



PRESS RELEASE – British & Irish Film Festival Luxembourg 2025 SPRING EDITION launched

EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2024 @ 09:30

Luxembourg, 10 March 2025 – Festival Events Asbl today announced the launch of the 16th **British & Irish Film Festival Luxembourg 2025 Spring Edition**: most screenings will be held at Ciné Utopia, with the Shorts Evening at the Cinémathèque. While the core festival dates are from 22 – 29 March, we are having two other screenings before these dates.

The film festival provides a unique opportunity for viewers to experience a wide selection of new films from Britain and Ireland. The 2025 SPRING EDITION includes 11 feature-length films from a cross-section of genres and representing mainly independent cinema. In addition, we will be screening some short films, including a 10-minute documentary from the winners of the **Young Filmmakers Competition 2023/24**, plus the holding of the Awards for the **Young Filmmakers Competition 2024/25**, the top prize being 2 Industry Passes to the Galway Film Fleadh 2025.

The **British & Irish Film Festival Luxembourg (BIFFL) 2025 SPRING EDITION** will have “*Fidil Ghorm (The Blue Fiddle)*” as its official Opening Screening, an Irish-language drama (with EN sub-titles), and will close with “*Patrick - A Slave To Ireland*”, a documentary on St Patrick in a European context. All films will be receiving their Luxembourg premiers during the festival.

SHORTS EVENING

The winners of the inaugural Young Filmmakers Competition 2023/24 will have their documentary *Being Human* screened as part of this evening, along with *Dear Imelda* (IE) and *Give Him Time* (IE).

Excerpts of the 12 entries for the 2024/25 competition will be screened, with the top 2 in their entirety. The entries were:

1. Komm Mat, Komm Mat, by Carlotta Thomas, Lënster Lycée
2. Define Freedom by Noah Piff, International School at Differdange, EIDE
3. My Mom Was Right by Al'aa Akram Aiash, Lycée Michel Lucius
4. La Dernière Gorgée by Nina Zimmer & Salomé-Ange Wilk, Lënster Lycée
5. Beer by Elliot Esposito, International School at Differdange, EIDE
6. Raven by Philip Mate, European School 1
7. Beautiful Boy by Cathy Diagne, International School at Differdange, EIDE
8. The Stand on the Corner by Anna Silenchuk, ISL
9. I Wish by Daria Gorchakova, ISL
10. Runaway by Daria Gorchakova, ISL
11. On the Other Side by Antoine Merklings, Andrei Ionescu, Evan Knel, Edgar Portal, Lycée Vauban
12. Incolume by Lucie Reisen, ISL

SPECIAL GUESTS

We are delighted to be welcoming a number of **Special Guests** coming over for the 2025 Spring Edition, including:

- ***Fidil Ghorm***: Anne McCabe (director)
- ***Kathleen is Here***: Eva Birthistle (director), Hazel Doupe (actor)
- ***Dear Imelda*** (short): Áron Holden (director), Declan Curran (actor)



BIFFL PRESENTS...

We are teaming up with Ciné Utopia for a special screening: *Hard Truths* on Tuesday 18 March.

AWARDS & PRIZES

This edition also features both an **Audience Award** as well as an **Audience Prize**, with two entries winning a Magnum of Crémant from Bernard-Massard / a Hamper from Home from Home, and also a **Critics' Award**, with the involvement of members of the Association Luxembourgeoise de la Presse Cinématographique (ALPC).

TICKETS

Ticket prices depend on the venue: €3.70 & €2.40 for the Cinémathèque, and €10 for Ciné Utopia. Most tickets are available via **Luxembourg-Ticket.lu**, apart from the **BIFFL Presents...** screening in collaboration with Ciné Utopia (tickets for this screening are on sale at **Kinepolis.lu**) at commercial rates

The popular **Season Special Tickets** are available for €35, and the **Documentary Double Bill** for €15, by calling Luxembourg-Ticket.lu. Tickets may also be available at the venues prior to screenings, depending on availability.

