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Fergus Grady

Festival Director

The 2025 Intrepid British and Irish Film Festival is here, and we're excited to welcome Intrepid Travel as Naming Sponsor. They will be awarding one lucky Festival-goer a \$7,500 travel voucher to be used anywhere in the world on one of their fabulous small group packages. Tourism Ireland also makes a welcome return with their wonderful prize of a trip for two to Ireland. Last year's winner hasn't stopped raving about their trip to the Emerald Isle, so make sure you get your competition entries in on time - every ticket is a chance to win!

Given the sold out screenings and Oscar success of last year's *Conclave*, we're anticipating this year's Opening Night Film *THE CHORAL*, also starring Ralph Fiennes, to be in high demand.

Also keenly anticipated are two other 2025 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) premieres, *& SONS* and *I SWEAR*, which have both received rave reviews for their strong cast-driven performances.

Taking Centrepiece honours this year are Oliver Hermanus' historical drama *THE HISTORY OF SOUND*, and the long-awaited comedy sequel *SPINAL TAP II*. Hermanus' film, a rare British entry in the 2025 Cannes Official Competition, follows a sweeping wartime love story and stars two of today's most in-demand actors, Paul Mescal and Josh O'Connor. *SPINAL TAP II* brings the mockumentary schtick with the boys back after a 15 year "break" for one final concert.

We've had to wait 41 years for the sequel and it more than delivers, with Christopher Guest, Michael McKean, Harry Shearer and Rob Reiner rebooting their characters in a fantastic contemporary band story.

We're proud to be able to showcase one of Britain's leading actresses in *DEAD OF WINTER*. Emma Thompson gives a career-best performance as a Minnesota native lost in the wilderness, while Irish director Brian Kirk ratchets up the tension.

Our selection of Irish films truly shines this year, with award winners *FOUR MOTHERS* (BFI London Film Festival Audience Award), and *CHRISTY* (Galway Film Fleadh Best Irish Film). Be sure not to miss the Irish documentaries *BEAT THE LOTTO* and *GERRY ADAMS*, as well as the inventive docudrama *RE-CREATION*.

The stories of two 20th century cultural icons, Twiggy and Marianne Faithfull, are powerfully told in the self-titled *TWIGGY*, and the wonderfully creative *BROKEN ENGLISH*, which also features Tilda Swinton and George MacKay.

We lost a towering Dame last year, and in this year's Festival we pay homage to the wonderful Dame Maggie Smith. Revisit two of her defining films, the panoramic *A ROOM WITH A VIEW*, and the film for which she won her first Oscar, *THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE*.

Enjoy the Festival - we can't wait to welcome you back to the cinema!



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FESTIVAL PATRON - FRANCESCA RUDKIN

Welcome to the Intrepid British and Irish Film Festival! I'm thrilled to be this year's ambassador and have thoroughly enjoyed getting immersed into the gems of the 2025 line-up. I've highlighted some for you below, but you're sure to have a great outing to the cinema whichever film you choose. Happy watching!

BEAT THE LOTTO (G)

They say truth is stranger than fiction, and who would think to '*Beat the Lotto*' by buying every ticket in the Irish lottery in 1992? Well, a crafty Irish mathematician ran the numbers and tried to buy the two million combinations required to '*Beat the Lotto*', and you have to see it to believe what happens.

LOLLIPOP (M)

Writer/Director Daisy-May Hudson's incredible autobiographical story is told beautifully through the performances of lead actress Posy Sterling and the child actors in the film. I wouldn't be surprised if Posy wins the BAFTA Rising Star Award next year, and *Lollipop* is a must-watch.

THE NORTH (M)

I didn't know much about Scotland's West Highland Way before seeing *The North*, but wow did it make me want to book a one way ticket to the incredible Highlands. Two best friends, Bart and Carlos, walk the 600 kilometre journey and along the way we learn a lot about their journeys and how they finally overcome this epic tramp in trying conditions.

CHRISTY (Rating TBC)

Winner of the Generation section at Berlin International Film Festival, and Best Irish Film at Galway Film Fleadh, *Christy* is an uplifting tale of a young man finding his path to a brighter future. Director Brendan Canty of Hozier's 'Take me to Church' fame (1.2 billion views) directs his debut feature adapted from his 2019 short. Expect him to take home a few Irish film awards for *Christy* next year.



RE-CREATION (M)

I remember following this famous murder case and trial back in the late 90s, and here we get the *12 Angry Men* treatment from legendary Irish director Jim Sheridan (*My Left Foot*, *In the Name of the Father*). Featuring fabulous performances from Vicky Krieps, Colm Meaney, and Aidan Gillen - as well as Sheridan himself - this trial by jury drama reveals the emotion behind the verdict.

