

14-17 November
2019

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13th GUTH
GAFÄ

international documentary film festival

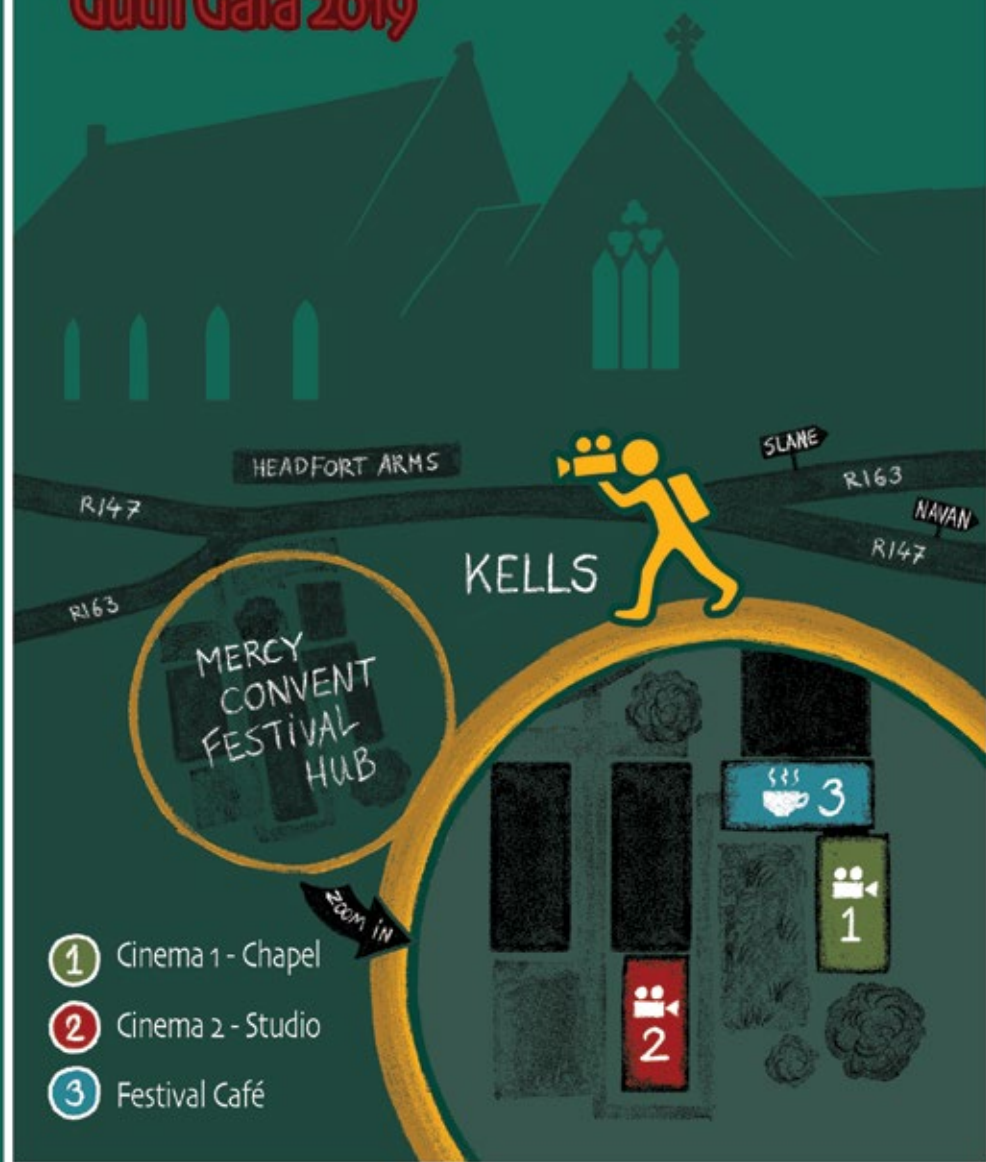
PROGRAMME

films - talks - panels - music - food - family

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FESTIVAL MAP

Guth Gafo 2019



MESSAGES OF HOPE

Greetings from Guth Gafa

Some don't see our planet as a single entity because there are superficial differences between peoples and countries on a cultural and geographical level – these distinctions are however inconsequential in the matter of our survival. James Lovelock first codified this interdependence in his Gaia Theory that linked all of Earth's components – surely there is a similar interdependence of cultures and ideas that regulates the intellectual health of the world. Guth Gafa has always respected this in our programming and our affection for the underdog remains undiminished. This year young people have elbowed their way to the front to demand change: Youth Unstoppable, Power to the Children, and Changing the Game are strong films on climate justice and gender rights while Easy Lessons is the voice of the child refugee. Other cinematic gems from around the world include: Gay Chorus Deep South, a glorious civil rights celebration, a choral triumph in the belly of Dixie; Leftover Women, a wry reflection on marriage in a newly materialist China, and The Reluctant Radical, a fascinating excavation of the psyche of resistance. Completing the programme we've got music films, great films for kids, and an entire animation strand for the littlies. We believe that the world and its peoples are one, belonging to all and to be tended by all – our films at Guth Gafa 2019 reflect this.

Please join us.

Neasa Ni Chianain and David Rane

A special thank you to Meath County Council for their unwavering support, encouragement and guidance in our new adventure and to the people of Kells for welcoming us into the heart of the town.



**Neasa Ní Chianáin
and David Rane**
Festival co-directors

Guth Gafa International Documentary Film Festival began in 2006, and presents over 30 feature length, short documentaries and animations every year. Every director of every selected film is invited to Guth Gafa to present their work and to participate in post-screening Q & A's with the audience.

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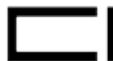


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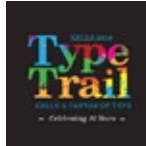
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ENTERP-RISE



A DOG CALLED MONEY

Seamus Murphy, Ireland, 2019, 90'

Friday 15th November, 5.00pm

The musician P.J. Harvey and director Seamus Murphy connect different locations, mediums, cultures and time frames in a studio in the basement of Somerset House London. The space, built with one-way glass and speakers allows visitors to observe the creative process of composition as the musicians translate into music the cultural nuggets Murphy has collected on film from Afghanistan, Washington DC and Kosovo. It's a daring project: clips of the US Army in Kabul set against the bombed out buildings inspire martial riffs; Harvey mines the street patois in poor DC to extract and distil the frustration into sounds; she tip-toes through a Kosovo cottage abandoned during the war and witnesses circumcision rituals – all the time recording. Impossible to categorize, the work she produces has its roots not in an imagined musical equation but from life revealed – it's fascinating to watch her stripping out the meaning from workaday sounds and images to find the essence.

