Diarmuid Noeyes, Brenock O'Connor, Frank Blake, Akshay Kumar

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 19:00
Runtime: 90 mins

Face Down

On the 27th of December 1973, a nightmare began for an entire family. On that night, a German businessman called Thomas Niedermayer was kidnapped from his home in Belfast. He was never seen alive again by his friends or family. He became one of the "disappeared", and it seemed that no-one knew what had happened to him. His wife, Ingeborg, and his daughters, Renate and Gabriele, spent the next seven years not knowing if Thomas was alive or dead. Then, in 1980, an IRA informant led police to recover his body. But the trauma did not end then: there were further devastating consequences for all of them. Thomas and Ingeborg's only granddaughters, Tanya and Rachel, were told nothing of this history when they were growing up. Now, 50 years after their grandfather was kidnapped, they have embarked on a painful journey of discovery - to find out the shocking truth of what really happened half-a-century ago.

Director: Gerry Greg
Screenwriter: Gerry Greg
Producer(s): David Blake Knox, Kelda Crawford-McCann, Hadyn Keenan, Catherine O'Flaherty

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 14:15
Runtime: 85 mins

Irish Cinema

Hungry Hill

Filmed on the highest point on the Beara Peninsula in the southwest of Ireland, Hungry Hill follows the day-to-day lives of a community of sheep farmers who are in perpetual negotiation with the demands of the terrain, changing societal attitudes, and the impact of globalisation. Central to the film is the story of three generations of co-director Vanmechelen's family, who moved to Ireland from the Drowned Land of Saefinghe in Holland/Belgium in the 1980s. The family left their farm in the polders, due to its proximity to the Doel nuclear power station and the adverse effects of pollution coming from the pharmaceutical industry. Archival media from Belgium and Holland weaves an intertextuality with footage from Hungry Hill that connects disparate times and places.

Director(s): Mieke Vanmechelen, Michael Holly
Screenwriter(s): Mieke Vanmechelen, Michael Holly
Producer: Mieke Vanmechelen
Cast: n/a

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 19:00
Runtime: 81 mins

In The Shadow of Beirut

From the makers of Gaza (Sundance 2019), comes a new cinematic odyssey that penetrates deep below the surface of Beirut, a still beautiful, yet deeply troubled city on the brink of financial collapse.

In the Shadow of Beirut weaves four compelling storylines together in a searing portrait of a people and a city struggling to survive amidst some of the most difficult living conditions imaginable. In this failing state, it is the vulnerable who suffer most.

This is a nation suffering one of the worst global financial meltdowns on record, a country and a city that many now are trying desperately to flee.

Director: Stephen Gerard Kelly, Garry Keane
Screenwriter: Stephen Gerard Kelly, Garry Keane
Producer: Brendan Byrne, Myriam Sassine, Alison Toomey, Christian Beetz
Cast: Abeed Family, Kujeyje Family, Daher Family, Aboodi Ziyani

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 14:00
Runtime: 92 mins

Made in Dublin

In a city of countless stories, lives collide, and destinies intertwine. A wannabe actor, down on his luck, waiting tables, is desperate for his big break. He borrows money from notorious loan sharks to care for his ailing mother, who he regales with stories of his fictional glittering acting career. A washed-up and strung-out movie director, unwanted by Hollywood and his beautiful 'A-list' wife. A lonely drag queen ready to trust again – to love and be loved. And a femme fatale working through her 'daddy issues' in her own unique way. All set on a course of destruction and all heading each other's way

Director: Jack Armstrong
Screenwriter: Jack Armstrong
Producer: Melissa Lawlor
Cast: Stuart Cullen, Paudge Behan, Maya O'Shea, Jonathan Delaney Tynan, Maria Branagan, Eon Grey, Judy Donovan, Andrew Kingston, Valerie Armstrong, Emily Godson, Ian Molloy, Terence Christle

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 16:30
Runtime: 102 mins

My Lost Russian Mother

An intimate tale of secrets and lies, family and ethnicity and one young man's odyssey from America to Russia, searching for his birth mother. Irish filmmaker Sam Jones, in his first feature documentary, follows US citizen Gabe, who is trying to trace the mother he and his sister were taken from. What he finds is not the loving parent he hoped for.

Director: Sam Jones
Screenwriter: Sam Jones
Producer(s): Nuala Cunningham, Ciaran O'Connor

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 18:00
Runtime: 86 mins

Irish Cinema

John Behan - Odyssey

John Behan Rhais Ireland's best-known living sculptor. He is as busy as ever in his early 80s, with regular exhibitions in Ireland and abroad. In addition to this heavy workload, he feels so strongly about the suffering of refugees around the world that, for a number of years before Covid, he travelled to Athens to volunteer at Camp Eleonas, a state-run centre for migrants, and delivered art workshops to adults.

His artistic practice has always dealt with displacement of people and emigration, and the most celebrated example of his public sculpture is the National Famine Memorial at Murrisk, near Westport.

Although the documentary is not a conventional profile, as we observe him at work in Greece, we flash back to archive footage, as he tells the story of his life in his own words.

Director: Donald Taylor Black
Screenwriter: Donald Taylor Black
Producer: Donald Taylor Black, Eavan Mulligan
Cast: John Behan

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 16:30
Runtime: 75 mins

Kings

Five immigrants from the Connemara Gaeltacht are confronted with the poverty of their lives in London when their friend Jackie is found dead on a railway line. Colm Meany, Donal O Kelly, Brendan Conroy, Barry Barnes and Donncha Crowley animate this unflinchingly bleak portrait of Irish emigrant experience – Ireland's choice for Best Foreign Language Film at the Academy Awards (2008).

Screening in tribute to Tom Collins, a much-missed pillar of the Irish film community.

Director: Tom Collins
Screenwriter: Tom Collins
Producer: Jackie Larkin
Cast: Colm Meany, Donal O'Kelly, Brendan Conroy, Donncha Crowley

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 17:15
Runtime: 88 mins

Lie of the Land

A tense drama unfolds in this first feature from Director John Carlin. As the Wards prepare to abandon their lives, escaping a dire financial situation, a last-minute change of heart leaves them fighting for survival.

After her mother's death, ageing farming couple Kath and Matthew decide to run from the crippling debt that is anchored around their smallholding, to find a new life in the sun. Their ticket to paradise comes via Shepherd, a mysterious stranger who promises safe passage away from all their problems for a fee. On the departure day, the couple change their minds. An angered Shepherd turns violent, and a deadly game of cat and mouse plays out around the farmhouse and its outbuildings.

Director: John Carlin
Screenwriter: John Carlin
Producer: Chris Patterson, Margaret McGoldrick
Cast: Nigel O'Neill, Ali White, Barry John Kinsella, Abe Smyth, Paddy Jenkins

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 19:00
Runtime: 80 mins

Lies We Tell

Director Lisa Mulcahy takes the helm for this contained psychological thriller about a gaslit girl's break for freedom. In an isolated manor, Maud, an orphaned heiress must fight her guardian for her inheritance – and her life.

Stripped-down, gritty, and all-too-contemporary: this is not a frocks-and-bonnets period picture but a taut, propulsive, fight to the death.

With a cast that includes Agnes O'Casey, David Wilmot, Holly Sturton and Chris Walley. Lies We Tell is produced by Ruth Carter of Blue Ink Films with backing from Fís Éireann / Screen Ireland.

Director: Lisa Mulcahy
Screenwriter: Lisa Mulcahy
Producer: Ruth Carter
Cast: Agnes O'Casey, David Wilmot, Chris Walley, Holly Sturton

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 21:30
Runtime: 89 mins

Irish Cinema

Notes From Sheepland

Notes from Sheepland' follows lipstick wearing, always swearing, no nonsense, artist and shepherd, Orla Barry. Through her fields, her digital diaries, and the pedigree sheep she cares for, we discover how the art is in the doing. "Notes from Sheepland has a streak of light, playful wit. There is also something of a lament about the film. What happens in this shepherd's little corner of Ireland becomes a reflection of global events and challenges for everyone." Screen Daily

Director: Cara Holmes
Screenwriter: Cara Holmes
Producer(s): Cara Holmes & Nuala Cunningham
Cast: Orla Barry

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 12:00
Runtime: 70 mins

Reefer and the Model

Joe Comerford's signature sharp realism infuses this darkly entertaining comedy-thriller about ex-IRA man Reefer (Ian McElhinney), Teresa (Carol Scanlan) a pregnant woman trying to overcome a drug addiction, Spider (Sean Lawlor) and Badger (Ray McBride), an unlikely quartet who live aboard a trawler on the Galway coast.

This 2023 Director's Cut has been restored through the IFI and Screen Ireland Digitisation Project. Presented by the Irish Film Institute.

Director: Joe Comerford
Screenwriter: Joe Comerford
Producer: Leila Doolan
Cast: Ian McElhinney, Carol Moore, Sean Lawlor

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 16:00
Runtime: 88 mins

Somebody

Somebody is an introspective take on modern life in Ireland and the different intergenerational challenges that women face. The protagonist continuously faces adversity because of her unwillingness to acquiesce to the pantomime of society. She suffers because she does not engage in her mother's games, she doesn't encourage her landlord's pursuit of her, and she fails to put up an effective facade for work. Her unwillingness to participate in society's games and conform to its norms causes her to face individual and undeserving challenges and, ultimately, she is unable to overcome.