DEAD OF WINTER (Rating TBC)

Irish director Brian Kirk casts Emma Thompson in a role I guarantee you've never seen her in before. Barb (Thompson) is travelling alone through snowbound Minnesota when she witnesses the kidnapping of a teenage girl. *Dead of Winter* had its world premiere at the Locarno Film Festival, where renowned film critic Peter Bradshaw gave the film five stars. You won't be disappointed.

FOUR MOTHERS (Rating TBC)

This hilarious tale sees Irish novelist, Edward, juggling his writing career and caring for his elderly, speechless mother. When his friends leave town for a Pride event and dump their own mothers on him for the weekend, Edward is thrown into chaos. I hope you get beautiful happy sad feels like I did.

GLENROTHAN (Rating TBC)

Brian Cox of *Succession* fame makes his directorial debut at the age of 79 in a charming tale of two brothers reuniting to determine the fate of their family whisky distillery. Featuring a belting cast of Brian himself, Alan Cumming, and Shirley Henderson, this wee dram of a film is an easy way to lose yourself at the cinema.



OFFICIAL SELECTION
tiff50
 TORONTO INTERNATIONAL
 FILM FESTIVAL 2025

THE CHORAL

STARRING: Ralph Fiennes, Roger Allam, Mark Addy, Alun Armstrong

DIRECTED BY: Nicholas Hytner

DRAMA, HISTORY | 114 MINUTES | RATING TBC

From BAFTA-and-Tony-winning writer Alan Bennett and director Nicholas Hytner, the team behind *The History Boys* and *The Lady in the Van*, ***The Choral*** explores the humour and humanity at the heart of a community facing an uncertain future.

Academy Award® nominee and BAFTA-winner Ralph Fiennes heads up a cracking cast in this touching period piece.

As war rages on the Western Front, the Choral Society in Ramsden, Yorkshire has lost most of its men to the army. The Choral's ambitious committee, determined to press ahead, decides to recruit local young males to swell their ranks.

They must also engage a new chorus master, and despite their suspicions that he has something to hide, their best bet seems to be Dr. Henry Guthrie (Fiennes) – driven, uncompromising, and recently returned from a career in Germany.

As conscription papers start to arrive, the whole community discovers that the best response to the chaos that is laying waste to their lives is to make music together.

With a knockout performance from the always-reliable Fiennes, and a compelling story to boot, ***The Choral*** is guaranteed to be a hit at this year's Festival. Book your tickets quickly to avoid disappointment!

**“IT’S PLEASING TO SEE A
SMALLER SCALE WAR STORY
RENDERED THIS WAY AND
WITH THIS MUCH AFFECTION”**

- IndieWire

**“UNRESTRAINED SWEETNESS
AND ADEPT ENSEMBLE”**

- Screen International



STARRING: Christopher Guest, Michael McKean, Harry Shearer, Rob Reiner

DIRECTED BY: Rob Reiner

COMEDY | 84 MINUTES | M (Offensive language & sexual references)

The long-awaited sequel to the comedy classic *This is Spinal Tap* is here to turn the Festival up to 11!

Forty-one years after the release of the original groundbreaking mockumentary, the now estranged bandmates David St. Hubbins, Nigel Tufnel, and Derek Smalls (Michael McKean, Christopher Guest, and Harry Shearer) are forced to reunite for one final concert.

Spinal Tap II: The End Continues also marks the resurrection of documentarian Marty Di Bergi (Rob Reiner), who once again tries to capture his favourite metal gods as they contemplate mortality—and the hope that their 12th drummer doesn't join them in The Great Beyond.

Joined by music royalty Paul McCartney and Elton John, Spinal Tap wrestles with their checkered past to put on a concert that they hope will solidify their place in the pantheon of rock 'n' roll.

“THERE’S LOTS OF GOOD STUFF HERE, SOME WITTY REBOOTS AND REWORKINGS OF GAGS FROM THE FIRST FILM”

- *The Guardian*

“A FOND, CHAOTIC TRIBUTE TO THE ORIGINAL MOVIE”

- *Independent*



STARRING: Paul Mescal, Josh O'Connor, Chris Cooper

DIRECTED BY: Oliver Hermanus

DRAMA, HISTORY, ROMANCE | 128 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Based on the acclaimed book by Ben Shattuck, Paul Mescal (*Aftersun*, *All of Us Strangers*) and Josh O'Connor (*The Crown*, *Challengers*) play star-crossed lovers in this sweeping, moving and tender romance from Oliver Hermanus (*Living*).