Parental Guidance Note

This film has been deemed appropriate by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for children 15 and over. However, parental discretion is always advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

Director: Seamus Murphy
Producers: Katie Holly, Isabel Davis, James Wilson, Seamus Murphy



Seamus Murphy Seamus Murphy is a London-based photojournalist, the recipient of seven World Press Photo awards for his work in Afghanistan, Gaza, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, Peru and Ireland. An Emmy nominee, he also won the Liberty in Media Prize and the World Understanding Award from POYi in the USA. He has collaborated with musician PJ Harvey since 2016. 'A Dog Called Money' is their latest work.



CHANGING THE GAME

Michael Barnett, U.S.A, 2019, 95'

Saturday 16th November, 2.30pm

IRISH PREMIERE

The enraged crowd bays for blood and hisses invective at a fifteen year old transgender athlete at a wrestling match. It's a threat to all that is apple pie; a deviancy that makes teenagers neither fish nor fowl. Mack, the wrestler who was born a girl, now takes testosterone in his process of transitioning but state law says he must compete in the gender category he was born into – so he wrestles girls. And then there's Sarah, the talented young skier who confronts the state legislature with wisdom beyond her years – she's 15 and transitioning to a girl. Finally there's Andraya, the trans runner who gets flack from track moms who call her a cheat and worse when she wins races. The film gets to the tender heart of each youngster by capturing the essence of youth in its carefree, earnest purity: girly girl stuff like nails and giggles and macho battles with the gym equipment make a mockery of the gender tramlines as the kids search for their true identities.

Parental Guidance Note

This film has been deemed appropriate by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for 12 year olds and up. However, parental discretion is always advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



Michael Barnett is an Emmy® Award-winning filmmaker. His films include 'Superheroes' (HBO Documentary Films) which won over a dozen festivals and multiple Emmy® nominations; 'Becoming Bulletproof' (Showtime), winner of over 25 awards; and 'The Mars Generation' (Netflix Original/Sundance premiere), 2018 Best Science & Technology Documentary Emmy® nominee.

Director: Michael Barnett
Producer: Clare Tucker
Camera: Turner Jumonville
Editor: Michael Mahaffie,
Amanda Griffin
Music: Tyler Strickland

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EASY LESSONS

Dorottya Zurbó, Hungary, 2018, 78'

Friday 15th November, 5.00pm

IRISH PREMIERE

Kafiya Mahdi Said's flight from Somalia meant escape from an arranged marriage – an old man had expressed interest in her and so her father sold her. Kafiya's mother, facing a heartbreaking choice, bravely had the fifteen year old spirited away by a smuggler, knowing full well that she would never see her daughter again. But over the years mother is constantly in Kafiya's thoughts as the teen struggles to master Hungarian and the subjects she needs to graduate from school in her adopted country. Learning about European history through her eyes subtly raises questions about the hegemony of the West and the political process that made her a refugee. Elegant and graceful, Kafiya apparently slides easily into middle class society but inside she's dislocated and returns constantly to her mother's memory for comfort.

Director: Dorottya Zurbó
Producer: Julianna Ugrin
Camera: Natasha Pavlovskaya
Editor: Péter Sass
Sound: Rudolf Várhegyi H.A.S.E.
Music: Ádám Balázs

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Parental Guidance Note

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Dorottya Zurbó, a lecturer in the field of transmedia and documentary at University of Theatre and Film Arts in Budapest has won several festival awards for her short films including an award from One World. In 2017 she co-directed a documentary, 'The Next Guardian' shot in Bhutan which premiered at IDFA in the First Appearance Competition. 'Easy Lessons' is her solo directorial debut.





WaadAlKateab



FOR SAMA

Waad Al-Kateab, Edward Watts, UK, 2019, 95'

Sunday 17th November, 7.00pm

It is traditional for parents to celebrate a baby's birth, first steps, and other milestones but in Aleppo, nothing is normal. Barrel bombs rain down as freely on hospitals as on rebel positions and Happy Birthday must compete with the stutter of small arms fire and the sonic boom of Russian fighter jets. For little Sama, born into the fight for Aleppo, her first album is part baby-talk and part war footage – a film shot by her mother Waad in the midst of this savage massacre. Waad traces her involvement to the Syrian student revolution when, as a filmmaker she recorded the first green shoots of democracy and became involved with Hamza al Kateab, who later, along with other courageous doctors, built a hospital to care for victims of the siege. After sneaking out to visit a dying relative the family returns to the hospital in Aleppo, under fire, and the endgame begins...

Director: Waad Al-Kateab, Edward Watts
Producer: Waad Al-Kateab
Editor: Chloe Lambourne, Simon McMahon
Music: Nainita Desai

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DÚN LAOGHAIRE

Parental Guidance Note

This film has been deemed appropriate by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for 15 year olds and up. However, parental discretion is always advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



Waad Al-Kateab, a former student of Aleppo University who later trained as a citizen journalist taught herself how to shoot film. Her documentary 'For Sama' (2019) has received the Golden Eye award at the Festival de Cannes 2019..

Edward Watts is an Emmy award-winning, BAFTA nominated filmmaker who has directed over 20 narrative and documentary films that tell true stories of courage, heroism and humor from across the world.



GAY CHORUS DEEP SOUTH

David Charles Rodrigues, USA, 2019, 100'

Saturday 16th November, 8.00pm

IRISH PREMIERE

Why would somebody take a gay choir to the Deep South – in this current political climate? However, this is no ordinary choir but the world famous San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, formed forty years ago to proclaim to the world that bigotry stood no chance against the voices of millions of Americans who claimed the right to choose their sexual preference. Despite threats from homophobes the tour goes ahead and the group makes it clear that this is not just about their right to perform where they please but a protest against two odious pieces of state legislation that would seek to strip the LGBTQ community of civil rights. The journey to the South is not only a profound musical experience but this story of courageous political activism is gilded with threads of personal struggle from choir members, many of whom grew up under the far right's sneering gaze.