Director: Dave Byrne
Screenwriter: Dave Byrne
Producer: Liz Kenny
Cast: Jess McLaughlin, Anne Mc Crudden, Donal Hurley

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 13:30
Runtime: 57 mins

Songs of Blood and Destiny

The filmmaker takes the semi-autobiographic words of Marina Carr's poem "iGirl" as if they were her own, encouraging the actors and the audience to do the same.

Using a personal visual language, the filmmaker mirrors the slippery nature of Carr's work, fire, earth, air, water, crash and bump, contradictory truths told by a dynamic troupe of actors, banging on the fourth wall.

Visuals untangle, re-tangle in multi-layered collages to augment performances of Eileen Walsh, Cathy Belton, Brian Gleeson, Brian Quinn and new-comers Ella Lilly Hyland and Holly Sturton.

The present-day narrator is curious, funny, but unforgiving, evoking voices, past and future; Joan of Arc, the warrior, Antigone, the truth teller, the incestuous Jocasta, and her son Oedipus, mirrors Homo Sapien tragic fate of their own making.

Reverberations in contemporary messy domesticity, the extinction of the Neanderthals, the potential extinction of the planet and ourselves, driven by the very desire to avoid it, fuelled by sci-fi fantasies of somewhere better in the beyond, and transhumans of the future.

Director: Trish McAdam
Screenwriter: Trish McAdam
Producer(s): Trish McAdam, Cliona Maher
Cast: Eileen Walsh, Holly Sturton, Ella Lily Hyland, Brian Gleeson, Cathy Belton Sturton, Brian Quinn

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 16:30
Runtime: 137 mins

Irish Cinema

Stolen

Described by Screen as "essential viewing for Irish society". Stolen reveals how women who had the misfortune to fall pregnant 'out of wedlock' were treated in an Ireland that was heavily influenced by the Catholic Church. Over 80,000 unmarried mothers were incarcerated in mother and baby institutions run by nuns from 1922 to 1998. Most were cruelly separated from their babies after birth. Many of the children were adopted within Ireland and abroad – rendered untraceable and unaware of their birth story. Others were fostered as cheap farm labour from the age of six, often in circumstances abysmally devoid of care and love. 9,000 infants died in these institutions from 1922 to 1998, a rate that, on occasion, was five times the national average infant mortality rate. Survivors expose the shocking details of their treatment in a scandal that sparked a government inquiry into the fate of unmarried women who fell pregnant in 20th-century Ireland.

Director: Margo Harkin
Screenwriter: Margo Harkin
Producer: Martha O'Neill
Cast: n/a

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 16:00
Runtime: 106 mins

The Martini Shot

From Director Stephen Wallis, The Martini Shot follows ailing movie director Steve, played by bona fide Hollywood actor Matthew Modine, as he begins to shoot what he believes to be his final work of art. What starts out as a normal movie, ends up being an exploration of mortality and one's profound effect on the world. Filmed in Ireland, this existential drama has an abundantly rich cast including John Cleese, Derek Jacobi, Stuart Townsend and Fiona Glascott. Modine described the film as a "love story between creation and those people who create".

Director: Stephen Wallis
Screenwriter: Stephen Wallis
Producer(s): Emma Owen, Stephen Wallis, Michael Godfrey, Susan Illott
Cast: Matthew Modine, John Cleese, Stuart Townsend, Fiona Glascott, Morgana Robinson, Derek Jacobi, Jason London

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 21:30
Runtime: 85 mins

The Miracle Club

Lourdes, a picturesque country town at the base of the magnificent French Pyrenees, and a place of miracles, is a magnet for 6 million visitors each year from across the globe. Ballygar, Ireland, 1968: a hilariously hard-knocks community in outer Dublin. It's a thriving community in a constant uphill battle to live as fully as possible, on very little. There's just one tantalising dream for the women of Ballygar: to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes. And with a little benevolent interference from their local community and a sparkly-eyed priest, close friends Lilt, Eileen, and Dolly get their ticket of a lifetime after the riotous church talent competition.

Having never even left Dublin, the journey provides our heroines the chance to let their hair down, celebrate life and delight in some sweet independence.

Director: Thaddeus O'Sullivan
Screenwriter(s): Jimmy Smallhorne, Timothy Prager, Joshua D. Maurer
Producer(s): Chris Curling, Joshua D. Maurer, Alixandre Witlin, Larry Bass, Aaron Farrell, John Gleeson & Oisín O'Neil
Cast: Laura Linney, Kathy Bates and Maggie Smith, Agnes O'Casey, Mark O'Halloran, Mark McKenna, Niall Buggy, Hazel Doupe and Stephen Rea

Screening: Tue 11/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 19:00
Runtime: 91 mins

Verdigris

Trapped in a marriage with a volatile and controlling husband, recently retired Marian takes on a secret part-time job as a census enumerator. The job is no picnic – on her tough inner-city route, she faces dismissive and abusive locals who flatly refuse to engage in the census. This includes brash and no-nonsense teenager Jewel, who Marian soon realises is living alone with no obvious means of supporting herself. Marian finds herself striking a deal with Jewel – she won't report her to the authorities if Jewel helps her get the locals to fill out their census forms. As they walk the streets of Dublin and an unlikely friendship blooms, Jewel's frank advice brings Marian to a realisation – it's time to get out of her abusive marriage once and for all. But will she have the strength to face this unknown future?

Director: Patricia Kelly
Screenwriter: Patricia Kelly
Producer: Paul Fitzsimons, Patricia Kelly
Cast: Geraldine McAlinden, Maya O'Shea, Michael James Ford, Killian Filan, Andrew Kingston

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 16:30
Runtime: 95 mins

Irish Cinema

Viva Mary

Mary is 90 and is blessed with an unquenchable zest for life. This feel-good film reveals her myriad of roles: dotting grandmother, inspirational mother, caring friend, coquettish singleton, sailor on the high seas, consummate musician, proud emigrant, and hilarious seanchaí. This is an eloquent portrait of a strong woman, and an equally poignant portrait of the changing place of women in Ireland.

Director: Cathal Ó Cuaig
Screenwriter: Cathal Ó Cuaig
Producer: Cathal Ó Cuaig
Cast: n/a

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 11:00
Runtime: 52 mins

World Cinema Competition

A House in Jerusalem

Muayad Alayan's moving drama follows a young Rebecca as she is forced to move with her father from the UK to Jerusalem, in the hopes that a new beginning can help her heal from her mother's sudden death. Soon after settling into an old house in a neighbourhood known as the Valley of the Ghosts, a series of mysterious events begin to unfold, and Rebecca is blamed. Diving deep into the mystery of the house and the mystical city of Jerusalem, Rebecca sets out on an enigmatic journey to discover what hides in the shadows of the house. Crafted by the talented duo Muayad and Rami Alayan, A House in Jerusalem is an eerily suspenseful and touching story told through the eyes of a young girl, exploring the strength of memory and the power of love.

Director: Muayad Alayan
Screenwriter: Muayad Alayan
Producer(s): Muayad Alayan, Rachel Robey, Alastair Clark, Rami Alayan
Cast: Johnny Harris, Miley Locke, Sheherazade Makhoul

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 14:00
Runtime: 104 mins

Daughter of Rage

La Hija De Todas Las Rabias

11-year-old Maria's home is the biggest garbage dump in Nicaragua, where she lives with her mom. When circumstances change and Maria feels that she has been left alone with no one to take care of her, she is forced to find her own way. In association with Chroma International Film Festival and Young Irish Makers

Director: Laura Baumeister
Screenwriter: Laura Baumeister
Producer(s): Rossana Baumeister, Bruna Haddad, Martha Orozco
Cast: Ara Alejandra Medal, Virginia Sevilla, Carlos Gutierrez, Noe Hernandez, Diana Sedano

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 12:00
Runtime: 91 mins

Here

Winner of Best Film (Encounters) at Berlinale, Bas Devos returns to the Fleadh with a captivating romantic drama that asks us to stop, reflect and enjoy living in the moment. Stefan, a Romanian construction worker living in Brussels, is on the verge of moving back home. He cooks up a big pot of soup to hand out as a goodbye gift to friends and family. As he is getting ready to go, he meets a Belgian-Chinese woman who is preparing a doctorate on mosses. Her attention for the near-invisible stops him in his tracks.