In 1917, Lionel (Mescal) – a young, talented music student – meets David (O'Connor) at the Boston Conservatory, where they bond over a deep love of folk music.

Years later, Lionel receives a letter from David, leading to an impromptu journey through the backwoods of Maine to collect traditional songs. This unexpected reunion, ensuing love affair, and the music they collect and preserve, will shape the course

of Lionel's life far beyond his own awareness.

Paul Mescal and Josh O'Connor's star turns received rave reviews when *The History of Sound* premiered at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year, making this quiet but powerful drama a must-see at the British and Irish Film Festival 2025.

“THE PERFORMANCES ARE REMARKABLE”

- *TIME Magazine*

“A CINEMATIC ROMANCE FOR THE AGES”

- *The Playlist*



I SWEAR

STARRING: Robert Aramayo, Maxine Peake, Shirley Henderson, Peter Mullan

DIRECTED BY: Kirk Jones

BIOGRAPHY, DRAMA | 120 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Funny, moving, and deeply human, *I Swear* tells the remarkable true story of John Davidson, a Tourette Syndrome campaigner whose humour and honesty helped the world better understand the disorder.

Robert Aramayo (*The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power*) plays Davidson, whose life was irrevocably changed at 15 years old when he developed uncontrollable vocal and physical tics. Tourette Syndrome was barely understood at the time - even by doctors - causing John years of isolation, anxiety and shame.

It wasn't until Davidson reached his late twenties that things started to change. After meeting Dottie, the mother of a former school friend, who had recently

been diagnosed with terminal cancer, a strong bond formed between the pair. With Dottie's unwavering support, John discovered the confidence to be himself.

Written and directed by Kirk Jones (*Waking Ned Devine*), *I Swear* features an astonishing lead performance from Aramayo, joined by the excellent supporting cast of Maxine Peake (*Funny Cow*), Shirley Henderson (*Bridget Jones's Diary*) and Peter Mullan (*Trainspotting*).

"A REMARKABLE CENTRAL PERFORMANCE FROM ROBERT ARAMAYO"

- Screen International

• Watch trailers and book tickets at britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz •



& SONS

STARRING: Bill Nighy, Noah Jupe, George MacKay, Dominic West, Imelda Staunton

DIRECTED BY: Pablo Trapero

DRAMA | 120 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Bill Nighy plays an aging literary superstar in this adaptation of David Gilbert's critically acclaimed novel, co-written by Oscar-winner Sarah Polley (*Women Talking*).

Andrew Dyer (Nighy) hasn't written a word - or left the house - in 20 years. In that time he's fathered a child outside of his marriage, lost his wife (Imelda Staunton) and become estranged from his other sons.

Struggling with alcoholism, Andrew's sense of his own mortality sets in, especially following the news of the death of an old friend. In an attempt to right his relationship with his sons with the time he has left, Andrew decides to bring together all of his children for the first, and likely last time.

Elder brothers Richard (Johnny Flynn, *One Life*) and Jamie (George MacKay, *1917*) reluctantly return home to make amends, only for their father to reveal a secret about their half brother Andy Jr. (Noah Jupe, *A Quiet Place*) that rewrites their family history in a fascinating way.

With brilliant performances from the ensemble cast, anchored by Nighy in fine form in the central role, *& Sons* is an original and entertaining must-see.

"THE MOVIE BELONGS TO IMELDA STAUNTON, WHO DOES HER BEST WORK TO DATE"

- RogerEbert.com

Playing in Tauranga and Dunedin

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GLENROTHAN

STARRING: Alan Cumming, Brian Cox, Shirley Henderson, Alexandra Shipp

DIRECTED BY: Brian Cox

DRAMA | 97 MINUTES | RATING TBC

The legendary Brian Cox makes his directorial debut with this compelling family drama, set in the stunning Scottish Highlands and co-starring Alan Cumming.

When his beloved Chicago blues club burns down, Donal (Cumming) returns to his family-owned whisky distillery in the Scottish Highlands for the first time in nearly 40 years.

Donal didn't leave Scotland on the best terms, having wound up in a violent exchange with his brother Sandy (Cox) and their father on the day of their mother's funeral.

Joined by his daughter Amy (Alexandra Shipp, *Barbie*), Donal returns to his homeland in the hopes of making

amends with his brother. But with old wounds running deep and the fate of the family business on the line, can inner peace finally be found before it's too late?