Director: David Charles Rodrigues
Producer: Bud Johnston, Jesse Moss
Camera: Adam Hobbs
Editor: Jeff Gilbert
Sound: J.R. Fountain
Music: Bryan Senti

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STORYHOUSE

Parental Guidance Note

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David Charles Rodrigues is a Greek-American-Brazilian filmmaker, a Sundance New Frontier and Doc lab fellow, whose provocative work flies below the radar to infiltrate hearts and minds. Rodrigues' short films and commercials have garnered over 1 billion views online and have shown at several venues including MOCA Los Angeles. 'Gay Chorus Deep South' is his feature doc debut.



GAZA

Garry Keane and Andrew McConnell, Ireland, Canada, 2019, 92'
Sunday 17th November, 3.45pm

Nearly two million Palestinians are tightly packed into Gaza – like sardines – like the tiny silvery fish the local fishermen must survive on since the Israeli navy blockade. But life goes on, almost: skinny kids play on the beach under the watchful eye of a navy gunboat, entrepreneurs pilot their horse-drawn delivery wagons through the pock-marked streets selling flaccid vegetables and everywhere the iron hand of Hamas is apparent. Direct opposition to the wall that Israel has constructed is a kind of rite of passage for young Gazans – burning tyres and slingshots provoke the inevitable tear gas and plastic bullets that characterize the back-and-forth of Israeli/Palestinian politics. But even in these dire conditions art survives: a music student plays her cello, a wheelchair-bound rap artist rhymes his way into local hearts and a stylish socialite puts on a fashion show. It's all fun until an Israeli F-16 launches a missile attack.

Director: Garry Keane and Andrew McConnell
Producer: Brendan J. Byrne, Paul Cadieux
Camera: Andrew McConnell
Editor: Mick Mahon

Parental Guidance Note

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Garry Keane has directed over 100 hours of TV documentaries broadcast internationally and is the recipient of 4 Irish Film & Television Academy awards.

Andrew McConnell has won numerous awards including two prestigious Sony World Photography Awards for his insightful work on conflict and displacement in Africa and the Middle East. 'GAZA' is his first project as a film maker.



GRIT

Cynthia Wade, Sasha Friedlander, Indonesia, 2019, 80'

Sunday 17th November, 4.00pm

IRISH PREMIERE

In 2006 a company drilling for natural gas in East Java hit a pocket of pressurised mud deep underground, resulting in an eruption and subsequent tsunami of sediment that engulfed a vast area of Indonesian farmland. Seen through the eyes of 6 year old Dian the mudflow is a terrifying menace, smashing buildings and sweeping away the community's history and future in one dark wave. What had they done to deserve this massive visitation from the underworld? The prospecting company blames a distant earthquake for the disaster and is legally exonerated but initially does make partial payments to displaced villagers before pleading poverty and ceasing compensation. The settled mud sits atop thousands of houses, factories and rice paddies and in a dark irony has become a tourist attraction with former residents acting as ushers. Unbroken, the community fights on, through a turbulent election that sees a peoples' choice finally emerge as president – a man who promises justice for the displaced.

Parental Guidance Note

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Director: Cynthia Wade, Sasha Friedlander

Producer: Sasha Friedlander; Cynthia Wade, Tracie Holder; Matthew Syrett

Camera: Boaz Freund, Axel Baumann, Bao Nguyen

Editor: Sasha Friedlander

Sound: I Gede Sinu Pradnyana, Mark Haygen



Cynthia Wade's 2008 documentary 'Freeheld' won a 2008 Oscar for Best Documentary Short Subject, to add to the other 44 awards she's had worldwide. Wade has an MA from Stanford and works both as a director and producer.

Sasha Friedlander directed, produced, shot and edited the award-winning feature documentary 'Where Heaven Meets Hell'. Fluent in Indonesian she's worked in the region as a filmmaker and journalist.



HONEYLAND

Tamara Kotevska and Ljubo Stefanov, Macedonia, 2019, 85'

Friday 15th November, 7.45pm

Beekeeper Atidze lives with her aged and infirm mother in a deserted canyon – ancient drystack stone dwellings, now deserted, tell of another era, a more prosperous time in North Macedonia. It's a spare life in this rocky landscape with no electricity or running water but Atidze has her mother to look after and her beloved bees for company – life has been simple up to now, before the visitors arrived. When Hussein Sam, his wife Ljutvie and seven children set up camp in the valley, chaos is loosed upon Atidze's rural peace – a whirring gyre of caravan, children, chickens, truck parts, cattle, clutter and broken appliances, engulfs the good natured beekeeper. The natural order of the valley seems to have gone out of sync but Atidze perseveres with her good neighbourliness and it's only when Hussein declares that he'd like to try beekeeping, that alarm bells sound.

Director: Tamara Kotevska and Ljubo Stefanov
Producer: Atanas Georgiev
Camera: Fejmi Daut and Samir Ljuma
Sound: Rana Eid

Parental Guidance Note

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Tamara Kotevska's co-direction of 'Lake of Apples' won her the Prix de l'environnement (2017) award in France, an honorable mention at the Innsbruck Film Festival in Austria (2017), and the Perseus Award at T-Festival in Brno, Czech Republic (2017)..

Ljubo Stefanov Born 1975 in Skopje. Over 20 years of experience in development and production of communication concepts and documentaries related to environmental issues and human development. Working for clients such UN agencies, Euronatur, Swisscontact etc. Previous films include 'The Noisy Neighbours' (2005) and 'Lake of Apples' (2017)



LEFTOVER WOMEN

Shosh Shlam , Hilla Medalia, Israel, 2019, 84'

Friday 15th November, 2.45pm

IRISH PREMIERE

It ain't easy for a single gal in China – especially since the government thought it a good idea for all singletons to get married. Xu Min, a talk radio host, lawyer Qui Hau Mei and Gai Qi a professor of film and TV are all given the third degree for their marital status by family, friends and marriage brokers alike. Sticking true to the tenets of State Capitalism the government promotes marriage industries in cartoon vignettes and posters proclaiming the bliss of wedlock. Will Xu Min, Qui Hau Mei and Gai Qi give in and find Mr. Right or succeed in bucking the system? The pressure is relentless: there are dating fairs and apps allowing for precision targeting of a partner; with 'professional occupation' and 'home ownership' being top criteria for husband selection – Chairman Mao must be spinning in his grave.

Director: : Shosh Shlam, Hilla Medalia

Producer: Hilla Medalia, Shosh Shlam

Camera: Shen Mi, Fan Jian

Editor: Joelle Alexis

Music: Ran Bagno

Parental Guidance Note

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Shosh Shlam is the award-winning director and producer of 'Last Journey into Silence' (2003), 'Be Fruitful and Multiply' (2005) and 'Good Garbage' (2008). She holds an MA in Comparative Literature from Bar Ilan University.