Director: Bas Devos
Screenwriter: Bas Devos
Producer: Marc Goyens
Cast: Stefan Gota, Liyo Gong, Cedric Luvuezo, Teodor Corban, Saadia Bentaieb, Alina Constantin, Shuhuang Wang

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 20:00
Runtime: 80 mins

Mutt

Director Vuk Lungulov-Klotz's debut film, Mutt, is a poignant LGBTQIA+ story about Feña, a young trans guy bustling through life in New York City, who is faced with an increasingly challenging day. In the span of 24 hours, Feña must navigate the challenges of reconnecting with his foreign father, straight ex-boyfriend, and 13-year-old half-sister while also facing the daily struggles that come with living in a society that struggles to understand his identity. The film premiered at Sundance Film Festival, where Lío Mehiel won the 2023 Special Jury Award for Acting. (This film contains mature content)

Director: Vuk Lungulov-klotz
Screenwriter: Vuk Lungulov-klotz
Producer: Alexander Stegmaier, Stephen Scott Scarpulla, Jennifer Kuczaj, Joel Michaely
Cast: Lío Mehiel, Cole Doman, Mimi Ryder, Alejandro Goic

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 19:00
Runtime: 87 mins

World Cinema Competition

On The Adamant

Sur L'Adamant

The Adamant is a unique day-care centre: it is a floating structure. Located on the Seine in the heart of Paris, it welcomes adults suffering from mental disorders, offering them care that grounds them in time and space, and helps them to recover, or keep up their spirits. The team running it is one that tries to resist the deterioration and dehumanisation of psychiatry as best it can. The film invites us to onboard to meet the patients and caregivers who invent its life day to day.

Director: Nicolas Philibert

Screenwriter: Nicolas Philibert

Producer(s): Milena Poylo, Gilles Sacuto, Céline Loiseau

Cast: n/a

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 19:00

Runtime: 109 mins

One Bullet

From Oscar and BAFTA-winning Director Carol Dysinger, this story of intimate female friendship, forged amidst America's longest war, is told by a filmmaker who spent 15 years in and out of Afghanistan.

The battlefield lies behind the curtains of an Afghan home. Bibi Hajji struggles to survive the loss of her youngest child, and the impact of a brother's death on her remaining sons. A haunting image of that boy surviving a bullet wound prompted director Carol Dysinger to investigate, what happened to him, who fired the shot? One Bullet evolves from procedural to an excavation of the human experience, of loss and redemption. It asks: how might we make peace across vast social, cultural and religious divisions? One cup of tea at a time.

Director: Carol Dysinger

Screenwriter: Carol Dysinger

Producer(s): Carol Dysinger, Su Kim, Ashim Bhalla, Jesper Jack

Cast: n/a

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 18:15

Runtime: 92 mins

Past Lives

A debut film from director Celine Song, Past Lives is a love story that follows Nora and Hae Sung, two deeply connected childhood friends, who are separated after Nora's family emigrates from South Korea. Two decades later, they are reunited in New York for one fateful week as they confront notions of destiny, love, and the choices that make a life, in this heartrending modern romance.

This film premiered at Sundance Film Festival in 2023, and has received stunning 5* reviews, described by The Hollywood Reporter as "one of the year's best films".

Post show discussion with Director Celine Song.

Director: Celine Song

Screenwriter: Celine Song

Producer(s): David Hinojosa, Christine Vachon, Pamela Koffler

Cast: Greta Lee, Teo Yoo, John Magaro, Moon Seung-Ah

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 18:15

Runtime: 106 mins

Sister & Sister

Las Hijas

Summer vacation. Two sisters, Marina (17) and Luna (14), travel from Costa Rica to Panama to look for their absent father. While dealing with frictions that arise between them, they find space to explore their desires, new friendships, lovers, and skateboarding, on a journey toward emancipation where they discover the joy of the simple act of hanging out. Following its successful premiere at SXSW, Sister & Sister is a sun-soaked coming-of-age film, directed by debut filmmaker Kattia G. Zúñiga, which offers an intimate and colourful portrayal of sisterhood and teenage life in the urban tropics.

Director: Kattia G. Zúñiga

Screenwriter: Kattia G. Zúñiga

Producer: Alejo Crisóstomo

Cast: Ariana Chaves Gavilán, Cala Rossel Campos, Gabriela Man, Fernando Bonilla

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 13:00

Runtime: 80 mins

World Cinema Competition

Slow

Winner of the Directing Award at Sundance 2023, *Slow* follows contemporary dancer Elena and sign language interpreter Dovydas who quickly form a deep romantic bond. As they navigate their relationship, they must confront the challenges that arise from Dovydas' disclosure of his asexuality. Through dance, the film explores complexities of conveying emotional expectations while also presenting raw and complicated character portraits with tenderness and delicacy.

Director: Marija Kavtaradze
Screenwriter: Marija Kavtaradze
Producer(s): Marija Razgute, Luisa Romeo, Anna-Maria Kantarius
Cast: Greta Grineviciute, Kestutis Cicenas

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 21:00
Runtime: 108 mins

The Forest Maker

Der Waldmacher

In this multi-award-winning documentary, Volker Schlöndorff follows Tony Rinaudo to different African countries to witness the effect FMNR has had on fighting desertification and repeatedly encounters issues – migration, climate change, gender justice. To complement his view, he invited African filmmakers to collaborate with him and share their experience of rural life and local challenges.

The Forest Maker shows ordinary people doing extraordinary things and carries a strong message of community, self-empowerment and, above all, hope.

Director: Volker Schlöndorff
Screenwriter: Volker Schlöndorff
Producer(s): Thomas Kufus, Volker Schlöndorff
Cast: n/a

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 13:30
Runtime: 87 mins

Country of Focus: Nowhere

Along the Way

A world premiere at IFFR, *Along the Way* is a poignant and sympathetic story that takes the viewer through the dangers and uncertainty of trying to cross borders to safety. To survive in a hostile world of smugglers and drug dealers, 19-year-old twin sisters Zahra and Fatimah face choices and dilemmas that severely test their symbiotic relationship and conscience.

Director: Mijke De Jong
Screenwriter: Mijke De Jong
Producer: Frank Hoeve
Cast: n/a

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 11:00
Runtime: 78 mins

Girl

Set in Glasgow, Adura Onashile's debut feature - premiered at Sundance in 2023 - is a story about growing up in a new environment where fear and mistrust prevail. Grace (Déborah Lukumuena) and her 11-year-old daughter Ama (Le'Shantey Bonsu) are outsiders trying to build a new life in a city where everything feels strange and hostile. Traumatized by what she has endured, Grace just wants to keep her daughter safe from harm, and Ama is taught to be suspicious of everyone. When Ama makes friends with classmate Fiona (Liana Turner), it only adds to Grace's anxiety that their special bond is under threat. In association with Chroma International Film Festival and Young Irish Makers

Director: Adura Onashile
Screenwriter: Adura Onashile
Producer(s): Ciara Barry & Rosie Crerar
Cast: Déborah Lukumuena, Danny Sapani, Le'Shantey Bonsu & Liana Turner

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 18:00
Runtime: 87 mins

I Must Away

Dennis, the film's director, left Ireland in the midst of the financial crisis to find work abroad. Hashem was a politician in Bangladesh but had to flee for Spain after a change in government and threats on his life. Alicia left Peru for Chile, and then Chile for Spain, after falling into debt selling goods on the streets. By age 18, Ali had fled Afghanistan, Iran and Sweden, finally reaching France, where he hoped to receive asylum. Mary, Dennis' grandmother, and her neighbour, John, stayed in Ireland for most of their lives, and lived just a few miles from where they were born. Floating between Ireland, Spain, Chile, Sweden, France and Bangladesh over seven years, *I Must Away* follows four migrants who have each left home to rebuild their lives abroad. Narrated through a series of letters from the director to his grandmother, the film is a kaleidoscopic cinema vérité essay which disentangles roots, land and identity, and explores the unequal distribution of rights and privileges in our age of migration.

Director: Dennis Harvey
Screenwriter: Dennis Harvey
Producer: Dennis Harvey
Cast: Md Abul Hashem Member, Alicia Marisol Leiva De Zapata, Alireza Naghavi & Dennis Harvey

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 18:15
Runtime: 75 mins

Peripheral Visions Competition

Behind the Haystacks

ΠΙΣΩ ΑΠΟ ΤΙΣ ΘΗΜΩΝΙΕΣ

Winner of the FIPRESCI Award, Behind The Haystacks follows a middle-aged fisherman living on Greece's northern border, who is drowning in debt who starts to smuggle migrants across the border lake in exchange for a hefty fee. His wife, a housewife and devout churchgoer, is seeking the truth in God's Word, while their daughter tries to define her own life within an oppressive environment. Until a tragic incident strikes the family, pushing the three heroes to face their own personal impasses and weaknesses, whilst having to consider, for the first time in their life, the price to pay for their actions.

Director: Asimina Proedrou

Screenwriter: Asimina Proedrou

Producer: Ioanna Bolomyti

Cast: Stathis Stamoulakatos, Eleni Ouzounidou & Evgenia Lavda

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 13:00

Runtime: 119 mins

Farewell Savage

Adieu Sauvage

In Colombia, the "whites" think that the Indian of Amazonia does not feel anything because there are no words in his language to express feelings. Is it possible that a whole people feel nothing and have no words to speak of love? Director Sergio Guataquira Sarmiento, himself a descendant of an almost extinct indigenous Colombian community, went to meet the Cáuas, to talk about their feelings, their loves, their loneliness. In doing so, he reconnected with his own Indianness. With humor and tenderness, the Cáuas try to teach him what it is to be a native. This initiatory quest is an emotional x-ray of an entire people.