PARTNERS & SPONSORS

The **British & Irish Film Festival Luxembourg** is held under the patronage of both the Embassy of Ireland in Luxembourg and the British Embassy in Luxembourg.

The festival acknowledges its support again for this edition from a number of organisations including the Galway Film Fleadh, the Irish Film Institute, Screen Ireland, Culture Ireland, the Ville de Luxembourg, the Luxembourg Film Fund and Luxembourg's Ministry of Culture, as well the Œuvre Nationale de Secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte (for our 2025 Young Filmmakers Competition) and also the financial contribution of Ireland's Emigrant Support Programme.

The festival also enjoys support from its sponsors and, all our community partners and our media partners: AraCityRadio, Chronicle.lu, Luxembourg Times and RTL Today. The festival sincerely thanks these organisations for their support through their commitment to supporting community and cultural events through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).



PROGRAMME / SCHEDULE

- Tue 18 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: **BIFFL Presents... *Hard Truths*** (EN, ES), 97 mins
- Wed 19 Mar @ 18:30 @ Cinémathèque: **SHORTS Evening, including Young Filmmakers Competition 2024/25 AWARDS**
- Sat 22 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***Fidil Ghorm (The Blue Fiddle)*** (IE), 84 mins - **OPENING SCREENING**
- Sun 23 Mar @ 15:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***Charlie Chaplain: The Spirit of the Tramp*** (EN, FR, ES, NL), 90 mins
- Sun 23 Mar @ 17:30 @ Ciné Utopia: ***The Ballad of Wallis Island*** (EN), 100 mins
- Mon 24 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***The Future Tense*** (NI), 89 mins
- Mon 24 Mar @ 21:30 @ Ciné Utopia: ***I Dream in Photos*** (IE), 80 mins
- Tue 25 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***Dead Man's Money*** (NI), 82 mins
- Wed 26 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***The Flight of Bryan*** (EN), 99 mins
- Thu 27 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***Kathleen is Here*** (IE), 95 mins
- Fri 28 Mar @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***Touch / Snerting*** (IS, EN, JP), 121 mins
- Sat 29 Sep @ 19:00 @ Ciné Utopia: ***Patrick - A Slave to Ireland*** (IE), 90 mins - **CLOSING SCREENING & AWARDS**

Geoff THOMPSON, Festival Organiser and President of Festival Events Asbl, stated: “It was wonderful to see films we screened last year winning awards. *KNEECAP* scooped four IFTAs (Best Director, Casting, Costume Design, Editing) and a BAFTA (Outstanding Debut by a British Writer, Director or Producer), and *SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE* won three IFTAs (Best Film, Director, Lead Actor). We have already had a couple of screenings this winter/spring, with *HOUSEWIFE OF THE YEAR* on 30 January as a St Brigid's Day Screening, and *DRY RIVER* in collaboration with *VAASSE* Sarl, at which the director Daniel Simpson came over for a post-screening Q&A in February. We are collaborating with the Luxembourg City Film Festival on Tuesday 11 March for the screening of *POISON*, a Luxembourg-England co-production, filmed mainly in Vianden. We have a really interesting line-up of screenings at our Spring Edition, with a strong emphasis on documentaries as films of this fact-based genre have almost always scored well in the past for our Audience Award. We also have a charming Irish-language drama *AN FIDIL GHORM* which will be our Opening Screening, with a new documentary on St Patrick - *PATRICK - A SLAVE TO IRELAND* - as our Closing Screening.”

For more detailed information on the programme, etc., please visit www.festivalevents.lu (new website), or contact Geoff Thompson, email: Geoff@festivalevents.lu, tel: 661-250007 (m).

For social media assets for all the films, as well as all logos, please email marketing@festivalevents.lu.

Festival Events Asbl, c/o Embassy of Ireland, 28 Route d'Arlon, L-1140 Luxembourg