Hilla Medalia has received three Emmy® nominations. Her projects, including 'Dancing in Jaffa', 'Web Junkie' and 'The Go Go Boys' have garnered critical acclaim and screened internationally in theaters, television and at major festivals around the world.



LOSING ALASKA

Tom Burke, Ireland, 2018, 82'

Saturday 16th November, 2.30pm

Newtok is a native Alaskan village perched on the edge of the tundra. The thing is the edge has been moving for a couple of decades as rising sea levels eat the permafrost, foot by foot. Watching this frightening drama is a community riven by factionalism, poor and under-resourced, isolated and under-represented. When the U.S. bought Alaska for \$7.2 million it was a bargain – not only is it aglugh with oil but it's the most strategic military position on the globe with nuclear bombers just a short hop from the Kremlin. The real value of the area is of course to be found in the human capital, a proud people, living with respect for one of the planet's last protected environments. Politicians routinely lobby Alaskans come election time but residents of Newtok have heard all the campaign lullabies and now want action.

Director: Tom Burke
Producer: Jessie Fisk, Alan Maher
Camera: Tom Burke
Editor: Tom Burke

Parental Guidance Note

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Tom Burke works primarily in the documentary form, assumes a shooting director role, and more often than not will be the editor of his own films. At Areaman Productions from 2007 to 2017, Tom was able to mix factual television projects with more aesthetically driven Irish Film Board funded short form docs and in 2017 he established Broadstone Films.



MYSTIFY

Richard Lowenstein, Australia, 2019, 102'
Friday 15th November, 8.00pm

Michael Hutchence was surely an enigma, an unknown quantity destined to mystify both the industry and his fans – how was he simultaneously the consummate star and also the unaffected boy down the road? His rise to fame was so much the stuff of teenage dreams: discovered by the media machine and a massive audience but oblivious to the value of stardom; just looking to chase the process of making art and not denying his wholesome roots. However; it seems that the roots were complex and interwoven, with his jet-setting parents being 'there' intermittently. Maybe the young man who performed to many thousands at a single gig really wanted a simple audience with family. From his relationship with his first sweetheart Ananda Braxton-Smith who introduced him to the beat poets, to Kylie Minogue, to Paula Yates, the many women in his life speak of a loving, gentle soul, searching... always searching.

Director: Richard Lowenstein
Producer: Maya Gnyp, John Battsek
Camera: Andrew De Groo
Editor: Tayler Martin
Sound: Darcy Taranto

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Richard Lowenstein has directed and produced five feature films including 'Strikebound', 'Dogs In Space', 'He Died With A Felafel In His Hand' and the feature documentary 'We're Livin' On Dog Food'. He has also produced two award-winning satirical TV series for SBS: John Safran's 'Music Jamboree' and 'John Safran Versus God' as well as co-directing and producing 'In Bob We Trust'.



OUR TIME MACHINE

Yang Sun, S. Leo Chiang, China, 2019, 80'

Saturday 16th January, 5.30pm

IRISH PREMIERE

Shanghai artist and puppet master Maleonn has a great pedigree: 200 000 people have passed through his mobile photo studio where he 'places' them in planes or boats or gardens via his elaborately constructed fantastical contexts – his imagination seems unlimited. His latest project is personal, a play about a time machine that a son constructs to help his elderly father access memories that the years and illness have erased. Maleonn's own father spent 50 years as Director with the Shanghai Opera but now can't recall details of the productions he directed, so, as Maleonn and his group toil to perfect their creation, Maleonn's mother takes strain as her husband's principal carer. The play itself is unbelievably beautiful with a tenderness that plays a foil to the soaring fantasy of time travel and youth revisited in the gigantic clattering, whirring, flapping contraption that Maleonn offers his father:

Director: Yang Sun, S. Leo Chiang

Producer: Donal Foreman, Nicole Brenez, Philippe Grandrieux

Camera: Yang Sun, Shuang Liang

Editor: Bob Lee

Music: Paul Brill

Parental Guidance Note

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Yang Sun has directed many short documentaries including 'The Second Album' and 'Backpackers For 10 Years'. A seasoned cinematographer Sun also worked on 'South Of The Ocean' and 'A Century With Nanjing..

S. Leo Chiang has a brace of awards behind him for directing, including an Emmy nomination for 'Mr. Cao Goes To Washington'. An academic and branch member of the Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences Chiang also edits and is an acclaimed cinematographer.



POWER TO THE CHILDREN

Anna Kersting, Germany, 2017, 87'

Saturday 16th November, 11.45am

IRISH PREMIERE

The rural tranquility of India belies the very real problems existing at village level as prejudice, alcohol abuse and gender-based violence undermine the progress made in transforming the country. But a revolution headed by youngsters is gaining traction across India – The Children’s Parliament, headed at national level by a dynamic 14 year old who’s visually impaired, addresses needs at grass roots level using simple social tools. Whether it’s streetlights out of order or garbage not collected, the kids find ingenious ways of shaming the grown-ups into action. Petitions and guerrilla theatre shine the spotlight on civic bungling but Swarna Lakshmi, Prime Minister of the National Children’s Parliament has grander plans and ends up at the United Nations to demand the inclusion of children in world politics.

Director: Anna Kersting
Producer: Anna Kersting
Camera: Ratheesh Ravindran
Editor: Katharina Fiedler
Sound: Amrith Shankar
Music: Manickam Yogeswaran

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Parental Guidance Note

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Anna Kersting is an author, director and producer. With a background in journalism she completed her film direction studies at the DFFB, German Film and TV Akademie Berlin. 'Power To The Children' is her second documentary feature.



THE ARCTIC CAMELS

Karl Emil Rikardsen, Norway, 2019, 75'

Saturday 16th November, 12.00pm & Sunday 17th November 10.45am

IRISH PREMIERE

It's cold on the Norwegian island of Sørøya but very beautiful, especially in the summer, and Torarin and his sister Svalin are keen to get a horse to ride but their father has other ideas. 'Why not get a camel,' he says, 'why not get two camels.' And that's the way the adventure started, with two very undisciplined camels joining the family. Only one problem though, they're not keen on being ridden. Well the obvious person to ask about camels is a Mongolian and so the whole family relocates to Mongolia to stay with and learn from one of the world's experts. Not certain that they have mastered the technique, camel master Adiya returns with them to instil some discipline into what must be the world's most pampered pets. Adiya's strict rules don't go down well with the spoilt camels who seem to think they're Scandinavian and can't be bothered with Mongolian tradition.