Director: Sergio Guataquira Sarmiento

Screenwriter: Sergio Guataquira Sarmiento

Producer: Micha Wald

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 15:00

Runtime: 92 mins

Love - Lights

Objectos De Luz

Portuguese directors Acacio de Almeida and Marie Carré, in their directorial debut, present a poetic love letter to Portuguese cinema and the art of cinematography. The evocation of light in the cinema leads the character of the Man of Light to ponder over it, over its essence and its multiple manifestations in a revisitation of geographical places and memories.

Director(s): Acacio De Almeida, Marie Carré

Screenwriter(s): Acacio De Almeida, Marie Carré

Producer: Rodrigo Areias

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 15:30

Runtime: 67 mins

Remember to Blink

Per Arti

A French couple adopt two Lithuanian kids. To help them adapt they hire Gabi, a bilingual student who is just starting to taste the sweetness of feeling power.

In her powerful debut, Director Austėja Urbaitė examines how cultural differences, mismatched attitudes, disparate values and diverse educational methods soon ignite conflicts between the adults.

Director: Austėja Urbaitė

Screenwriter: Austėja Urbaitė

Producer: Živilė Gallego

Cast: Dovilė Kundrotaitė, Anne Azoulay, Arthur Igual, Inesa Sionova, Ajus Antanavičius

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 13:00

Runtime: 109 mins

Peripheral Visions Competition

The Land Within

After years of exile, Remo, an orphan, returns to his childhood village in the Balkans. He must help his adoptive cousin, Una, with the exhumation of a mass grave that contains most of their family members buried there during the war. But the bodies reveal family secrets that will make Remo and Una question their past and their future. A film about the possibility of truth in a place that only knows survival.

Director: Fisnik Maxville
Screenwriter: Fisnik Maxville
Producer(s): Thomas Reichlin, Britta Rindelaub, Valon Bajgora
Cast: Luàna Bajrami, Florist Bajgora

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 16:00
Runtime: 117 mins

The Unbalanced

Zošaliet

As neighbours, this author's film is inspired by reality. Zuzana Piussi's first fiction feature sees translator Nadia (50) finds new stability with her daughter (12) after a difficult post-divorce period. She manages to buy a flat at a bargain price in the hope of returning to her life, undisturbed even by the omnipresent COVID. However, she soon discovers that there is a woman living in the immediate neighbourhood who turns out to be more than eccentric. The perceptive Nadia senses her disturbed mental health and treats her receptively, which draws attention to herself all the more. A futile effort to help the woman and herself begins with her nearest neighbour and ends with a grotesque portrayal of a system in which ignoring problems is an essential survival tool. Nadia has no choice but to embark on another journey. This film is inspired by real events.

Director: Zuzana Piussi
Screenwriter: Zuzana Piussi
Producer: Vít Janeček
Cast: Ingrid Hrubaničová, Vladimír Zborož, Jaroslava Sisáková, Daniela Gudabová, Tatiana Marta Rehúšová, Ludmila Lukačíková Kozmenko, Ivan Ostrochovský & Peter Kalmus

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 14:00
Runtime: 79 mins

Twice Colonized

Renowned Inuit lawyer Aaju Peter has led a lifelong fight for the rights of her people. When her son suddenly dies, Aaju embarks on a journey to reclaim her language and culture after a lifetime of whitewashing and forced assimilation. But is it possible to change the world and mend your own wounds at the same time?

Director: Lin Alluna
Screenwriter: Lin Alluna
Producer(s): Emile Hertling Péronard, Alethea Arnaquq-Baril, Stacey Aglok MacDonald, Bob Moore
Cast: n/a

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 19:15
Runtime: 92 mins

White Plastic Sky

Müanyag Égbolt

In this moving Hungarian dystopian animation from Tibor Bánóczki and Sarolta Szabó, the year is 2123. Faced with diminishing resources, the human race can only survive through a trade-off: at the age of 50, every citizen is gradually turned into a tree. When Stefan discovers that his beloved wife Nora has voluntarily signed up for donating her own body before her time, he sets out on an adventurous journey to save her at all costs.

Director(s): Tibor Bánóczki, Sarolta Szabó
Screenwriter(s): Tibor Bánóczki, Sarolta Szabó
Producer(s): József Fülöp, Orsolya Sipos, Juraj Krasnohorsky
Cast: n/a

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 21:15
Runtime: 111 mins

Peripheral Visions Competition

Who I Am Not

In Tünde Skovrán's non-fiction directorial debut, we see an intimate look at the struggle of living in a male-female world, when you are born in-between. What makes a male, and what makes a female? Where do we draw the line, and does it really matter? Sharon-Rose Khumalo, a South African beauty queen, plunges into an identity crisis after finding out she is intersex. She needs the guidance of somebody just like her. The only person who will help is Dimakatso Sebidi, a male-presenting intersex activist who turns out to be her complete opposite. The two parallel but divergent stories are an intimate look at the struggle of living in a male-female world, when you are born in-between. Who I Am Not gives a voice to the long-ignored and mostly silent two percent of the world's population: the intersex community.

Director: Tünde Skovrán

Screenwriter: Tünde Skovrán

Producer(s): Andrei Zinca, Paul Cadieux

Cast: Sharon-Rose Khumalo, Dimakatso Sebidi

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 21:15

Runtime: 105 mins

What The Fleadh?!

Ocean Deep

Three months after her marine scientist husband went missing, Artist Mara is distraught to discover that the search for his body has been called off. Alone in their remote coastal home she is steeped in memories of Rory. But the old house is leaking, and Rory's ghost is everywhere. Mara is determined to uncover what happened to him, not realizing that she faces a danger that is extremely close to home.

Director: Liza Bolton

Screenwriter: Liza Bolton

Producer(s): Alan Latham, Philippe Martinez

Cast: Connie Nielsen, Lochlann O'Mearáin, Anna Walton

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 22:15

Runtime: 90 mins

Ordinary Failures

BĚŽNÁ SELHÁNÍ

A misfit teenager, an anxious mother, and a recent widow see their day interrupted by a mysterious natural phenomenon. As their world descends into chaos, the three women struggle to find their place in life.

Director: Cristina Groșan

Screenwriter: Cristina Groșan

Producer: Marek Novák

Cast: Nora Klimešová, Beáta Kaňoková, Tatjana Medvecká

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 22:30

Runtime: 84 mins

The Fires

Having lived illegally in Canada for the past eight years, Danny Gallagher returns to his family home in rural Donegal. While restoring the house to a lived-in state, Danny spends his days isolated, seeking to make sense of the bruises left by his past by recording an audio tape for a person he no longer knows. Only when the tape is finished and the house is cleared can he finally move on to whatever his future has in store for him.

Director: Andrew Thomas

Screenwriter: Andrew Thomas

Producer: Andrew Thomas, Sarah Mc Evoy, Kevin Cawley

Cast: Oisín Porter, Áine Flanagan, Cillian Browne, Lola Claire

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 14:00

Runtime: 90 mins

Nightman

Damian and his pregnant wife move into an isolated house in Ireland. As things get tense with the locals, mysterious murders begin to occur. His wife soon realises that Damian may be a dangerous sleepwalker, and it makes her wonder who her husband really is.

Director: Mélanie Delloye

Screenwriter: Mélanie Delloye

Producer(s): Noor Sadar, Sébastien Delloye, François Touwaide

Cast: Mark Huberman, Eoin Duffy, Áine Ní Laoghaire, Zara Devlin

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 22:15

Runtime: 101 mins

Music

Joan Baez I Am A Noise

Joan Baez I Am A Noise is an unusually intimate psychological portrait of legendary folksinger and activist Joan Baez. Neither a conventional biopic nor a traditional concert film, this immersive documentary follows Baez on her final tour and draws on her extraordinary archive, including newly discovered home movies, diaries, artwork, audio-recordings and therapy tapes.

Baez is remarkably candid about her life on and off the stage, from her lifelong emotional struggles to her civil rights work with Martin Luther King, and her heartbreaking romance with a young Bob Dylan. A searingly honest look at a living legend, this film is a deeply personal exploration of an iconic artist who has never told the full truth of her life, as she experienced it, until now.

Director(s): Miri Navasky, Karen O'Connor, Maeve O'Boyle
Screenwriter(s): Miri Navasky, Karen O'Connor, Maeve O'Boyle
Producer(s): Miri Navasky, Karen O'Connor

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 17:30
Runtime: 113 mins

Let the Canary Sing

Let the Canary Sing chronicles Cyndi Lauper's meteoric ascent to stardom, and her profound impact that extends across her music: ever-evolving punk style, outspoken activism, and tireless advocacy. Emmy Award-nominated documentarian Alison Ellwood follows Lauper through exclusive never-before-seen footage, candid interviews, and untold stories, as she fearlessly blazes her own trail. Having achieved chart-topping success with such enduring hits as "Girls Just Want to Have Fun", "Time After Time" and "True Colors", Lauper continues to create and innovate, winning a Tony Award for her work on the Broadway sensation Kinky Boots. The film also shines a light on Lauper's activism, capturing her unrelenting support for women's and LGBTQ+ rights. Featuring interviews with some of Lauper's closest friends and family members, including Boy George, Billy Porter, and Patti LaBelle, Let the Canary Sing is a celebration of one of music's most groundbreaking artists.

