

SUBTITLE SPOTLIGHT EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL
KILKENNY MONDAY 20 – SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2017
WWW.SUBTITLEFEST.COM FOR TICKETS & INFORMATION

SUB- TITLE

90th Anniversary
SPOTLIGHT



Ethiopian
የኢትዮጵያ
THE NEW SOURCE OF AFRICA
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER ✪

SUBTITLE: WHERE CINEMA SPEAKS ONE LANGUAGE

In association with Spotlight, November 20th 2017 sees the return of Ireland's only film festival of popular subtitled European films – and a fantastic line up of filmmakers and stars, celebrated on Sunday night at the Angela awards, hosted by Pauline McLynn and the Camembert Quartet.

The festival brings together a selection of European films that invites you to see cinema in a whole new way. Many of the films in the 2017 festival have never been screened theatrically in Ireland and 15 of them are Irish premieres; highlights for this year include a special VIP preview of Aku Louhimies's epic film UNKNOWN SOLDIER, which has already smashed box office records in Finland; Valery Todorovsky's terrific drama, BOLSHOI (he will be in Kilkenny to present both screenings), Alexei Uchitel's lavish new picture, MATILDA and Tonie Marshall's outstanding new film, NUMBER ONE (she will be in Kilkenny too).



/subtitledfest



@subtitledfest

For our 2017 edition, we are presenting 29 films. We have a terrific collection of thrillers, dramas and comedies from Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Belgium, France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Poland, The Netherlands, Russia, Georgia and Bulgaria. We are very excited about the mix of movies available and we are confident that there's something on offer for all tastes. There will be over 200 guests in Kilkenny for the festival, including over 50 brilliant European actors and some of the finest casting directors on the planet.

So join us this November for a magical week of European film.

ABOUT SPOTLIGHT



Spotlight is proud to be part of the Subtitle Festival, to generate connections between actors and casting directors across Europe, the US and the rest of the world.

Subtitle is a unique opportunity for European actors to meet with casting directors and filmmakers, and to establish relationships that will last well beyond the festival itself.

As the home of casting in Europe, Spotlight helps casting directors connect with the very best professional performers, while providing actors with access to the best roles in television, film and theatre.

At Subtitle we help those connections to happen against the backdrop of beautiful Kilkenny, in an environment that honours the creativity of the casting process.

For more information on Spotlight, visit www.spotlight.com

ABOUT KILKENNY

In 2012, Kilkenny was voted by Condé Nast Traveller Magazine as the 9th friendliest city in the world. It is a medieval destination city of 24,000 people, acclaimed internationally as a centre for the arts and for craft and design. Each year Kilkenny hosts a number of international festivals, among them the Cat Laughs Comedy Festival, Kilkenny Arts Festival, Rhythm and Roots, Savour Kilkenny and Kilkenomics.

Kilkenny is small and compact enough to explore on foot and boasts many beautifully restored buildings and charming walks while Kilkenny Castle, built by the Normans in the 12th century, proudly overlooks the city.

It is an ideal location for SUBTITLE as venues and accommodation are within easy walking distance of each other; as such it is perfectly set up for an event of this kind. The success of similar niche festivals proves Kilkenny's credentials as a gateway to the South East; while its proximity to Ireland's capital (75 minutes from Dublin) allows day-trippers / overnighters to come to the festival and sample its unique atmosphere.

For more information on the multitude of Things to See and Do in and around Kilkenny please visit the Kilkenny Tourism or Discover Ireland websites.



THE ANGELA AWARDS



SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 8:15PM. THE SET THEATRE, LANGTONS. €25

Hosted by Pauline McLynn, the sixth annual Angela Awards acknowledges the achievements of talent from across Europe and the presentations are made by well known actors, writers and directors from the Irish film industry. It's a substantial and significant evening, but the tone is celebratory and fun with live music provided by The Camembert Quartet.

This is a popular event with extremely limited tickets, so early booking is advisable.

SUBBIT

SPOTLIGHT EUROPEAN FILM



ACCABADORA

Enrico Pau

Italy | 97mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

🕒 21:15 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €9/€8 ★

The tradition of mercy killing, as passed down through her mother, has been kept as a closely guarded secret by Annetta. In her ancestral Sardinian world, she is the Accabadora: despite her young age, she is both strong and resolved in her determination to carry on this ancient ritual even under the threat of death. But World War 2 is bringing deep social changes, helping Annetta to go beyond the purgatory of her condition, discovering the unexplored path of love. *Accabadora* received fantastic reviews in Italy and surprised many with its box office success there. The leading roles are played with a terrific intensity, including a remarkable star turn – in Italian – from Irish actor and Subtitle regular, Barry Ward.