Written by David Ashton (*The Last King of Scotland*) and accomplished TV writer Jeff Murphy (*Hinterland*), **Glenrothan** explores the complexities of familial bonds, set against the proud and timeless tradition of whisky making.

Cumming gives one of his best on-screen performances, opposite Cox who brings gravitas to every scene - both in front of and behind the camera.

• Watch trailers and book tickets at britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz •



BROken **ENG**lish

STARRING: Marianne Faithfull, Tilda Swinton, George MacKay, Zawe Ashton

DIRECTED BY: Jane Pollard, Iain Forsyth

DOCUMENTARY | 99 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Broken English is a bold and imaginative documentary portrait of the inimitable singer, songwriter and icon Marianne Faithfull.

A survivor, provocateur and true original, Marianne spent more than six decades defying expectations, releasing over thirty-five albums while constantly reinventing herself.

Made with her full involvement, **Broken English** is an intimate and unflinching exploration of a fractured yet unbreakable life shaped by fame, creativity and relentless public scrutiny.

The film unfolds within the "Ministry of Not Forgetting", an imagined, cinematic institution where memory and mythology collide. The Ministry is

presided over by Tilda Swinton as The Overseer, and George MacKay (also starring in *& Sons* at this year's Festival) serves as The Record Keeper, poring over Faithfull's life and career.

Broken English is a genre-defying act of resilience and rebellion – Marianne Faithfull's final fearless declaration, her defiant swan song.

"A FILM WHICH IS FULLY INFUSED WITH [FAITHFULL'S] DISTINCTIVE SPIRIT – IT IS FREE, CANDID AND REBELLIOUS TO THE CORE."

- *Screen International*

• Watch trailers and book tickets at britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz •



WORDS of WAR

STARRING: Maxine Peake, Ciarán Hinds, Jason Isaacs

DIRECTED BY: James Strong

BIOGRAPHY, DRAMA | 117 MINUTES | M (Violence & offensive language)

From James Strong, director of the acclaimed mini-series *Mr Bates vs The Post Office*, *Words of War* tells the powerful true story of world-renowned journalist and human rights activist Anna Politkovskaya.

Maxine Peake (also starring in *I Swear* at this year's Festival) expertly portrays Politkovskaya's brave crusade, putting her life in jeopardy by fighting to be an independent voice of truth for the Russian people. She refused to give up reporting on the war in Chechnya despite numerous acts of intimidation and violence, including being poisoned.

Sparring with Peake on the silver screen is Jason Isaacs, in the role of Politkovskaya's husband Sasha - a TV journalist who can barely hide his

jealousy of his wife's success. Irish screen legend Ciarán Hinds also joins the cast as Dmitry Muratov, Anna's editor of the independent paper Novaya Gazeta.

Politkovskaya's legacy lives on, and her story serves as a reminder of the importance of protecting the right to report the news without fear of death or reprisal.

"INSPIRES IN A VIEWER AN ECHO OF ITS HEROINE'S COMPASSION AND RESOLVE"

- *The Washington Post*



BFI LONDON
FILM FESTIVAL
OFFICIAL SELECTION 2025

MOSS & FREUD

STARRING: Ellie Bamber, Derek Jacobi

DIRECTED BY: James Lucas

DRAMA | 102 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Ellie Bamber (also starring in *Words of War* at this year's Festival) and Derek Jacobi bring the respective supermodel and painter to life in this exquisite drama.

Set in 2002, Kate Moss is at the height of her success and at a moment of transition as she prepares for motherhood. After revealing that one of her life goals is to have her portrait painted by Lucian Freud, the enigmatic artist invites Moss to his studio.

Infamously private and fiercely guarded, Freud begins to unravel Moss' hidden depths, and as the two British cultural icons converge, a lasting bond is formed.

As their mesmerising rapport develops,

Kate discovers her true self, and Freud finds his eternal muse.

Bamber and Jacobi wonderfully portray these iconic figures, enabling audiences to witness the personal interaction that took place behind closed doors.

This impressive feature debut from Oscar-winning New Zealand writer/director James Lucas (the film is a UK/NZ co-production) is a tender portrait of self-reflection and an unexpectedly transformative friendship.

Don't miss the gorgeous visuals, elegant writing and captivating performances of *Moss & Freud*!



78
Locarno Film Festival
PIAZZA GRANDE
OFFICIAL SELECTION

DEAD OF WINTER

STARRING: Emma Thompson, Judy Greer, Marc Menchaca, Laurel Marsden

DIRECTED BY: Brian Kirk

ACTION, THRILLER | 98 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Witness British screen-legend Emma Thompson as you've never seen her before in this tense, gripping, and icy thriller...