Director: Ellwood Alison
Screenwriter: Ellwood Alison
Producer(s): Trevor Birney, Eimhear O'Neill, Andrew Tully, Alison Ellwood
Cast: Cyndi Lauper

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 19:30
Runtime: 96 mins

Louder Than You Think

Winner of the SXSW 2023 Audience Award for the 24 Beats Per Second screening section, an up-close cinematic walkabout through the life of Gary Young, the original (and highly unlikely) drummer of indie rock royalty Pavement. His booze and drugs-fuelled antics (on-stage handstands, gifting vegetables to fans) and haphazard production methods (accidentally helping launch the lo-fi aesthetic) were both a driving force of the band's early rise and the cause of his eventual crash landing.

Leaving a wake of joy and/or destruction at every turn, Gary teeters the thin line between free-form self-expression and chaotic self-destruction. 30 years on with scoliosis, blood clots, and a shrivelled liver, Gary is still drumming with no regrets.

Note: no puppets were harmed in the making of this film.

Director: Jed I. Rosenberg
Screenwriter: Jed I. Rosenberg
Producer(s): Jeffrey Lewis Clark, Brian Thalken, Kelly Thomas
Cast: Gary Young, Scott Kannberg, Stephen Malkmus, Bob Nastanovich, Mark Ibold, Chris Lombardi, Adam Harper

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 22:00
Runtime: 90 mins

The Skids: Revolution

Three choices: coal mine, dockyard, army. But not if you rebelled. Scottish Punk band The Skids came from 1970s' industrial Scotland. From their working-class beginnings in the town of Dunfermline they were catapulted to the heights of fame, bringing an authentic voice to the Punk movement. The Skids: Revolution follows the story of the band through ups and downs, from politically turbulent origins through to their comeback in 2016. The voice of Punk never died and is angrier than ever.

Director(s): Colin J Graham, Laura Graham
Screenwriter(s): Colin J Graham, Laura Graham
Producer: Laura Graham, Colin Graham
Cast: n/a

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 22:30
Runtime: 76 mins

Music

The Graceless Age - The Ballad of John Murry

This is the story of American singer songwriter John Murry who was on the cusp of greatness after the release of his highly acclaimed album The Graceless Age (2013) when his world fell apart. Addicted to heroin, creatively exhausted, he washed up on the shores of Ireland a broken man. Now, he is ready to retrace his steps back to Mississippi into the dark heart of American life and face his demons – a difficult childhood, traumatic assault and resulting years of opioid addiction. This documentary follows John as he embarks on a road trip that takes him from his haven on the cliffs of County Clare, Ireland to his native Mississippi. The film culminates with John travelling to Toronto to rekindle his creative collaboration with Canadian music legend Mike Timmins, who produced his album A Short History of Decay. Mike helps John express himself the best way he can – through his outstanding music. This beautiful documentary charts his journey from near death to redemption and a new zest for life and art.

Director: Sarah Share
Screenwriter: Sarah Share
Producer: Nuála Cunningham, John Galway, Aeschylus Poulos
Cast: n/a

Screening: Fri 15/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 20:30
Runtime: 90

Ó Bhéal

Ó Bhéal is a cinematic exploration of the rise of hip hop and electronic artists in Ireland, embracing oral traditions of folklore, ancient poetry and sean-nós singing to create a new fusion sound, a culture clash through music. An ensemble piece, featuring Irish-language rappers Seán 'Mory' Ó Muirgheasa and Oisín Mac, producer and multi-instrumentalist Fehdah, and Limerick rapper Strange Boy.

This beautiful black & white film delves deep into these four artists' process and how they are breaking new ground in Irish music. Through insightful interviews, intimate portrayals of the creative process of each artist as they work on tracks in studio, and visceral live performances, Ó Bhéal tells the story of a moment in time in the Irish musical landscape.

Director: Ciara Nic Chormaic
Screenwriter: Ciara Nic Chormaic
Producer: Jennifer Healy
Cast: Strange Boy, Fehdah, Mory, Oisín Mac

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 20:30
Runtime: 68 mins

Its A Fine Thing To Sing

When singers Ian Lynch (Lankum), Ye Vagabonds and The Henry Girls are invited to create their own interpretations of songs from the Inishowen Song Project, the audience is invited into a vast collection of local singers and songs, documented over 40 years from within the community itself. Framed within the stunning landscape of the area, these new performances, atmospheric archival recordings, and interviews with key community figures, demonstrate how songs pass from singer to singer, while also examining the question of why we sing.

Director: Bob Gallagher
Screenwriter: Bob Gallagher
Producer: Robert Gallagher
Cast: Ian Lynch, Brian Mac Gloinn, Diarmuid Mac Gloinn, Lorna McLaughlin, Karen McLaughlin, Joleen McLaughlin

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 15:30
Runtime: 60 mins

Love Without Walls

Winner of Best UK Feature awards at both Manchester Film Festival and London Independent Film Festival, Jane Gull's second feature follows Sophie and Paul, two passionate souls chasing their dreams in London.

Paul is a talented musician, and Sophie is a trainee photographer and dedicated roadie. But when they fall behind on rent, they face the harsh realities of life on the streets. Despite their struggles, their shared love for music gives them the strength to carry on. Their story is a powerful testament to the transformative power of music and the human spirit, inspiring us to believe that anything is possible with perseverance, love, and a little bit of music. Featuring an original soundtrack from actor/musician Niall McNamee.

Director: Jane Gull
Screenwriter: Jane Gull
Producer: Karen Newman
Cast: Niall McNamee, Shana Swash, Sheila Reid, Paul Barber, Adam Deacon

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 19:00
Runtime: 112 mins

Artist on Film

Demiurge

Деміург

A tragicomedy about an amateur theater in Volyn. Seeking to overcome his personal crisis, a renowned stage and screen actor returns from the capital city to his native village to create a theatre with his fellow villagers, thus proving to himself what he is still capable of. After a decade of fame, a small troupe is tired. It is increasingly difficult for the director to find actors for new theatrical productions. The choice falls on Chekhov's vaudeville for three actors. On stage - the director, the director's wife and the director's childhood friend, the head of the club. Summer heat. Serenity. Six months before the war.

Director: Olga Semak
Screenwriter: Olga Semak
Producer: Olena Semak
Cast: n/a

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 11:00
Runtime: 94 mins

Douglas Sirk - Hope as in Despair

An investigative portrait of the master of cinematic melodrama, Douglas Sirk. His life was the ultimate melodrama, from which all his films were inspired. Through the testimonies of those closest to him and the unpublished accounts in his wife's diary, we get closer to this man surrounded by mystery. We discover his world and his story, marked by hope and disillusionment, by death and, of course, by love.

Director: Roman Hueben
Screenwriter: Roman Hueben
Producer: Nicola Genni
Cast: Hanna Schygulla

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 13:00
Runtime: 76 mins

Faulkner: The Past is Never Dead

William Faulkner was one of the greatest writers and one of the most influential, winning the 1949 Nobel Prize in Literature. Faulkner's novels have challenged generations of readers and inspired generations of writers around the world. Michael Modak-Truran's *The Past is Never Dead* goes where other documentary filmmakers have feared to tread. It captures the complexity of Faulkner's work, his life, and his contradictory views on race. The film will re-engage many viewers who have experienced his fiction and entice many others new to Faulkner to take the plunge.

Director: Michael Modak-Truran
Screenwriter: Michael Modak-Truran
Producer(s): Anastasia Lampton, Jeremy Culver, Michael Modak-Truran
Cast: Eric Roberts, Skyler Adamas, Jack Fisher, Rose Lane Sanfilippo, Susan Hickman, Charleene Closshey, Marie A. Brooks, Amye Gousset

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 11:00
Runtime: 93 mins

Knowing the Score

Simone Young was the first female conductor to appear on stage at the world's most renowned Opera houses: Sydney Opera House, Met New York Opera, and the Vienna Opera House. These iconic opera houses had never-before-seen women conductors before Simone Young graced the stage.

Whilst being a woman in one of the most conservative and male-dominated worlds of classical music not only makes this a feminist story, more importantly, Simone's biography is first and foremost a captivating story of a dazzling 30-year music career. All her achievements have been hard won.

Knowing the Score gets up-close and personal with Simone in an engaging, luscious music documentary revealing two key themes: the long struggle for gender parity in the high art of classical music and the heart-breaking struggle for artists to be valued in times of crisis, or sometimes even at all.

