

Press Release EMBARGOED until 6.30pm, Tues 29th Jan 2008

**A Galaxy of International Talent Due in For 6th Jameson Dublin
International Film Festival**

Led by stars Colin Farrell, Brendan Gleeson and Writer/Director Martin McDonagh for the Opening Gala: *In Bruges*, the 6th Jameson Dublin International Film Festival is a delight from start to finish. The Opening will be swiftly followed by the Gala Screening of the much-lauded *There Will be Blood* with its Oscar Nominated and Golden Globe Winning lead, Daniel Day-Lewis and Writer/Director Paul Thomas Anderson in attendance. With no let – up the festival continues with the cream of international talent with the Midweek Gala screening of *U23D* which Director Catherine Owens will attend. The acclaimed directors Mike Leigh and John Sayles round out the festival culminating in the World Premiere of Declan Recks *Eden*, which will be attended by Recks and principal cast members Eileen Walsh and Aidan Kelly.

Actors Pat Shortt, star of critically acclaimed independent Irish film *Garage* and Jayne Wisener, Johanna in the recent hit *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, launched the programme at an event in The Button Factory on Tuesday evening, January 29th. **Presenting over 100 features from 33 countries, the festival is due to attract an audience of over 40,000 with its mix of World, European and Irish Premieres, special guests and Q&As, as well as discussions and lectures, all over an action packed 10 days from the 15th – 24th February.**

The festival has been programmed by dynamic new Director Grainne Humphreys, and offers a diverse range of films, to challenge, inspire and entertain audiences across the city. **Dublin as a film location has been placed centre stage in this year's event, with a series of outdoor screenings across the city and panel discussions which will explore the history of Dublin Cinemas.** The festival has maintained its commitment to presenting short films and documentaries, as well as Industry Masterclasses and post screening Q+A's.

Commenting on her inaugural programme, Grainne Humphreys, Festival Director said:

"I am delighted to be able to present such a stunning array of talent for my debut programme. Dublin has the best cinemagoing audience in the world and to be able to reward them with such riches is a real honour. I'm sure they will respond with characteristic gusto and inquisitiveness to these 100 – plus films and their brilliant guests."

The close relationship between music and film will be celebrated with a season of both documentaries and features, portraits of Joy Division, Maria Callas and Liam O'Maonlai, the **silent classic *Pandora's Box* with**

accompaniment by 3epkpano in Savoy One and, of course, the European Premiere of *U23D*.

From The Burren to Brazil, Kazhakstan to USA and beyond, the festival showcases the best of Irish and international cinema. Many of the films in the programme have been honoured with **Golden Globe and Oscar nominations, such as Best Foreign Language Film for *Mongol* and *Katyn***, as well as awards from prestigious international festivals such as Cannes. Ireland has one of the strongest cinema going audiences in the world and audiences are in for a cinematic treat.

Festival CEO Joanne O'Hagan added:

"I have long been an admirer of the Jameson Dublin International Film Festival. It particularly struck me how quickly the event became an integral part of the Dublin cultural scene and how immediately cherished it seemed and at same time how international it felt. It is a great pleasure to be CEO of this wonderful event and to shepherd such an exciting and eclectic programme into being."

Reflecting the enhanced relationship between the JDIFF and The Irish Film Board/Bord Scannan Eireann, the festival joins with the board in celebrating the inauguration of the Walt Disney Studios, Motion Pictures (Ireland) Screenwriting Award, the Irish Talent on Screen Showcase, Special Screenings of Irish Short films and the International Film Critics forum and the Dublin on Screen initiative.

Catherine O'Grady - Head of Sponsorship, Jameson said:

"We are very proud to launch the 6th Jameson Dublin International Film Festival and look forward to creating a buzz around the city with our intensive marketing campaign. We have once again run our 60 second film competition and in addition to a prize of €3,000, the winning entry will be screened in the Savoy on the opening night of the festival. We are particularly excited about the music theme, which is a key part of this year's festival - the European premiere of *U23D* being just one of the great highlights"

The festival also presents a unique opportunity to see films that won't necessarily be released in Ireland: Andrzej Wajda's stunning *Katyn* will be feature as the Polish Gala and will be attended by principal actress Danuta Stenka. *Irina Palm* is the amazing opportunity to see Marianne Faithfull in a lead role. There will also be presentations by acclaimed international directors such as Park Chan-Wook (*Old Boy*) with South Korean pop-cult film *I'm A Cyborg* and the outstanding presentation of *Chacun Son Cinema*, the Cannes 60th birthday project that comprises 3 minute scenes by 33 directors including Joel and Ethan Coen, Walter Salles, Lars von Trier, Ken Loach, Gus

Van Sant, Wim Wenders and more.

Other guests during the festival include director Philippe Aractingi and producer Paul Raphael from French feature *Under The Bombs*; Polish director of *Tricks* Andrzej Jakimowski; Sebastian Urzendowsky, principal actor in German film *Ping Pong*; director of *Return to Goree*, Pierre-Yves Borgeaud, as well as Director of *In Prison My Whole Life*, Marc Evans. Additional guests will be confirmed closer to the date, check www.dubliniff.com for up to the minute information.

The festival will also be celebrating 6 years of collaboration with Jameson Irish Whiskey. Jameson has provided the festival with vital support to help it grow and develop year on year and has been integral to the ongoing success. It is also grant-aided by Arts Council of Ireland/An Chomhairle Ealaíon, whose support through the Three-Year Funding scheme will assist with development and sustainability of the festival.

The Jameson Dublin International Film Festival a not for profit organization. It is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland/An Chomhairle Ealaíon, the Irish Film Board and Dublin City Council. Media Partners for the festival are The Irish Times: The Ticket, and FM104. The Official Venue Sponsor is Cineworld. The Conrad Hotel is Official Host Hotel to the festival. MSL is The Official Transport Provider. Windmill Lane Ltd are Official Post Production Partners. Cine Electric Ltd are the Audience Award Sponsor.

Tickets will be available online at www.dubliniff.com and from the Box Office from 30th January 2008. The Box-office is located at Filmbase in Temple Bar.

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Images are available at www.dubliniff.com