When she's unexpectedly hit by a blizzard, grief-stricken loner Barb (Thompson) gets lost among the backroads near a Minnesotan lake.

While stopping to ask for help at a remote cabin in the woods, Barb discovers a young woman (Laurel Marsden), who has been kidnapped by an armed and desperate couple (Judy Greer, Marc Menchaca), intent on murder.

Isolated in the desolate frozen wilds and without phone service, Barb realises she is this woman's only hope of survival.

From Irish director Brian Kirk (*Game of Thrones*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *The Day of the Jackal*) and featuring a career-best performance from Thompson, this gritty, pulse-pounding trip is guaranteed to have you on the edge of your seat.



**"HAS AN OLD-SCHOOL
BARNSTORMING
BRASHNESS...
EDGE-OF-THE-SEAT
TENSION"**

- *The Guardian*

• Watch trailers and book tickets at britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz •

WINDOWS

the north

ADVENTURE, DRAMA | 130 MINUTES | M (Offensive language)

Prepare to be transported to the striking beauty of the Scottish wilderness in *The North*, a visceral journey across craggy cliffs and lonesome beaches. A decade after being best friends and roommates, Chris and Lluís set out on a 600 km hike through the Scottish Highlands. Following the West Highland Way and The Cape Wrath Trail, they spend 30 days together in nature - hoping to rekindle their once-powerful friendship. But while Chris remains preoccupied with work and life back at home, Lluís is determined to finish the trail to prove he can do it. The solitude of the Highlands forces them to confront harsh truths about themselves, their friendship, and what it means to stand still and listen.

STARRING:

Bart Harder
Carles Pulido

DIRECTED BY:

Bart Schrijver

**"MAJESTIC...
THE ULTIMATE
HIKING FILM"**

- *The Guardian*



LOLLIPOP

DRAMA | 101 MINUTES | M (Offensive language)

In this absorbing drama, Posy Sterling (*The Outrun*) delivers a powerful performance as Molly, a young mum from East London who has lost everything while in prison. After serving four months, she finds herself in the mother of all catch-22s: she can't get housing because she doesn't have her kids living with her; but she can't get them back without a roof over her head. Molly has just six months to get housing and turn her life around before a judge in the family court makes the final determination whether her children will remain in long-term foster care, or return to live with her. Book now for this incredibly passionate and moving tale.

STARRING:

Posy Sterling

DIRECTED BY:

Daisy-May Hudson

**"A ROUSING,
EMOTIONAL
WRECKING BALL
IN THE VERY
BEST WAY"**

- *Empire*

• Watch trailers and book tickets at britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz •



RE-CREATION

STARRING: Vicky Krieps, Jim Sheridan, Aidan Gillen, Colm Meaney

DIRECTED BY: Jim Sheridan and David Merriman

DRAMA, MYSTERY | 89 MINUTES | M (Offensive language & content that may disturb)

Part courtroom drama, part true crime documentary, the extraordinarily inventive *Re-Creation* delves into one of Ireland's most shocking unsolved crimes.

In 1996, French filmmaker Sophie Toscan Du Plantier was murdered at her holiday home in West Cork. English journalist Ian Bailey was investigated by Irish authorities, but never faced trial in Ireland - despite the fact he was tried and convicted in absentia by the French government.

Re-Creation directors Jim Sheridan (*My Left Foot*, *In the Name of the Father*) and David Merriman have constructed a fascinating mix of fiction and reality that explores the question: what if Bailey had been tried in Ireland?

The film skilfully brings audiences into the room as a fictional jury sorts through the facts, inconsistencies and inconvenient truths that make the case so intriguing to this day.

With spectacular performances from the ensemble cast, headed by the remarkable Vicky Krieps (*Phantom Thread*), *Re-Creation* is an unmissable entry in this year's line-up.

"A SLICKLY STUNNING CHAMBER PIECE."

- *Variety*

"UNIQUE AND INNOVATIVE"

- *Observer*

WINDOWS



CHRISTY

DRAMA | 96 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Winner of The Grand Prix at this year's Berlin International Film Festival, as well as Best Irish Film at the Galway Film Fleadh, *Christy* is a punchy drama not to be missed. Seventeen-year-old Christy is at a crossroads. He's just been thrown out of his pleasant suburban foster home and moved in with his estranged older brother Shane. As far as Shane is concerned this is a temporary arrangement, but Christy begins to feel at home on Cork's working class north side. As he makes friends and begins to let the community in, he also reconnects with his past through his seemingly more corrupting extended family, despite Shane's efforts to steer him away from this crowd.