Director: Janine Hosking
Screenwriter: Janine Hosking
Producer: Margie Bryant
Cast: n/a

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 17:00
Runtime: 90 mins

Artist on Film

The Art of Rebellion

The Art of Rebellion is a film that follows LA-based street artist, activist, and single mother, Lydia Emily, as she defies a crippling diagnosis that threatens to take away her livelihood. Fighting against an unforgiving healthcare system while she battles the symptoms of progressive multiple sclerosis, Lydia ties paintbrushes to her failing hands to create large-scale works of creative resistance. Over time, the portrait of Lydia that emerges is one of a tough, tender, indomitable force of nature, plagued by hospital bills, buoyed by medication, never silenced. And even as her disease progresses, Lydia persists, declaring, "I dare you to make this my last year, I love my life - try and take it from me."

Director: Libby Spears
Screenwriter: Libby Spears
Producer(s): Libby Spears, Abigail Disney

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 20:30
Runtime: 79 mins

Typist Artist Pirate King

Directed and written by acclaimed British auteur Carol Morley, this film shines a light on an obscure female outsider artist through an imagined road trip across a modern yet quasi-mythic England.

In a last-ditch mission to get recognition for her talent, Sunderland-born artist, Audrey Amiss, played brilliantly by Monica Dolan, persuades her psychiatric nurse, Sandra Panza to take her on a road trip back to where her story began – but with so many deviations along the way, will they ever make it?

Typist Artist Pirate King is a testament to female creativity both in form and in content. Oscar winner Jane Campion is Executive Producer.

Director: Carol Morley
Screenwriter: Carol Morley
Producer(s): Cairo Cannon, Ameenah Ayub Allen
Cast: Monica Dolan, Kelly MacDonald, Gina McKee

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 17:30
Runtime: 107 mins

Much Ado About Dying

Director Simon Chambers has gone to India to make a film about cars. But suddenly his British uncle David calls to say he's dying. When the nephew heads back to England, it turns out the uncle is more dramatic than dying. Uncle David is, in fact, a closeted old theatre actor who trips around half-naked in his mess of a home quoting Shakespeare. While he's at it, his nephew Simon turns on his camera and starts filming his old uncle for a movie worthy of a Shakespearean play. Every time you think the story is falling into place, it ties itself in a new dramatic knot, creating terrific cinematic moments where you can't help but surrender and let your emotions flow.

Director: Simon Chambers
Screenwriter: Simon Chambers
Producer(s): Simon Chambers & David Rane

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 16:00
Runtime: 84 mins

Generation

Time To Get Away!

Libre Garance!

Director Lisa Diaz's debut takes us back to the summer of 1982. 11-year-old Garance lives in a remote hamlet in the Cévennes where her parents are trying to lead an alternative life. When two Italian activists rob a nearby bank, things go wrong. This event turns the life of Garance and her family upside down...

Director: Lisa Diaz

Screenwriter: Lisa Diaz

Producer: Colette Quesson

Cast: Grégory Montel, Laetitia Dosch, Lolita Chammah, Azou Gardahaut-Petiteau, Jeanne Vallet de Villeneuve

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 11:00

Runtime: 97 mins

Fantastic Machine

The camera is a fantastic machine. Filmmakers Axel Danielson & Maximilien Van Aertryck (Ten Meter Tower, Jobs For All!) once again turn their cameras directly on society, this time to explore, explain and expose how our unchecked obsession with image has grown to change our human behaviour. From Camera Obscura and the Lumière Brothers all the way to YouTube and the world of social media, the film chronicles how we went from capturing the image of a backyard to a multi-billion-euro content industry in just 200 years. With an exclusive use of archival and found footage, the film uses the very medium it examines, in a self-reflective yet hilarious montage.

Director(s): Axel Danielson, Maximilien Van Aertryck

Screenwriter(s): Axel Danielson, Maximilien Van Aertryck

Producer(s): Maximilien Van Aertryck, Axel Danielson

Cast: Chris Anderson, Felix Bergsson, Ulrika Bergsten

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 12:00

Runtime: 88 mins

I Like Movies

Following its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, I Like Movies, Chandler Levack's directorial debut, is a nostalgia-infused coming-of-age story about hyper-ambitious teenage cinephile Lawrence Kweller (Isaiah Lehtinen) who dreams of attending film school. In order to raise the hefty tuition fee, he gets a job at the local video store, Sequels. Wracked with anxiety about his future, Lawrence begins alienating the most important people in his life, all while developing a complicated friendship with his older female manager, Alana (Romina D'Ugo). As graduation looms ever closer, Lawrence faces some painful realisations about himself.

Director: Chandler Levack

Screenwriter: Chandler Levack

Producer(s): Lindsay Blair Goeldner, Evan Dubinsky, Chandler Levack

Cast: Isaiah Lehtinen, Romina D'Ugo

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 16:00

Runtime: 100 mins

Know Your Place

Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at Seattle International Film Festival, Know Your Place is a slice-of-life road drama set in present-day Seattle. The film follows best friends, Robel (15, Eritrean-American) and Fahmi (15, Ethiopian-American), who embark on a journey to drop off a suitcase to a friend traveling back to Eritrea because of a family member's sudden illness. An unexpected turn transmutes Robel's simple errand into an odyssey across the rapidly gentrifying city; navigating directions to make his delivery on time, along with the challenges of familial responsibility, self-identification, and dislocation amid the ongoing redevelopment and displacement of the only community he's ever known as home. In association with Chroma International Film Festival and Young Irish Makers

Director: Zia Mohajerjasbi

Screenwriter: Zia Mohajerjasbi

Producer: Ty Walker & Zia Mohajerjasbi

Cast: Joseph Smith, Natnael Mebrahtu & Selamawit Gebresus

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 11:00

Runtime: 118 mins

Generation

Listen

Akouse Me

In this coming of age drama, Greek director Maria Douza follows a deaf girl Valmira who has to leave her special Athens school and return to her father's island where she is confronted by the danger of intolerance, most shockingly -- her own. When an unexpected turn of events changes the odds for all, Valmira is compelled to "listen" - not necessarily with her ears - to the truth of those around her as much as her own.

Director: Maria Douza

Screenwriter: Maria Douza

Producer(s): Michael Sarantinos, Ivan Tonev

Cast: Efthalia Papacosta, Dimitris Kitsos, Yorgos Pirpasopoulos, Nikos Koukas, Yoana Bukovska-Davidova, Evangelia Andreadaki

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 13:00

Runtime: 108 mins

Scrapper

World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Dramatic – Winner, Scrapper from debut director, Charlotte Regan follows Georgie, a dreamy 12-year-old girl who lives happily alone in her London flat, filling it with magic. Out of nowhere, her estranged father turns up and forces her to confront reality. Father and daughter have to learn to cope with their own emotions in their new life together.

Director(s): Charlotte Regan

Screenwriter(s): Charlotte Regan

Producer: Theo Barrowclough

Cast: Harris Dickinson, Lola Campbell, Alin Uzun, Cary Crankson

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 16:00

Runtime: 84 mins

Solar Wind Alley

Aurinkotuulenpolku

Alice lives with her younger sisters in a rural Finnish village, in the house their mother build before she passed away. Alice has taken her mother`s place as the head of the family. She wants to protect her younger sisters and shelter them from the world. When a solar storm hits the village, it leaves everyone without electricity and puts the community in crisis.

Director: Anastasia Lobkovski

Screenwriter: Anastasia Lobkovski

Producer(s): Anastasia Lobkovski, Jukka

Nurmela

Cast: Alina Tomnikov, Freja Teijonsalo, Luli Norris, Onni Vesikallio, Ilkka Pekkarinen, Mitro Partti, Henna Hakkarainen

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 11:00

Runtime: 76 mins

The Wedding Parade

Berbu

In an impressive first feature from Director Sevinaz Evdike, we follow three young Kurdish women, Gule, Barin and Naze, who are planning their life-long dream weddings in Serekaniye, a city threatened by war. When the first bombs hit the city, they flee, and their destinies change, as do their dreams. The impact of war on these women and their everyday lives is laid bare in this deeply moving film.

Director: Sevinaz Evdike

Screenwriter: Sevinaz Evdike

Producer: Dijwar Mousa

Cast: Kajin Aloush, Barin Resho, Najbeer Khanem

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 15:30

Runtime: 69 mins

New Dimensions

I Have Electric Dreams

Tengo Suenos Electricos

Set in Costa Rica, the film follows Eva, a strong-willed 16-year-old girl who lives with her mother, her younger sister and their cat, but desperately wants to move in with her estranged father. Clinging onto him as he goes through a second adolescence, she balances between the tenderness and sensitivity of teenage life and the ruthlessness of the adult world. Bathed in a richly textured imagery and soaked in raw sensitivity, I HAVE ELECTRIC DREAMS captures the thin line between love and hate, in a world where aggression and rage are intertwined with the vertigo of female sexual awakening.