ANIMALS

Greg Zglinski

Switzerland | 94mins | 2017 | Mystery | Thriller | Colour

🕒 19:30 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱
🕒 12:00 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱

A collision with a sheep on a country road initiates a whole series of weird and unsettling experiences for couple Anna and Nick which ultimately leave them both incapable of being certain exactly where they are: in the real world, in their own imaginations – or in someone else's imagination.

Full of haunting, nerve-jangling touches, *Animals* is not simply an exercise in spooky atmospherics, it works superbly as an unorthodox genre thriller and mind-bending mental puzzle. Crucially for a story that plays fast and loose with narrative sense, Zglinski maintains a tight grip on the suspense lever, keeping us guessing until the final scene and even afterwards. A treat for cinephiles.



BEYOND WORDS

Urszula Antoniak

Poland | 85mins | 2017 | Drama | B&W

🕒 16:15 📅 Fri 24 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱★👤
🕒 17:45 📅 Sun 26 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱★👤

Nothing in Michael, a young and successful Berlin lawyer, gives away his Polish roots. However, the sudden appearance of his father, who was long presumed dead, plunges Michael into an existential crisis. Director Urszula Antoniak (*Nothing Personal*) uses her own history – Polish, grew up in Holland – to brilliant effect, exploring themes of migration, parenthood and identity. It's not only timely and thematically interesting, it is also remarkably cinematic, with outstanding camera work from Lenert Hillege. Antoniak's lead character requires a fluent bilingual performance and take a bow Jakub Gierszal – a substantial, thoughtful actor fast becoming one of the most highly regarded talents of his generation. He's ably supported by Polish star, Andrzej Chyra, together with Christian Löber and Justyna Wasilewska. Jakub will be in Kilkenny to present both screenings.



BOLSHOI

Valery Todorovsky

Russia | 132mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

🕒 20:45 📅 Tue 21 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €9/€8 🌱👤
🕒 20:30 📅 Wed 22 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €9/€8 🌱👤

The tale of a hopeful girl swept up in currents of dance unfolds against the dramatic backdrop of Tchaikovsky's own majestic ballets and *Bolshoi* follows the tortuous path of a young provincial girl Yulya, who dreams of becoming a ballerina. Her ambition is to dance at the prestigious Bolshoi Theatre – the epicentre of Russian ballet. However, to succeed she needs to brace herself for the countless physical and mental challenges, tough decisions and an intense rivalry like she has never experienced. Plunging into the beautiful-yet-harsh world of Russian ballet, director Valery Todorovsky maps out the heartbreak, petty politics and wide-eyed dreams of aspiring ballerinas. It is a beautifully crafted picture from a director who shot to international prominence with his film, *Hipsters* (screened at the inaugural Subtitle in 2012) and we are thrilled that he will be in Kilkenny to present both screenings.



CLOSENESS

Kantemir Balagov

Russia | 118mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

🕒 21:15 📅 Fri 24 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱
🕒 18:30 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱

1998, Nalchik, the North Caucasus, Russia. 24-year-old Ilana works in her father's garage to help him make ends meet. One evening, her extended family and friends gather to celebrate the engagement of her younger brother David. Later that night, the young couple is kidnapped, and a ransom demand delivered. In this close-knit Jewish enclave, involving the police is out of the question. How will the family raise the money to save David? Ilana and her parents, each in their own way, will go as far as necessary, whatever the risks to themselves might be.

Closeness is a tough-minded, rigorously composed, quite brilliantly acted story of the challenges of everyday religious prejudice and ethnic divides and it won the International Critics Prize at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival. The leading actress Darya Zhovner is a revelation and she'll be in Kilkenny to present the film.



THE EDUKATORS

Hans Weingartner

Germany | 127mins | 2004 | Drama | Romance | Colour

🕒 18:45 📅 Tue 21 Nov 2017 📍 Billy Byrne's 💰 €8/€7
🕒 21:00 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €8/€7
🕒 20:15 📅 Sun 26 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €8/€7

The Edukators is a very clever, relevant and engaging thriller with politics right at its heart; the film serves as a powerful and timely reminder of the importance of protest, and the arguments that director Hans Weingartner develops here (with a surprising lightness of touch and humour) are as apt today as at any time. Peter (Stipe Erceg) and Jan (a young Daniel Brühl) are "edukators," anarchists who break into wealthy people's homes – never stealing, but serving notice to 'fat cats' that their days are numbered. Along comes Jule (Julia Jentsch), a poor student and Peter's girlfriend, who convinces Jan to help her 'edukate' a businessman she owes money to. As the drama unfolds, a key detail unlocks a sequence of events which no one could predict and no one can control...