Director: Karl Emil Rikardsen
Producer: Knut Skoglund, Karl Emil Rikardsen
Camera: Viggo Knutsen, Karl Emil Rikardsen
Editor: Tell Aulin, Bodil Kjærhauge, Klaus Heinecke
Sound: Rune Hansen
Music: Ville Langfeldt and Jakop Jansønn

Parental Guidance Note

This film has been deemed appropriate by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for all ages. However, parental discretion is always advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



Karl Emil Rikardsen (born 1957) lives in Harstad, Norway, 300km north of the polar circle. Educated in philosophy, economics and media he's a writer, director and producer – a veteran of over 40 films including single documentaries, documentary series and fiction features.



THE BIGGEST LITTLE FARM

John Chester , USA, 2019, 91'
Saturday 16th November, 8.15pm

IRISH PREMIERE

When John Chester and his wife Molly decided to get married they had a vague plan for a happy life which included living on a farm. This would be perfect because John was a wildlife cameraman and Molly was a chef – so they'd grow all their own food and live in harmony with nature. Right, that's settled then. Not really, because the farm they bought was virtually sterile, a barren monoculture production facility with soil so hard nothing could live in it. And then they met Alan York, the guru of sustainability who showed them how they could work with nature to fulfil their dream...eventually. It's all about balance apparently, choosing the right collaborators from nature that will fight your battles for you. Oh and diversity too – more than old Mc Donald could count: chickens and ducks, sheep and pigs, geese love snails, owls and snakes is all it takes – to chase the gopher away! It's a beautiful story, reminding us that in nature nothing is without purpose.

Director: John Chester
Producer: Sandra Keats
Writer: Mark Monroe
Editor: Amy Overbeck
Music: Jeff Beal

Sponsored by:



Parental Guidance Note

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John Chester's recent short films for OWN's Super Soul Sunday (including 'Saving Emma', 'Worry For Maggie' and 'The Orphan') have won five Emmy Awards, for outstanding directing, writing, and cinematography. Well known for his previous primetime television docu-series on 'A&E, Random 1', Chester branched out into music with his film 'Rock Prophecies', winning three audience awards for best documentary feature before returning to focus on ecosystems in 'The Biggest Little Farm'.



THE RELUCTANT RADICAL

Lindsey Grayzel, US, 2019, 77'

IRISH PREMIERE

Saturday 16th November, 5.15pm & Sunday 17th November, 1.00pm

The law generally has as its point of departure a reference to the 'reasonable man' – what would a reasonable man be expected to do in situations of moral ambiguity. When Kenneth Ward loses in an internal tussle over policy at Greenpeace he embarks on an intensive study to understand the science behind global warming, and what he finds chills him to the bone – the human race, including his newborn son, is doomed. Determined to act, he attempts to win over ex-colleagues and friends to join him in a fight against the fossil fuel industry – to no avail. It seems as if the world has closed its eyes to the madness of climate change and so he strikes out on his own, to make a stand – whatever the cost. Protesting at gas stations escalates to blocking shipping lanes and finally, along with others, he switches off a major oil pipeline and gets himself arrested, again, but this time the gloves are off – the charge is sabotage.

Director: Lindsey Grayzel
Producer: Lindsey Grayzel
Co-Producer: Deia Schlosberg
Editor: Lindsey Grayzel

Sponsored by:



Parental Guidance Note

This film has been deemed appropriate by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for all ages. However, parental discretion is always advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



Lindsey Grayzel has been an editor, director and producer of documentaries for non-profit organizations, local and state governments, and museums. Recent projects include films for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, The Dougy Center, Kenai Fjords National Park and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.



YOUTH UNSTOPPABLE

Slater Jewell-Kemker, Canada, 2018, 91'

Friday 15th November, 2.00pm

IRISH PREMIERE

When the young Slater Jewell-Kemker met the great oceanographic explorer Jean-Michel Cousteau he gave her a sea urchin shell saying, "We have a lot of work to do – I'm passing on the baton to you." A big weight on little shoulders but Slater took up the challenge to tell the story of youth's role in climate justice. Placing herself within the frame, a gawky kid discovering her own strong emotions about global exploitation, she worms her way in to see influential figures, hangs out with radical activists and does her own fair share of lobbying. She's been on the front line with a camera for many years, at rallies, at the climate conferences, at the tar sands but prefers to link her journey with the journeys of the many young activists she has met over the years by going to their countries and experiencing their struggles.

Director: Slater Jewell-Kemker

Producer: Wendy Jewell,
Daniel Bekerman

Sponsored by:



Parental Guidance Note

This film has been deemed appropriate by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for all ages. However, parental discretion is always advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



Slater Jewell-Kemker has been making films since she was six. An award winning filmmaker and climate activist, Slater has been featured in Forbes twice and selected by the Hollywood Reporter as one of 15 filmmakers under 30 to watch. Slater is an accomplished speaker and is frequently invited to speak on film and climate change panels to represent the voice of youth. She lives in a tiny house on wheels on her farm in Southern Ontario, Canada.

Dystopia/Utopia

SHORT ANIMATION PROGRAMME



Welcome to Planet Earth, where flowers bloom and creatures hide in the tall grass. Where whales sing and foxes frolic. Where the seas are rising, and trees are falling. Where concrete spreads and islands disappear... But on this Planet Earth, there is hope. Nature's voice is rising, through generations young and old, some of us going back to nature, where we feel at home, some of us learning to embrace it.

It is not too late.

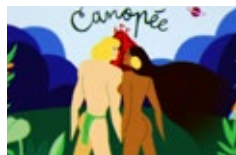
This selection of animated shorts for young and old celebrates nature, but doesn't ignore its cries for help. It showcases the beauty to be found on this planet, and hopefully inspires us to do better. For the sake of our flowers, our foxes, our whales, our children, and ourselves.



BIOTOP

Biotop is a reflection of man acting against nature. The idea for it appeared to me after the filmmaker read about the Tx2 action by WWF and focused their interest on animal law.

Director: Jola Bańkowska
Poland, UK, 2016, 51"



CANOPEE

"Canopée" is an animation in the serigraphy style. Go on in pursuit of forbidden love in a multicolored tropical Eden, punctuated by the pop-electro sounds of Polo & Pan, singing an ode to nature in a dystopian future.

