

The 4th Act



Tue 10th / 6.45pm
Gate Cinema

Director: Turlough Kelly, Producer: Andrew Keogh
Ireland / 2017 / 74 mins

Drawing on hundreds of hours of local and personal archive collated over the past thirty years, The 4th Act tells the story of the €1bn regeneration of Ballymun, a high-rise working-class suburb of Dublin, through the eyes of the community itself. The film explores themes of loss, community, dreams and defiance as the residents of Ballymun watch their familiar landscape and way of living vanish.

Interviews with policy-makers and planners reveal the role ideology and politics played in the drastic transformation of 20,000 lives in one of Europe's largest social regeneration programmes.

The film, also explores how, for the Irish film and TV industry, Ballymun has become a visual metaphor for working-class alienation and drug-abusing nihilism and examines the impact such depictions have had on the community's perception of itself.

Source: Andrew@breadandcircus.ie, turloughkelly@gmail.com

The director Turlough Kelly will be present to introduce the screening.

The Silver Branch



Sat 14th / 2.15pm
Gate Cinema

Katrina Costello / Ireland / 2017 / 75 minutes

Patrick McCormack, a farmer and poet living in The Burren, Ireland's most ancient and rugged landscape, longs more than anything to farm these windswept hills in a slow and quiet pace, as his ancestors did for thousands of years. But he must function in a modern and complex world with myriad new challenges. As the film unfolds, Patrick and his small rural community are drawn into a divisive battle with the Government, leading them to the Supreme Court to decide on the fate of this iconic wilderness.

"Katrina Costello's breathtakingly lovely The Silver Branch is first and foremost a character study of a remarkable man. Patrick McCormack has, like generations of antecedents before him, worked a patch of land that rubs against the beautiful, austere Burren. Costello's rich images offer elegant underscores to the subject's pastoral verse." Donald Clarke, The Irish Times

Source: Katrina@sealever.ie

The director Katrina Costello will be present to introduce the screening.

The Limerick Brigadistas



Sun 15th / 12.00pm
Gate Cinema

Emma Bowell / Ireland / 2017 / 85 minutes

In the late Thirties, six men from Limerick were among some 240 Irish volunteers who joined the International Brigades to fight against fascism in the Spanish Civil War. What motivated them and what happened to them are questions that The Limerick Brigadistas explores.

The documentary follows members of the Limerick International Brigades Memorial Trust as they travel to Spain to find the final resting place of some of their fellow countrymen and to look at the relevance of their experience in today's world.

Source: emma@frameworkfilms.com

The director Emma Bowell will be present to introduce the screening.

The Work



Sat 14th / 12.00pm
Gate Cinema

Jarius McLeary, Gethin Aldous / USA / 2017 / 87 minutes

Set entirely inside California's Folsom State Prison, The Work follows three men during four days of intensive group therapy with convicts, revealing an intimate and powerful portrait of authentic human transformation that transcends what we think of as rehabilitation.

Set inside a single room, the three men from outside participate in the group therapy retreat with level-four convicts. Over the four days, each man in the room takes his turn at delving deep into his past. The raw and revealing process that the incarcerated men undertake exceeds the expectations of the free men, ripping them out of their comfort zones and forcing them to see themselves and the prisoners in unexpected ways.

The directors succeed in giving us a powerful and rare look past the cinder block walls, steel doors and the dehumanizing tropes in our culture to reveal a movement of change and redemption that transcends what we think of as rehabilitation.

"The most powerful group therapy session ever caught on camera" Indiewire

Grand Jury Prize, South x Southwest Festival
Audience Award, Sheffield Doc Festival

Source: info@dogwoof.com

This Is Palestine



Sun 8th / 5.00pm
Blacknight

Gerry McColgan / Ireland / 2017 / 50 minutes

Following the journey of Riverdance founder and award-winning director, John McColgan, through the West Bank and Gaza as he explores the impact of ongoing conflict and military occupation on the people who live there. The documentary features powerful interviews with adults and children who have lost their home, land and family members as a result of the conflict. McColgan also spent time with Israeli and Palestinian peace activists working to bring this long-standing conflict to an end.

Co-produced by Tyrone Productions and Trocaire to mark the 50th anniversary of the military occupation of the West Bank, and the 10th anniversary of the Gaza blockade; it highlights the urgent need for a renewed effort to bring a lasting peace to all people of the region.

Source: rice.eoghan@gmail.com

The director Gerry McColgan will be present to introduce the screening.

* also of interest

'A Magical Substance Flows Into Me' (pg 17) / Monday 9th / Village Hall / 3pm
David Sheen 'Netanyahu's New Normal' / Tuesday 10th / Metropole Hotel / 7.30pm

Those Shocking Shaking Days



Thur 12th / 4.30pm
Gate Cinema

Selma Doborac / Austria / 2016 / 88 minutes

A film about war, about the issue of its medial representation, about responsibility and remaining silent; About horror that withdraws from consciousness. Those Shocking Shaking Days is an impressive and unusual anti-war documentary. The film deliberately overwhelms its viewers with challenging questions: by refusing visual explicitness, its image overloaded with text, the film forces critical reflection of the conventions of representation and our own expectations of pictures. MK, Diagonale Film Festival, 2016

"Can a critical reflection of a war be achieved by means of poetry or visual beauty, or would it be advisable to forego ambiguous words and images in favour of a more critical reflection? If a text or a film was made in such a way as to lack reference to reality, would it make finding the truth redundant, since no reference points to actuality – the atrocities, for instance – could be found? Or would such an approach allow conclusions about the problematic nature of any attempt at describing or showing the complexity of evil?" Selma Doborac

Source: office@sixpackfilm.com

Crossing Europe Award – Crossing European Film Festival, Lintz
International Prize, Festival International de Cinéma Marseille
Jury Prize, This Human World International Film Festival, Austria

The director Selma Doborac will be present to introduce the screening.

Why Is There Anything Instead Of Nothing



Thur 12th / 6.45pm
Gate Cinema

Patrick O'Shea / Ireland / 2017 / 70 minutes

Why is there anything instead of nothing is a feature-length documentary depicting the artistic and personal journey of Irish/American artist Tighe O'Donoghue/Ross.

From the streets of New York to the wild coast of Maine, and from the mountains and lakes of Killarney to the moon-like landscape of the Burren in Co. Clare, the film bears witness to Tighe's fierce independence as an artist determined to explore and experiment across all mediums without the constraints and interruptions of commerce.

Source: southernmanfilms@gmail.com

The director Patrick O'Shea will be present to introduce the screening.