STARRING:
Danny Power
Diarmuid Noyes
Emma Willis
DIRECTED BY:
Brendan Canty

"A MOVING IRISH CROWD-PLEASER"
- *Variety*



ISLANDS

DRAMA, THRILLER | 123 MINUTES | M (Offensive language & suicide references)

Tom (Sam Riley, *Control*) is the tennis coach at a luxurious island hotel, filling his time between lessons with booze and brief affairs. The arrival of the Maguire family pulls Tom out of his normal routine and he strikes up a relationship with Anne (Stacy Martin, *The Brutalist*), her husband Dave (Jack Farthing, *Spencer*) and their son Anton. Tom is unable to shake the feeling that he has met Anne before, and this tension grows between them until one night, Dave goes missing and the police investigation points to both Anne and Tom as suspects. With *Islands*, Festival audiences are in for a "scorching, sun-frazzled Hitchcockian delight" (*The Standard*).

STARRING:
Sam Riley
Stacy Martin
DIRECTED BY:
Jan-Ole Gerster

"IT SHIMMERS, CONVINCES AND THOROUGHLY ABSORBS."
- *The Telegraph*

Christmas Karma

BASED ON THE CHARLES DICKENS CLASSIC
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

STARRING:

Hugh Bonneville
Kunal Nayyar
Eva Longoria
Billy Porter
Boy George
Danny Dyer
Pixie Lott
Leo Suter

DIRECTED BY:

Gurinder Chadha

COMEDY, MUSICAL | 110 MINUTES | RATING TBC

From visionary British director Gurinder Chadha (*Bend It Like Beckham*, *Blinded By The Light*), **Christmas Karma** sees ones of history's greatest novels - Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* transformed into a joyous, colourful, feel-good Christmas musical that celebrates modern-day London and all of its vibrant communities and cultures. With an all-star cast and music from Gary Barlow, Nitin Sawhney and Shaznay Lewis, the film features an eclectic soundtrack influenced by gospel, bhangra, carols, rap and classic pop songs. **Christmas Karma** is a festive British classic for our times, and for generations to come, that promotes a strong message to be kind, choose love and celebrate the present.

★★★★★
'INCANDESCENT FILMMAKING...
SHATTERINGLY BEAUTIFUL'

GRAEME TUCKETT, THE POST

MELANIE
LYNSKEY ROBYN
MALCOLM

A ROBERT SARKIES FILM

PIKE RIVER

IN CINEMAS
OCTOBER 30



Four Mothers

STARRING: James McArdle, Fionnula Flanagan, Niamh Cusack, Dearbhla Molloy

DIRECTED BY: Darren Thornton

COMEDY, DRAMA | 89 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Edward (James McArdle, *Mary Queen of Scots*, *Mare of Easttown*), a novelist saddled with caring for his elderly mother, Alma (Fionnula Flanagan, *Waking Ned Devine*) finally finds himself on the brink of literary success.

With pressure to go on a US book tour mounting, the last thing Edward needs is his friends jetting off to Spain for an impromptu Pride holiday, leaving their mothers on his doorstep!

Over a chaotic weekend, he has to juggle his burgeoning career with the care of four eccentric, combative, and wildly different ladies.

An Irish twist on the acclaimed Italian hit *Mid-August Lunch*, this uplifting comedy and tender drama takes an

unlikely found family on an emotionally charged journey of self-discovery and acceptance.

Book your tickets now for this Irish charmer, winner of the BFI London Film Festival Audience Award!

**"COSY AS A FIRESIDE CHAT
WITH A NICE CUP OF TEA"**

- Deadline

"A CHARMER OF A PICTURE"

- Observer

PRESENTED BY



THE GOLDEN SPURTLE

DIRECTED BY: Constantine Costi

DOCUMENTARY | 75 MINUTES | E

Dating back to neolithic times, few culinary traditions have survived as long as the hearty bowl of morning porridge. Despite its simple recipe of oats, salt and water there is *a lot* that can vary.

Each year the sleepy highland village of Carrbridge awakens with excitement as locals and competitors from around the globe vie for the honour of winning The Golden Spurtle in the World Porridge Making Championships.

For ageing, charismatic, and soon-to-retire protagonist Charlie Miller, this competition means so much more than just a bowl of steaming oats. With ailing health but a responsibility to his fellow porridge committee members, Charlie is on a mission to secure the

future of the championships – and his own legacy.

Against the backdrop of the breathtaking Scottish Highlands and infused with whimsical humour of an eclectic cast, *The Golden Spurtle* captures the humanity of village life and those who visit with spurtle in hand.