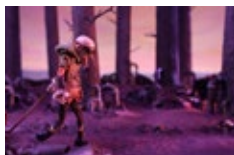
Director: Chiara Luber
France, 2018, 4' 38"



CONCRETE

Troubled by his own re-occurring transformations, a restless backpacker seeks his place in the world. Through a mysterious encounter in a concrete building in the midst of a barren swampland, he hopes to have finally found such a place.

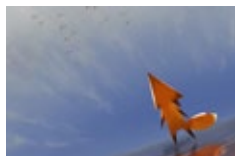
Director: Aira Joana, Luca Struchen, Nicolas Roth, Pirmin Bieri
Switzerland, 2018, 7'34"



EXPEND

A film about a man's endless hunt for elusive energy sources in a decaying world.

Director: Bismark Fernandes
US, 2018, 3'53"



FOX AND THE WHALE

A curious fox goes in search of an elusive whale. A tale of longing and discovery.

Director: Robin Joseph
Canada, 2018, 12'



HOMESICK

A crisis in a young woman's life forces her to return to her parents' home. Her reappearance shakes the delicate balance in the family nest.

Director: Hila Einy, Yoav Aluf and Noy Bar
Israel, 2018, 7'32"



IN THE TALLGRASS

Journey through the tallgrass prairie as dragonflies skim by and butterflies dance among the pale purple coneflowers. Pausing in different areas to observe the vibrant and varied ecosystem.

Director: Erin Anfinson
US, 2017, 3'34"



JONAS AND THE SEA

Jonas has dreamed of living in the sea all his life. But it's not possible. Or is it?

Director: Marlies van der Wel
Netherlands, 2015, 12'



NATURAL URBAN NATURE

An exquisite and simply beautiful depiction of nature in the urban city. What is the 'nature' in urban city? It might be unnatural nature made by human beings according to urban planning.

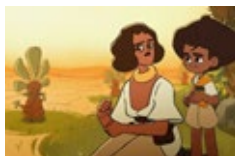
Director: Kang, Min-ji
South Korea, 2011, 4'32"



NUIT CHÉRIE

In winter, a bear can not fall asleep. He thinks too much and grumbles. When a white monkey offers him to go eat honey, to change his ideas, a beautiful and strange night opens to them.

Director: Lia Bertels
France, 2018, 13'46"



OASIS

Threatened by the growing desert, a young boy and his mother try to survive in a small oasis.

In partnership with
Miyu Distribution
Director: Florencia Atria,
Léonard Hicks, Man Luo, Claire
Matz, Luana Nguyen Tri Luan,
Marine Pétri
France, 2019, 6'25"



STORY OF FLOWERS

Collaborating with artist Azuma Makoto and illustrator Katie Scott, we created an animation exploring the life cycle of flowers.

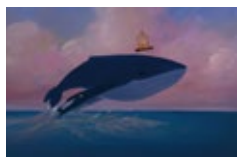
Director: Azuma Makoto
Japan, 2017, 3'30"



THE BALLAD OF HOLLAND ISLAND HOUSE

The Ballad of Holland Island House is the true story of the last house on a sinking island in the Chesapeake Bay. Told from the house's point of view, this film is a soulful and haunting view of the impact of sea-level rise.

Director: Lynn Tomlinson
US, 2015, 4'19"



THE BIRD AND THE WHALE

A story about a young whale struggling to find his voice. After straying too far from his family to explore a shipwreck, he discovers it's sole survivor; a caged song-bird. Together they struggle to survive lost at sea.

Director: Carol Freeman
Ireland, 2018, 7'



THE FLOOD IS COMING

A forest hermit tries to prepare for a flood, but he becomes distracted by his noisy neighbour – who happens to be the hermit's left eye. Explores the growing anxiety about the state of nature, and our place in it.

Director: Gabriel Böhmer
UK, 2018, 8'57"



THE I LAND

This animated short acts as a metaphor; attempting to hold up a mirror to humanity's failure to acknowledge the consequences of our actions and how short-term gain can often lend itself to monumental loss.

Director: Leanne Dooley
Ireland, 2019, 2'40"



THE TREE

In a world of drought, an old man spends his days collecting drops of water to quench the thirst of a dead tree.

In partnership with
Miyu Distribution

Director: Yang Hen, Malek Basil
France 2018, 6'31"



THE TREE

A tree, a woman, a land...

Director: Sare Shafipour
Iran, 2014, 5'

Screening Times

Saturday 16th November
10.00am - Kids under 10 - Cinema 1

Saturday 16th November
10.00am - Kids over 10 - Cinema 2

Sunday 17th November
11.00am - Kids under 10 - Cinema 1

Children under 12 years of age should be accompanied by an adult.



MEATH-MADE SECRET SCREENING

Sunday 17th November, 1.30pm

Guth Gafa's Secret Screening returns after a short absence with a powerful, animated, film noir documentary from a Meath-based director. We cannot tell you anything about the film - its name, its country of origin, the storyline, or the name of the director. What we can tell you is that this is a film that has had a World Premiere, but has not yet had its International or Irish Premiere, and this is why it is Guth Gafa's Secret Screening. We don't publish the name of the film, even after we've shown it, and we swear our audience to secrecy, as well. But we do have a little riddle for you:

They seek him here, they seek him there
Steve McQueen should well beware
On your Marx now, let's get started
The sad tale of a family parted

Screening with:

Short Film **THE VASECTOMY DOCTOR**



Dr. Andrew Rynne was the first doctor to perform a vasectomy in Ireland. Rynne would continue to challenge the laws governing sexuality, laws imposed by Church and State. In 1990, a man walked into his surgery and shot him.

Director: Paul Webster **Producer:** Ronan Cassidy
Camera: Paddy Jordan **Music:** David Geraghty

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FOR إلى سما SAMA

MUSIC BY NAINITA DESAI



SCREEN SKILLS IRELAND PRESENTS:

Scoring the Documentary - Nainita Desai (composer, *For Sama*)

In partnership with Screen Skills Ireland, Guth Gafa presents a workshop aimed at composers and musicians who already work in film, and specifically have an interest in writing music for documentary. The workshop will offer practical skills to film composers, musicians and documentary directors, on writing music for documentaries, the director/composer relationship, and pitching for 'music scoring' work. More information on Guth Gafa and Screen Skills Ireland websites.