Director: Valentina Maurel

Screenwriter: Valentina Maurel

Producer(s): Benoit Roland, Grégoire Debailly

Cast: Daniela Marin Navarro, Reinaldo Amien Guttierrez

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 20:15

Runtime: 110 mins

Jericho Ridge

Will Gibney's debut feature is a survivalist thriller that follows small-town Deputy Sheriff, Tabitha 'Tabby' Temple, who is called back from injury leave to cover the dispatch radio for the night. Alone in the station, Tabby witnesses a deadly gunfight break out between The Sheriff, the Chief Deputy and attackers via the police dash cams. A suspicious locksmith appears at the front door and is not who he says he is. Tabby's nightmare begins as the Sheriff's Office is besieged by murderous attackers. Tabby repels the initial attacks, locks the doors and calls for backup... but the closest State Police units are thirty minutes away. Things become more complicated when her teenage son, Monty, shows up to finish an argument which leaves Tabby to defend herself and her son. Isolated and outgunned, mother and son will have to do whatever it takes to survive.

Director: Will Gilbey

Screenwriter: Will Gilbey

Producer(s): Harvey Ascott, Alex Tate, Mark

O'Sullivan

Cast: Nikki Amuka-Bird, Zack Morris, Philipp Christopher, Michael Socha, Chris Reilly, Solly Mcleod, Simon Kunz, Trim Ademi, Zachary Hart, Aiden Kelly, Olivia Chenery

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 22:30

Runtime: 87 mins

Palm Trees and Power Lines Runner

In this stunning directorial debut from Jamie Dack, 17-year-old Lea (Lily McInerney) spends her summer break aimlessly tanning in her backyard with her best friend, tiptoeing around her needy mother, and getting stoned with a group of boys from school. This monotony is interrupted by a chance encounter with Tom (Jonathan Tucker), an older man who promises an alternative to Lea's unsatisfying adolescent life. But as things progress between them, red flags about Tom's life begin to surface, and Lea chooses to ignore them. Under Tom's influence, Lea begins to see her mom as unfit and her friends as a waste of her time. Isolated from those around her, Lea discovers Tom's true intentions and finds herself in a situation that she never could have imagined.

Director: Jamie Dack

Screenwriter: Jamie Dack

Producer(s): Leah Chen Baker, Jamie Dack

Cast: Lily McInerney, Jonathan Tucker, Gretchen Mol

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 20:00

Runtime: 110 mins

An exquisite debut feature from Marian Mathias where she skilfully frames the vastness of the American landscape while blending compassionate realism and cinematic poetry, Runner is a heartfelt story that captures a rare and meaningful bond between two young people as they step into adulthood.

Director: Marian Mathias

Screenwriter: Marian Mathias

Producer(s): Joy Jorgensen, Nadia Turincev, Omar El Kadi, Marian Mathias

Cast: Hannah Schiller, Darren Houle, Jonathan Easley, Gene Jones

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 23:00

Runtime: 76 mins

New Dimensions

Scrap

This first feature from Vivian Kerr, follows Beth (Vivian Kerr) who has recently been laid off and struggles to maintain the appearance of a successful middle-class lifestyle as she bounces around Los Angeles. Hoping to land a new job and change her situation before her estranged older brother Ben (Anthony Rapp) finds out, Beth must confront her own pride in order to reconnect with him and provide for her young daughter, Birdy. Meanwhile, Ben and his wife Stacy (Lana Parrilla) consider a third round of IVF, and Stacy, a successful attorney, must re-evaluate her own conflicted relationship with motherhood.

Director: Vivian Kerr
Screenwriter: Vivian Kerr
Producer(s): Rachel Stander, Vivian Kerr
Cast: Vivian Kerr, Anthony Rapp, Lana Parrilla, Khleo Thomas, Julianna Layne, Beth Dover

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 14:00
Runtime: 105 mins

The Effects of Lying

Naveen (Bhatti) has lived his life by the book; he's a loyal husband and loving father. He's sacrificed everything for his family, but today is going to be different. After finding his teenage daughter Simran (Patel) secretly gorging and his dissatisfied wife Sangeeta (Rouass) in bed with his brother (Chowdhry), lies come pouring out and the truth is uncovered. Naveen must now get to grips with the key relationships in his life that he bases his identity on. What is he, if not a husband, a father, a brother? He's allowed himself to be passive too long, pushed around by the currents of other people's whims and desires. He must learn to take responsibility for his own life and his own happiness. Leading the cast is Ace Bhatti (Bohemian Rhapsody, Line of Duty), Laila Rouass (Holby City, Spooks), and Lauren Patel (Everybody's Talking About Jamie), alongside Navin Chowdhry (The End of the F***ing World, Our Girl), Shaheen Khan (Bend it Like Beckham) and Mark Williams (Harry Potter).

Director(s): Isher Sahota
Screenwriter(s): Isher Sahota
Producer: Jon Tarcy
Cast: Ace Bhatti, Laila Rouass, Lauren Patel, Navin Chowdhry, Mark Williams, Shaheen Khan, Bhasker Patel

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 22:30
Runtime: 85 mins

Waiting for the Light to Change

Best friends since high school, Kim and Amy, who haven't seen each other since Amy moved to the West Coast for graduate school, get together for a weekend vacation at a house on Lake Michigan, joined by friends and Kim's boyfriend, Jay. Born and raised in Vietnam director Linh Tran studied and is based in the United States. Her debut feature, produced as part of the Indie Studio Programme at the DePaul School of Cinematic Arts in Chicago, is a generational character study of young adulthood focusing on the dynamics and relationships between them, captured in long, fluid takes. The late winter setting accentuates feelings of unease, regret, anxiety and transition. Winner of the Narrative Feature Grand Jury Prize at the 29th Slamdance Film Festival 2023. (Marie-Pierre Richard, programmer/curator, East Asia Film Festival Ireland & EAFFI Discoveries)

Director: Linh Tran
Screenwriter: Linh Tran
Producer(s): Jake Rotger, Jewells Santos, Sam Straley
Cast: Qun Chi, Erik Barrientos, Jin Park, Sam Straley, Joyce Ha

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 14:00
Runtime: 89 mins

Cherry

Audience Award winner at Tribeca, Sophie Galibert's debut follows 25-year-old Cherry, who discovers she has only 24 hours to make the most important decision of her life: what to do about an unplanned pregnancy.

Fired from her menial job at a costume shop, she roller-skates around town, looking for insight from her boyfriend, friends, and family. Instead, she is challenged and confronted with what it looks like to finally face adulthood, instead of constantly running away from it.

Director: Sophie Galibert
Screenwriter: Sophie Galibert
Producer(s): Sophie Galibert, Shincy Lu, Philippe Gompel
Cast: Alex Trewhitt

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 21:00
Runtime: 76 mins

Defender

Backwards

Subuk

A story of the young mother of an autistic boy, whose many years of stubbornness, and the fight against bureaucracy and human heartlessness, led to changes in the education system in Poland. This allowed all children an opportunity to attend mainstream school. Inspired by true events.

Director: Jacek Lusiński
Screenwriter: Jacek Lusiński
Producer(s): Leszek Bodzak, Aneta Hickinbotham
Cast: Małgorzata Gorol, Marta Malikowska, Andrzej Seweryn, Aleksandra Konieczna, Wojciech Dolatowski, Wojtuś Krupiński

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 13:00
Runtime: 106 mins

Dream's Gate

Darvazeye Arezooha

Iranian filmmaker Negin Ahmadi travels to the war zone of Northern Syria to follow the lives of the women in the YPJ – an all-female Kurdish militia. Armed only with her camera, she captures the struggles, hopes, and joys of these incredible women, for whom the fight against ISIS is also their way to escape the restraints of a patriarchal society. Weaving together candid moments between the female soldiers with the brutality of combat, Negin creates a personal, visual diary that intimately explores the role of women in battle, and examines the cost of achieving equality and freedom in this tumultuous region.

Director: Negin Ahmadi
Screenwriter: Negin Ahmadi
Producer: Elaheh Nobakht
Cast: Women Of The YPJ

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 17:00
Runtime: 78 mins

Lakota Nation Vs United States

Co-directed by Jesse Short Bull and Laura Tomaselli and written and narrated by renowned Oglala poet Layli Long Soldier, the visually stunning documentary Lakota Nation VS. United States chronicles the Lakota Indians' quest to reclaim the Black Hills – sacred land that was stolen in violation of treaty agreements. A searing, timely portrait of resistance, this film explores the ways America has ignored its debt to Indigenous communities, and ponders what might be done today to repair the wrongs of the past.

Director: Jesse Short Bull, Laura Tomaselli
Screenwriter: Jesse Short Bull, Laura Tomaselli
Producer(s): Mark Ruffalo, Sarah Eagle Heart, Marisa Tomei
Cast: Nick Tilsen, Phyllis Young, Milo Yellow Hair, Nick Estes, Krystal Two Bulls, Henry Red Cloud, Candi Brings Plenty, Alex Romero-Frederick, Craig Howe, Mary Katherine Nagle

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 11:30
Runtime: 117 mins

Let the River Flow

Ellos Eatnu - La Elva Leve

Winner of the audience award at both Tromsø and Göteborg in 2023 this is a heartbreaking story inspired by a series of protests in 1970s-'80s Norway, "The Alta Conflict". During summer 1979, Ester moves to Alta in Northern Norway to begin teaching at an elementary school. Like many Sámi at the time, she is ashamed of her heritage and conceals her ethnicity. Ester goes to great lengths to fit in, even joining in with the derogatory jokes. When her cousin Mikkhal takes her to a camp by the Alta River where people are demonstrating against the building of a dam, Ester learns how the fight for the river is also a revolt against the years of brutal racism and discrimination against her people. After a major confrontation with the police, Mikkhal and some other Sámi decide to go to Oslo to hunger strike in front of the Parliament. Knowing what is at stake, Ester realises it is time to make a stand...