“AN UTTER JOY”

- Observer

SPECIAL HARRAWAYS SCREENING

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Rialto Cinemas Dunedin
Sun 02 Nov 1:10pm



BEAT THE LOTTO

DIRECTED BY: Ross Whitaker

DOCUMENTARY | 85 MINUTES | G

Beat the Lotto is a rip-roaring tale about the mathematician who, along with a ragtag syndicate, plotted to fix Ireland's National Lottery in 1992, captivating the nation and sparking rabid debate.

In Ireland, the public became obsessed when the National Lottery arrived, none more so than mathematician and avid stamp-collector Stefan Klinecicz. Using mathematical analysis, he reckoned the system could be beaten if he could just gather enough people to form a syndicate to buy every single ticket combination – and front up all the cash, of course.

Director Ross Whitaker fashions this unbelievable true story into a gripping thriller, mirroring the tension felt by the

public as the lottery authorities caught wind of the plan.

With insightful interviews and fantastic archival footage, *Beat the Lotto* is a look back at Ireland in the 1990s and a compelling tale of one man's attempt to outsmart the system.

“A MUCH-NEEDED GOOD-NEWS STORY, THEN AND NOW.”

- The Irish Times

“CRACKING ENTERTAINMENT”

- Irish Independent



GERRY ADAMS: A BALLYMURPHY MAN

DIRECTED BY: Trisha Ziff

DOCUMENTARY | 117 MINUTES | RATING TBC

Irish republican leader Gerry Adams is one of the most controversial political leaders and visionaries of our time, having led the people of the North of Ireland from conflict to peace.

Adams was a critical voice in the decision taken independently by the IRA to lay down their arms after their twenty-five-year war against the British. Imprisoned and shot, he was demonised and censored by dominant media as a subversive and a terrorist.

Ultimately, the British and their allies were forced to recognize his legitimacy and negotiate with him - and his party Sinn Féin - the Irish peace accord known as 'The Good Friday Agreement'.

Today, Adams supports the next

generations on their peaceful and inclusive path toward Irish unity.

An intensely private man, protecting his family from the public eye, Adams tell his story for the first time in this eye-opening documentary. Interwoven with his words, a wealth of imagery of what is one of the most documented conflicts of our time gives an insight into Adams' world - relaxed, informal, and uncensored.

**"FURTHERS OUR
UNDERSTANDING OF A
ONCE-CONTROVERSIAL
FIGURE"**

- Screen International



Twiggy

STARRING: Twiggy, Dustin Hoffman, Paul McCartney, Joanna Lumley

DIRECTED BY: Sadie Frost

DOCUMENTARY | 95 MINUTES | RATING TBC

An intimate, star-studded dive into the birth of an icon, and everything that followed, *Twiggy* is a look at the life of the greatest 'it-girl' of all time.

Director Sadie Frost follows up her 2021 documentary *Quant* with another deep dive into the story of a fashion legend. This time it's the model and cultural icon Dame Lesley Lawson - better known as Twiggy.

This slick documentary features a combination of fascinating archival footage and new interviews with stars such as Dustin Hoffman, Paul McCartney, Charlotte Tilbury, Joanna Lumley, and many more.

Telling her story for the first time herself, *Twiggy* is an exploration of the model's

upbringing, career, relationships, and everything else that has made her the woman she is today.

**"A PORTRAIT OF FEMALE
RESILIENCE"**

- The Times

**"IT'S GOT A LOT TO SAY
ABOUT BRITISH CLASS
STRUCTURES...
AND ABOUT THE WORLD
WHICH TWIGGY LIVED"**

- Mark Kermode

The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie



STARRING:

Maggie Smith
Robert Stephens
Pamela Franklin
Gordon Jackson
Celia Johnson

DIRECTED BY:

Ronald Neame

DRAMA | 116 MINUTES | M

Maggie Smith earned her first Academy Award for this beloved period drama, originally released in 1969. Smith plays the titular Jean Brodie, a headstrong and liberated young teacher at a private school in 1930s Edinburgh. Eccentric but inspirational, Miss Brodie prefers to avoid any sort of curriculum in favour of what she feels her young female charges should know about life. Outside of class, a small group of girls compete for her favour, but their initial devotion eventually leads to jealousies, betrayal and tragedy. Based on the acclaimed novel and stage play by Muriel Spark, make time during this year's Festival to revisit Maggie Smith's award-winning performance.