With a career spanning over two decades as a composer; BAFTA Breakthrough Brit composer; Nainita Desai's work traverses the worlds of film, television and games. Her musical foundations are rooted in world music, and in documentary she has forged an enviable reputation, working with leading filmmakers on numerous projects that have garnered OSCAR, BAFTA, EMMY awards and nominations.

Nainita has recently toured around the UK with the film, *For Sama*, as part of the Birds Eye View Reclaim The Frame initiative, which is a BFI Audience Fund backed initiative that aims to grow audiences for films told from the female POV.

Admission to the workshop is free, but tickets must be booked online. The workshop will take place on **SUNDAY 17th at 2pm.**



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CREATIVE IRELAND SCREEN AT GUTH GAFA

We are delighted that one of our flagship screens during this year's 13th Guth Gafa International Documentary Festival will be supported by Creative Ireland.

Creative Ireland is a culture-based programme designed to promote individual, community and national wellbeing. The core proposition is that participation in cultural activity drives personal and collective creativity, with significant implications for individual and societal wellbeing and achievement.

As part of our Creative Ireland programme, all screenings in the Studio Cinema venue in Kells will be on our Creative Ireland Screen for the duration of the festival.

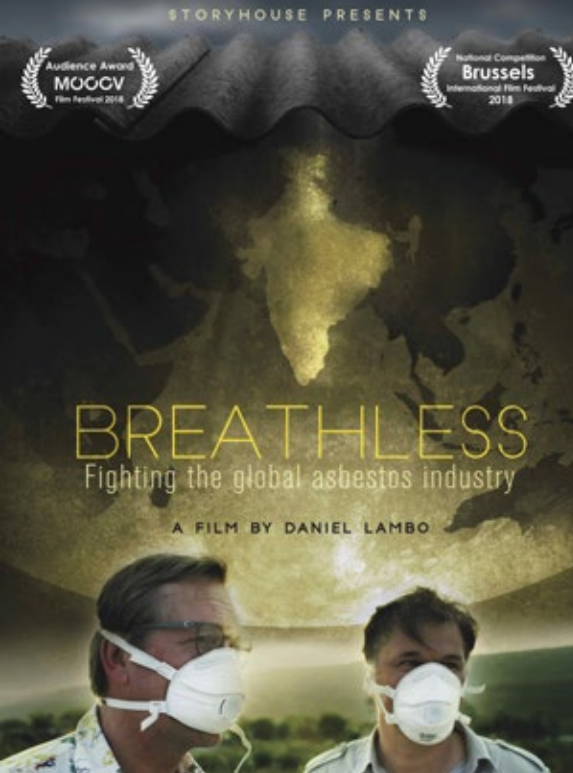
Alongside these screenings, Creative Ireland will also be hosting a special one-off Meath-made Secret Screening event.

There will be a reception, with a cocktail tasting sponsored by Glassbox Cocktails, which will be exclusively for film guests and ticket holders for the movie, and will take place on Sunday at 12.30pm in the Festival Café immediately before the screening.

Guth Gafa would like to thank Creative Ireland and Boann Distillery for their support for this event at our Festival.



Clár Fíre Idirnáisiúil
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



Best of luck in 2019 to everyone at Guth Gafa from

STORYHOUSE

breathless.film

<https://www.facebook.com/Movie.Breathless/>



TEENAGE DREAMS

This November, Guth Gafa International Documentary Festival will transform Kells into a Film Festival mecca, bringing the best documentary films in the world, and their filmmakers, to the County Meath heritage town.

This year, Guth Gafa are proud to be partnering with Meath County Council's Arts Office to present a selection of films for teenage audiences, as part of a 3 day-long event leading to the Festival weekend from Tuesday November 12th to the 14th, called Teenage Dreams.

The days will offer secondary level students in County Meath the opportunity to attend thought-provoking films screenings.

Changing the Game by Michael Barnett

Youth Unstoppable by Slater Jewell-Kemker

Easy Lessons by Dorottya Zurbó

Power to the children by Anna Kersting

The Reluctant Radical by Lindsey Grayzel



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Festival Club



The gorgeous Festival Cafe at Guth Gafa will host our live music stage and bar; where we will be pouring the award-winning **Boyne Brewhouse** craft beer and serving the best wines selected from **Sheridans' Cheesemongers** range of fine wines. Guth Gafa Festival Club starts at 10.30pm on Friday and Saturday night, with headline bands playing at 11pm.



The Preacher Casey

Friday 15th November

The Preacher Casey's are a new sound on the bluesy folk scene. They take you on a journey around the deep south and beyond with bluegrass and traditional standards. So sit back and enjoy some banjo and guitar foot stomping overtime music with the preachers!



Mark Braidner

Saturday 16th November

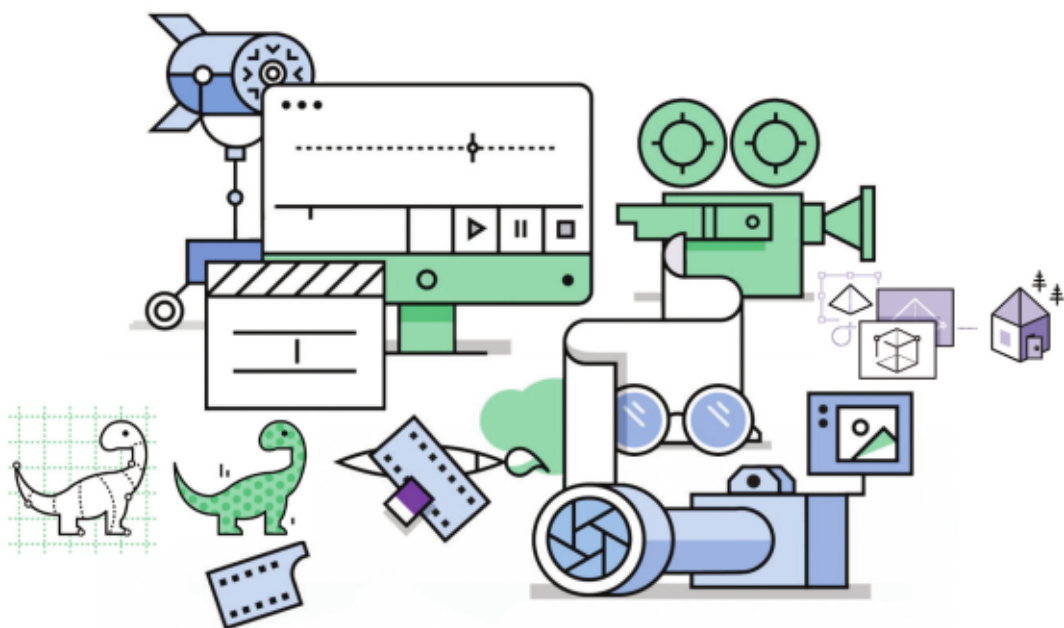
One of the mainstays of the local blues scene Mark is a superb guitarist and singer with a beautiful and authentic voice.