ELLE

Paul Verhoeven

France | 131mins | 2016 | Crime | Thriller | Colour

🕒 18:30 📅 Wed 22 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €8/€7
🕒 21:00 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 Set Theatre 💰 €8/€7
🕒 18:30 📅 Fri 24 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €9/€8
🕒 21:00 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Watergate 💰 €9/€8

Europe's most flamboyantly confrontational director and its most fearless actress come together in this provocative drama, a career high for both. When divorced businesswoman Michèle (Isabelle Huppert) is sexually assaulted by a masked man in her own home, she refuses to tell the police. Instead she takes matters into her own hands, and what seems at first to be a simple home-invasion whodunnit blossoms into a complex, powerful character study that sends genre clichés and conventions flying. Verhoeven and Huppert exercise their fierce intelligence, the director by committing totally to the film's uncompromising premise, the star by pushing herself further than ever before. If you haven't seen this one, don't miss it!



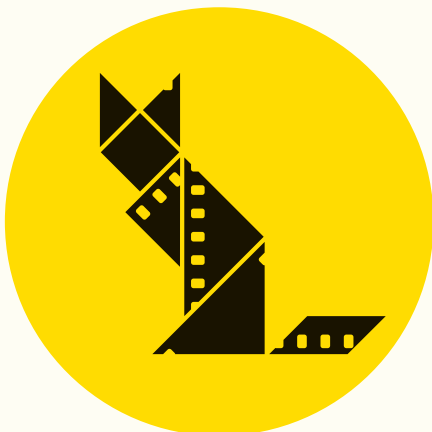
THE FURY OF A PATIENT MAN

Raúl Arévalo

Spain | 92mins | 2016 | Drama | Colour

🕒 18:00 📅 Fri 24 Nov 2017 📍 IMC Cinema 💰 €10/€9 🌱★
🕒 21:00 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🌱★

After 8 years in prison after a failed robbery, Curro has one thing in mind: to find his family and live a normal life. But the arrival of a mysterious stranger will shake up his plans and drag him into a dark and unrewarded journey to revenge. This is a knotty, gritty, uncompromising thriller from first-time director, Raúl Arévalo, one of Spain's most recognisable actors. The intelligence of the film-making and quality of the acting is exceptional and it's no surprise that the picture has a remarkable haul of 25 awards across all categories since its release. At its centre is possibly the most versatile and charismatic contemporary Spanish actor, Antonio de la Torre, who gives another phenomenal, calm performance, which burns up the screen. He is ably supported by fellow actors Luis Callejo and Ruth Díaz and cinematographer Arnau Valls Colomer. Subtitle regular Antonio de la Torre will be in Kilkenny to present the film.



FILM FESTIVAL

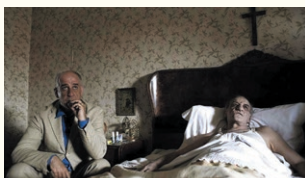


GLORY

Kristina Grozeva | Petar Valchanov
Bulgaria | 101mins | 2016 | Drama | Satire | Colour

- 14:00 Fri 24 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €10/€9 ★
- 16:15 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €10/€9 ★

Directors Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov have constructed a little masterpiece with their film, *Glory*. Winning over 30 awards worldwide, the story revolves around Tsanko Petrov, a reclusive Bulgarian railway trackman, who finds a huge amount of cash spilled on the tracks and decides to turn it all in to the police. As organised by the Transport Ministry's head of PR, the state rewards his actions with a new wristwatch in a ceremony designed as a diversion from a local corruption scandal. However, Petrov's old watch appears to be lost and his increasingly desperate attempts to retrieve it see his simple life begin to unravel. An ingeniously crafted dramedy full of wit and biting satire, the acting in *Glory* is a joy from start to finish; but the work from Stefan Denolyubov (Petrov) and Margita Gosheva (Julia) is stand out and Margita will be in Kilkenny to present the film. Definitely one to catch.