A Room with a View

STARRING: Maggie Smith, Helena Bonham Carter, Denholm Elliot, Julian Sands

DIRECTED BY: James Ivory

DRAMA, ROMANCE | 117 MINUTES | PG (Violence)

A Room With a View captured the attention of the world upon its release, bringing the novel by E.M. Forster to dazzling life in the Florentine countryside and in the well-appointed homes of the English Edwardian upper classes. A comedy of manners with a quick wit and impeccable comic timing, *A Room With A View* is also a portrait of the quiet solitude that lies beneath Forster's characters, and of the need for human connection in a world of rigid convention.

The young Englishwoman Lucy Honeychurch (played by Helena Bonham Carter), arrives in Florence on a Baedeker-style grand tour with her aunt Charlotte Bartlett (Maggie Smith). Through a series of events involving English expatriates Miss Eleanor

Lavish, an unflappable novelist (Judi Dench), and the Emersons, a free-thinking father and son (played by Denholm Elliot and Julian Sands), Lucy's life is changed forever under a loggia in Florence and in the Tuscan countryside.

Ivory's delicate and playful direction spirits us from an adventure in the back alleys of Florence, lost with Dench and Smith, to the lace-parasolled rigidity of English lawn parties. Shot on location in and around Florence (including unforgettable scenes in the Piazza della Signoria and at Giotto's frescoes in Santa Croce), *A Room With A View* made stars not only of Bonham Carter, Day Lewis and Sands, but of the Tuscan landscapes and Puccini arias (as sung by Kiri Te Kanawa) featured throughout.

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starring Rosamund Pike

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Theatre

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TICKETING INFORMATION

How to buy tickets

Tickets are sold through the participating venues.

In cinemas:

At box offices daily until sold out. Cinemas can only sell tickets for their respective venues.

Online:

At britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz. Select your session and you will be redirected from there to the appropriate cinema site. Booking fees may apply.

Please check with cinemas for Festival pricing.

Group bookings

Yes! We do discounted rates for 10 or more.

Please contact hello@britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz to make your booking.

Festival contacts

Director:
fergus@britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz

General:
hello@britishandirishfilmfestival.co.nz

VENUE INFORMATION

Kerikeri | 30 Oct - 12 Nov

Cathay Cinemas
27 Hobson Avenue
Kerikeri 0230
09 407 4428
cathaycinemas.co.nz

Whangārei | 30 Oct - 12 Nov

Event Cinemas Whangārei
18 James Street
Whangārei 0110
09 470 1948
eventcinemas.co.nz

Matakana | 30 Oct - 19 Nov

Matakana Cinemas
2 Matakana Valley Road
Matakana 0985
09 423 0218
matakanacinemas.co.nz

Whitianga | 30 Oct - 12 Nov

Mercury Twin Cinemas
1 Lee Street
Whitianga 3510
07 867 1001
mercurytwincinemas.com

Tauranga | 30 Oct - 12 Nov

Luxe Cinemas Tauranga
21 Devonport Road
Tauranga 3110
07 577 0445
luxecinemas.nz

New Plymouth | 5 - 19 Nov

Len Lye Cinema
42 Queen Street
New Plymouth 4310
06 759 6060
govettbrewster.com/cinema

VENUE INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

Whanganui | 30 Oct - 19 Nov

Embassy 3 Cinema
34 Victoria Avenue
Whanganui 4500
06 345 7958
embassy3.co.nz

Masterton | 30 Oct - 19 Nov

The Screening Room
435 Queen Street
Masterton 5810
06 378 6191
thescreeningroom.co.nz

Wānaka | 30 Oct - 12 Nov

Cinema Paradiso
72 Brownston Street
Wānaka 9434
03 443 1505
paradiso.nz

Arrowtown | 30 Oct - 12 Nov

Dorothy Browns
18 Buckingham Street
Arrowtown 9302
dorothybrowns.com

Dunedin | 30 Oct - 19 Nov

Rialto Cinemas Dunedin
11 Moray Place
Central Dunedin
Dunedin 9016
03 474 2200
rialto.co.nz

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Some cinemas will charge a booking fee for tickets booked online and over the phone. Please check with your local cinema.

ID will be required for all discounted tickets (seniors, students) and for all restricted films when collecting or purchasing tickets.

All films are no complimentaries, except for Festival complimentary passes. No cinema vouchers, movie money or ticket discount offers can be used for festival films, unless otherwise specified.

Programme may be subject to change. The Festival reluctantly reserves the right to change the schedule by amending dates, session times or replacing films. Any necessary changes will be amended as soon as possible on the Festival website and at the affected venue.

Please contact your local cinema for details about their wheelchair access and parking facilities.

Further terms and conditions may apply. Contact your local cinema for more information.

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