He is influenced primarily by the pre war Delta Blues and Ragtime styles popular in the Southern States of America during the 1920's and 30's.

As well as being blessed with a wonderful repertoire, he's equally at home on six and twelve string acoustic resonator guitar and lap style slide.

Among his favourite artists and influences are some of the greatest names of the genre: Charley Patton, Bo Carter, Blind Boy Fuller and Blind Willie McTell.

What will your career in screen look like?



www.careersinscreen.ie



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COFFEE MORNINGS WITH THE FILMMAKERS

The Guth Gafa Coffee Mornings with Filmmakers will take place at I l am on the Saturday and Sunday mornings of the festival, in the Chapels Cafe.

On Saturday morning, the Guth Gafa festival directors, David Rane & Neasa Ní Chianáin, will give an introduction to the filmmakers and guests for the 2019 programme. Kick-starting the conversation about film and subjects, the Coffee Mornings with the Filmmakers creates a space where both our industry guests and members of the public can converge in meaningful discussions.

Guth Gafa prides itself in bringing as many filmmakers, and or subjects/participants in the films, as possible to the festival each year. Not just to showcase their own work but to connect with fellow filmmakers, watch films and above all, meet and chat with our audiences in a relaxed and non-competitive Environment.

Among the filmmakers and guests we are delighted to welcome to Guth Gafa this year are Cynthia Wade (Director of Grit), Ken Ward (Protagonist of The Reluctant Radical) Tom Burke (Director of Losing Alaska) Karl Emil Rikardsen (Directors of The Arctic Camels), Swarna Lakshmi (Protagonist of Power to the Children), Mick Mahon (Editor of Gaza) and Kafiya Mahdi Said (Protagonist of Easy Lessons), and more to be confirmed.




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Eats and Treats

Again this year, we are partnering for coffee and snacks with the wonderful Bakealicious team, and the best mobile coffee in Meath, the Pure Coffee Company.

In line with our ethos, to provoke discussion on some of the most important issues we are facing as a species, specifically food sustainability and climate change, both Bakealicious and Pure Coffee Company will be offering plant-based and vegan products to all our customers, and will use fully compostible cups, serving plates and utensils.

We have also invited all the amazing cafés and restaurants in Kells Town to join this initiative and offer a 'vegan' option over the Festival weekend. We'll keep you posted with updates of participating establishments on our website.




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Email: info@bonnergill.com

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Neasa Ní Chianáin
David Rane

Festival Producers

Paula Blanco Longa
Silvana Falasca

Technical Director

Mark Carroll

Volunteer Coordinator

Frances Crickard

Events/Venue Coordinator

Paula Blanco Longa

Programme Director

Etienne Essery

Programme Coordinator

Silvana Falasca

Programming Team

Neasa Ní Chianáin
David Rane
Etienne Essery
Simon Chambers
Reto Stamm

Animation Programme

Leyla Jansen

Music Programme

Rein de Groot

Production Manager

Frank Carroll

Graphic Design/Branding

Leyla Jansen

Events Assistants

Peter Mulligan

Photography

John Moore

Staff writer/Publicity

Etienne Essery

Box Office Manager

Gráinne Johnston

This edition of Guth Gafa wouldn't have been possible without the support and generous hard work of Mark Smith, Kells Local Heroes, Barry Quinn, John Thornton and Charles Reilly helping us turn the Chapels into the beautiful venues they are and thank you to Gerardette Bailey and Loreto Guinan for going the extra mile for us and to the Rubbish Film Festival team: Bernadine Carry, Joseph Orr and Peter Baxter for their assistance with our Teenage Dreams outreach.

And to our many volunteers, a big thank you!

1

CINEMA ONE
CHAPEL

Time

CINEMA TWO
STUDIO CREATIVE IRELAND

Time

2

OTHER
EVENTSTues
12th NovWed
13th NovThurs
14th Nov

TEENAGE DREAMS

TEENAGE DREAMS



TEENAGE DREAMS - SECONDARY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME - CONTACT PAULA ON 046 924 9792 - FOR FILM DETAILS AND TO MAKE BOOKINGS



Time

CINEMA ONE
CHAPEL

Time

CINEMA TWO
STUDIO

Time

OTHER
EVENTSFriday
15th Nov

2.00pm

Youth Unstoppable (91')

2.45pm

Leftover Women (84')

5.00pm

Easy Lessons (78') + Q&A

5.00pm

A Dog Called Money (90')

7.45pm

Honeyland (85')

8.00pm

Mystify (102')

10.30pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

10.30pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

10.30pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

10.00am

Animation Programme (Kids under 10)

10.00am

Animation Programme (Kids over 10)

11.45am

Power to the Children (87') + Q&A

12.00pm

The Arctic Camels (75') + Q&A

2.30pm

Losing Alaska (82') + Q&A

2.30pm

Changing The Game (95') + Discussion

5.15pm

The Reluctant Radical (77') + Q&A

5.30pm

Our Time Machine (80')

8.00pm

Gay Chorus Deep South (100')

8.15pm

The Biggest Little Farm (91')

10.30pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

10.30 pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

10.30 pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

Coffee with Filmmakers (Festival Cafe)

Sunday
17th Nov

11.00am

Animation Programme (Kids under 10)

10.45am

The Arctic Camels (75') + Q&A

1.00pm

The Reluctant Radical (77') + Q&A

1.30pm

Secret Screening + Short + Q&A

3.45pm

Gazza (92') + Q&A

4.00pm

Grit (80') + Q&A

6.45pm

Best Of Fest Screening (fbc)

7.00pm

For Sama (95') + Q&A

9.00pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

9.00pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

9.00pm

FESTIVAL CLUB

Coffee with Filmmakers (Festival Cafe)

Masterclass - Scoring the Documentary

TICKETS are available online until one hour before screening time,
and available all weekend at Box Office.

€10 – Full Price €5 - Animation Programme

€7 – Concession Price - available only at Box Office



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