Director: Ole Giæver
Screenwriter: Ole Giæver
Producer: Maria Ekerhovd
Cast: Ella Marie Hætta Isaksen, Gard Emil, Sofia Jannok, Beaska Niillas & Marie Kvernmo

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 15:30
Runtime: 123 mins

Defender

Lonely Oaks

Vergiss Meyn Nicht

With footage collected by activist Steffen Meyn, over two years, Lonely Oaks tells the story of the occupation of Hambach Forest in Germany.

For the past ten years, environmental activists have been occupying an ancient forest in western Germany which energy company RWE planned to clear. In 2018, the police attempted to take down over 50 tree houses. In the course of the evictions, film student Steffen Meyn fell from one of the tree houses and died.

This film offers us some very personal insights and highlights the paradoxes and hardships of an activist's life; political efficacy and self-sacrifice, police violence and militancy, idealism and painful reality."

Director(s): Fabiana Fragale, Jens Mühlhoff, Kilian Kuhlendahl
Screenwriter(s): Fabiana Fragale, Jens Mühlhoff, Kilian Kuhlendahl
Producer: Melanie Andernach

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 1 - 11:30
Runtime: 102 mins

Long Distance Swimmer Ningla-Ana

– Sara Mardini

Gegen Den Strom - Sara Mardinis
Einsatz Fur Die Menschlichkeit

In 2015, Sara and her sister fled Syria. Their journey made headlines around the world and is dramatized in The Swimmers.

Our story begins when the fictionalised drama ends. Sara has spent three years rescuing refugees on the same journey that made her famous, but is suddenly arrested in August 2018, charged with "international espionage and people smuggling". If convicted, she faces up to 25 years in prison and the end of her humanitarian career.

Director: Charly W. Feldman
Screenwriter: Charly W. Feldman
Producer(s): Anna Von Dziembowska, Antje Boehmert, Daniel Druhora

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 20:15
Runtime: 88 mins

Ningla-Ana

On January 26th, 1972 Australian Prime Minister William McMahon declared that, under his government, land rights would never be granted to Aborigines. Later that night four young men stuck a beach umbrella into the ground outside parliament house and sat under it. They called it the Aboriginal tent embassy. That single action set off a chain of events which reverberated around the world. It marked the beginning of a new and more radical chapter in the struggle for justice as a young angry generation of black Australians established that they weren't going to wait any longer. Watched by the intelligence services, harassed by the police, the embassy was the beginning of a movement that led to the establishment of the Aboriginal Legal and Medical services, the National Black Theatre and a tide of support from across Australia which led to the grant of native title land rights. NINGLA-ANA is the only film shot from within the embassy and close to the people who created it. This hard-hitting film tells the story from inside the fight for justice. It is a unique social document now restored through the generous support and goodwill of people via a crowdfunding project.

Director: Alessandro Cavadini
Screenwriter: Alessandro Cavadini
Producer: Alessandro Cavadini
Cast: Gary Foley, Bob Maza, Roberta Sykes, Paul Coe

Screening: Sun 16/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 16:00
Runtime: 72 mins

Phantom Parrot

Award-winning Director Kate Stonehill's film, which had its world premiere at CPH:DOX, follows human rights activist Muhammad Rabbani as he is prosecuted under terror laws for refusing to hand over the passwords to his electronic devices. While reporting on Rabbani's case, a journalist publishes explosive documents proving the existence of a secret data-gathering program (codenamed: Phantom Parrot) in which individuals are stopped at the border and their devices are secretly copied. This is an urgent, multidimensional exploration of privacy in the era of information.

Director: Kate Stonehill
Screenwriter: Kate Stonehill
Producer: Steven Lake

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 22:30
Runtime: 85 mins

Defender

The Team

El Equipo

In 1984, an unlikely meeting between Dr. Clyde Snow, a legendary American forensic scientist, and a group of Argentine students would ultimately change the course of forensic science and human rights. Using interviews and archive footage, two time Emmy Award-nominated documentary filmmaker, Bernardo Ruiz directs a fascinating documentary about forensic science and finding some closure for those that are left behind.

Director: Bernardo Ruiz

Screenwriter: Bernardo Ruiz

Producer(s): Bernardo Ruiz, Gabriela Alcalde, Fabian Caballero, Eric Fichtl

Cast: Clyde Snow, Mercedes (Mimi) Doretti, Patricia Bernardi, Luis Fondebrider

Screening: Sat 15/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 19:00

Runtime: 80 mins

Who Would Jesus Bomb?

Around 3 million US troops have gone through Ireland's Shannon Airport since 2002. Who Would Jesus Bomb? explores Ireland's complicity in the global War on Terror, and how a small number of Christian activists risked their freedom trying to stop the American war machine and save lives. 20 years on from the disastrous US-led invasion of Iraq, this film aims to raise important questions about Irish neutrality, spark debate about forms of activism, and challenge what it means to be a Christian.

Director: Emmet Sheerin

Screenwriter: Emmet Sheerin

Producer: Emmet Sheerin

Cast: n/a

Screening: Wed 12/07 - Town Hall Theatre - 14:00

Runtime: 52 mins

Architecture on Film

7 Chapels

Architecture & portrait photographers, Jens Weber & Orla Connolly, joined forces with composer Wolfram Oettl, to create a non-narrative documentary, contemplating architecture. A meticulous visual study of 7 Chapels, in the Swabian Danube Valley, built by 7 architects: John Pawson, Hans Engel, Wilhelm Huber, Frank Lattke, Alen Jasarevic, Staab Architects & Christoph Mäckler. The intrinsic qualities of architecture and how structures elicit reactions from people, is observed through precise frame composition – witnessing intermittent, random interactions, between people and the structures. Observing the complexities of the human thought process – where people swiftly switch between practical thoughts of trying to understand the structure, to transient existential moments – enhanced, even appear surreal, through the accompaniment of the minimalistic meditative music played on a fortepiano tuned in "just intonation". These integer-number frequencies have been implemented since Pythagoras in philosophy, theology and music theory, as a portrayal of the cosmic harmony. The films distinct aesthetic, with long takes, combined with music, draws the viewer in, evoking a near trance like state.

Director(s): Orla Connolly, Jens Weber
Screenwriter(s): Orla Connolly, Jens Weber
Producer(s): Orla Connolly, Jens Weber
Cast: n/a

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 17:00
Runtime: 87 mins

Concrete Landscape

Paisagem Concreta

In Porto Alegre, Brazil, the Iberê Camargo Foundation Museum; in the city of Porto, Portugal, the office of Álvaro Siza, architect and author of the celebrated project for the institution's headquarters, inaugurated in 2008. The documentary "Concrete Landscape" sails between these two ports. On the edge of Douro River, Siza, between one cigarette and another, details the design of the museum, and his affective relationship with Brazil, sown since childhood in the accounts of his father born in Belém (PA), cultivated by modernism, MPB and by the novels. It also elaborates on the limits between architecture and nature, accompanied by a visual tour of celebrated works such as Piscinas das Marés, the Architecture University of Porto and the Nadir Afonso Museum, by testimonials from Portuguese collaborators and critics. Meanwhile, on the other side of the ocean, the backstage of the assembly of the exhibition "Fio de Ariadne" is presented, an unprecedented exhibition of ceramics and tapestries by Iberê Camargo, the reflection of collaborators of the Iberê Foundation and contemporary architects on the future of this concrete landscape on the edge of the Guaíba River.

Director(s): Luiz Ferraz, Laura Artigas
Screenwriter(s): Luiz Ferraz, Laura Artigas
Producer(s): Gal Buitoni, Luiz Ferraz
Cast: n/a

Screening: Thur 13/07 - Pálás Screen 2 - 15:00
Runtime: 74 mins

The Promise. Architect BV

DOSHI

Das Versprechen. Architekt BV
DOSHI

Balkrishna Doshi, born in 1927, has been doing everything that young architects discuss today for decades. In 2018 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Architecture, the Pritzker Architecture Prize. Doshi is a brilliant storyteller. His presence of mind, his humor and his wisdom create the image of a man from whom we can not only learn to build humanly, but from whom we can learn to be human.

Director: Jan Schmidt-Garre
Screenwriter: Jan Schmidt-Garre
Producer(s): Marieke Schroeder, Jan Schmidt-Garre
Cast: Balkrishna Vithaldas Doshi

Screening: Fri 14/07 - Pálás Screen 3 - 12:00
Runtime: 90 mins



Galway Film Fleadh

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