GOMORRAH

Matteo Garrone
Italy | 137mins | 2008 | Crime | Drama | Colour

- 21:00 Mon 20 Nov 2017 Billy Byrne's €8/€7
- 20:45 Wed 22 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 20:45 Fri 24 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 18:15 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Billy Byrne's €9/€8
- 15:00 Sun 26 Nov 2017 Cleere's €8/€7

In the slums of Campania, the Camorra crime syndicate has created a fortune out of cocaine, corruption and chemical waste. Some try to fight back, like teens Ciro (Ciro Petrone) and Marco (Marco Macor), who decide to steal a Camorra weapons cache in a bid to take control themselves. Others try to hide, like Pasquale (Salvatore Cantalupo), a tailor trying to get around paying protection fees. But the realisation sets in: the Camorra is too large, too deeply embedded in Italy to be fought. Based on Robert Saviano's best-selling book *Gomorrah* is a brilliant inside look at Italy's modern crime families and a chilling reminder of how average citizens can get caught up in a cycle of corruption and violence. The film is superbly directed by Matteo Garrone who demonstrates complete command of his story and characters; a classic thriller and definitely one to catch at Subtitle 2017.



GRADUATION

Cristian Mungiu
Romania | 128mins | 2016 | Drama | Colour

- 18:30 Thu 23 Nov 2017 Cleere's €8/€7
- 17:30 Sun 26 Nov 2017 Billy Byrne's €8/€7

Romeo Aldea, a physician living in a small mountain town in Transylvania, has raised his daughter Eliza with the idea that once she turns 18, she will leave to study and live abroad. His plan is close to succeeding – Eliza has won a scholarship to study psychology in the UK. She just has to pass her final exams – a formality for such a good student. On the day before her first written exam, Eliza is assaulted in an attack that could jeopardize her entire future. Now Romeo has to make a decision. There are ways of solving the situation, but none of them using the principles he, as a father, has taught his daughter. This is another masterclass in filmmaking from Palme d'Or winner Cristian Mungiu with superb performances from his ensemble cast.

"An intricate and deeply intelligent film" – The Guardian



HOSTAGES

Rezo Gigineishvili
Georgia | 103mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

- 15:45 Fri 24 Nov 2017 IMC Cinema €10/€9 ★
- 21:00 Sat 25 Nov 2017 IMC Cinema €10/€9 ★

Soviet Georgia, 1983. Preparations for Nika and Ana's wedding are in full swing and it's a big day for both of their elite families. For the newlyweds and their friends, however, the celebrations are in fact part of a cover-up, as they plot an audacious escape from the Soviet Union. They plan to flee their claustrophobic daily lives, discover the free world and break out from

their parents' stifling worldview.

The day after the wedding, Nika and Ana decide to move forward with their riskiest plan yet: hijacking a local flight from Tbilisi to Batumi and forcing it to land in Turkey, the closest country to Georgia that isn't part of the Eastern Block. But as the plane leaves the ground and the pressure quickly rises, nothing goes as planned for these amateur would-be hijackers.

Based on a true story, this is a terrific, stylish film from Rezo Gigineishvili, which has unearthed some outstanding Georgian acting talent.



INTOUCHABLES

Olivier Nakache | Eric Toledano
France | 112mins | 2011 | Comedy | Drama | Colour

- 18:15 Wed 22 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 18:30 Fri 24 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 18:45 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Watergate €9/€8 ★
- 17:45 Sun 26 Nov 2017 Cleere's €8/€7

The word of mouth is so good on this film, that we have continued to screen it each year since 2012 – and the audiences have grown year-on-year too, so it's back by popular demand for 2017! And no surprise at all: it is a fabulous funny comedy from France that plays brilliantly with stereotypes around race, unemployment and disability. It features outstanding performances from both Omar Sy and Francois Cluzet and it picked up 7 Cesar nominations at the French ceremony. Any comedy that grosses \$445 million worldwide must be doing something right: if you haven't seen it yet, then give yourself a treat and head along. Likewise if you've been contemplating seeing a show at the festival, but uncertain which one, then look no further than *Intouchables*. We have a feeling that a few will be back for a second and third look, especially as lead actress Audrey Fleurot will be in Kilkenny to present the weekend screenings.



KING OF THE BELGIANS

Peter Brosens | Jessica Woodworth
Belgium | 94mins | 2016 | Comedy | Drama | Colour

- 21:00 Mon 20 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €8/€7
- 19:45 Sun 26 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €8/€7

A classic mockumentary blending gently satirical humour with deeper underpinnings, *King of the Belgians* is a delightful, surprisingly respectful ribbing of the incongruity of monarchy, Belgium, and the Balkans.

During a Belgian king's state visit to Istanbul, the French-speaking part of Belgium, Wallonia, declares its independence and the country's leader needs to get home – or to what's left of it – but because of an electrical storm, the only possibility is to drive across the Balkans to Western Europe. From a yoghurt festival in Bulgaria to a rakia-filled drunken Serbian night in the company of a rowdy former sharpshooter still haunted by his past, the officious barriers between the members of this small party crumble one after the other.

With its unexpected encounters, unforeseen dilemmas and moments of unexpected joy, *King of the Belgians* is a wonderfully original comedy drama which has won a string of audience and jury awards across Europe, so don't miss its Irish Premiere in Kilkenny!



LOVELESS

Andrei Zvyagintsev
Russia | 127mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

- 16:45 Thu 23 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €10/€9 ★
- 18:30 Fri 24 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €10/€9 ★

Zhenya and Boris are going through a vicious divorce marked by resentment, frustration and recriminations. Already embarking on new lives, each with a new partner, they are impatient to start again, to turn the page – even if it means threatening to abandon their 12-year-old son Alyosha. Until, after witnessing one of their fights, Alyosha disappears. Interrogating big ideas with small stories, Andrei Zvyagintsev is one of the finest directors working in the world right now and *Loveless* is a terrifying work of immense beauty and power. Winner of multiple awards across the world, he challenges us about what our duty is to be human. Zvyagintsev clearly believes that we are slow to learn, doomed to repeat our errors; yet he offers us hope too in showing us the value and power of community. The acting is outstanding in *Loveless* and Mikhail Krichman's camera work shows why he won the prestigious Camera d'Or in 2015. Happily, leading actress Maryana Spivak will be in Kilkenny for the weekend to present the film. Not to be missed.

KILKENNY

20-26 NOVEMBER 2017

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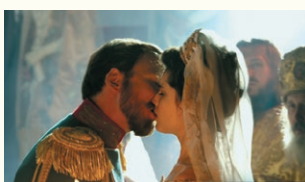


A MAN CALLED OVE Hannes Holm

Sweden | 116mins | 2015 | Comedy | Drama |

- 18:30 Thu 23 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 20:45 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 20:00 Sun 26 Nov 2017 Billy Byrne's €8/€7

Meet Ove (Rolf Lassgård), an isolated retiree with strict principles and a short fuse – the quintessential angry old man next door. Having entirely given up on life, his days are spent in a constant monotony of enforcing housing association rules and visiting his beloved wife Sonja's grave. Ove's somewhat content existence is disrupted, however, with the arrival of a boisterous young family who move in next door. Heavily pregnant Parvaneh (Bahar Pars) and her lively children are the complete antithesis of what ill-tempered Ove thinks he needs. Yet, from this unhappy beginning an unlikely friendship blooms and Ove's past happiness and heartbreaks come to light. *A Man Called Ove* is a wistful, heartwarming tale of unreliable first impressions and a wonderful reminder that life is sweeter when it's shared.



MATILDA Alexei Uchitel

Russia | 127mins | 2017 | Drama | Biography | Colour

- 14:45 Sat 25 Nov 2017 IMC Cinema €10/€9

Set 20 years prior to the 1917 Great October Revolution (the centenary of which coincided with *Matilda's* scandal-filled release in Russia), *Matilda* portrays Tsar Nikolay II's passionate affair with the Mariinsky Theatre's Polish-born prima ballerina, Matilda Ksheshenska, against a backdrop of a flawed Romanov court in all its domed (doomed), sabred, sceptred glory. Emperor-to-be Nikolay (and most of the male members of his entourage) spend much of their time frequenting the local ballet school in St. Petersburg, where 'Nicky' succumbs instantly to Matilda's seductive charms.

Director Alexey Uchitel's choice for Matilda, Polish actress Michalina Olszanska – who joins us in Kilkenny to present the film – is perfectly cast as she plays 'an unconditional object of desire' (Esquire Russia), dancing and teasing her way into Nikolay's bed. More controversial locally is Uchitel's Nikolay II – German actor Lars Eidinger, unknown in Russia.

While the film's narrative at times is fragmented, there are plenty of reasons to watch this movie, including a magnificently terse, tense performance from Ingeborga Dupkanite as Nikolay's disapproving mother, Maria Fedorovna.



MUSTANG Deniz Gamze Ergüven

Turkey | France | 97mins | 2015 | Drama | Colour

- 19:00 Mon 20 Nov 2017 Cleere's €8/€7
- 18:45 Thu 23 Nov 2017 Watergate €8/€7
- 18:30 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7

Early summer in a village in Northern Turkey. Five free-spirited teenaged sisters splash about on the beach with their male classmates. Though their games are merely innocent fun, a passing neighbour reports what she considers to be illicit behaviour to the girls' family. The family overreacts, removing all "instruments of corruption," like mobile phones and computers, and essentially imprisoning the girls, subjecting them to endless lessons in housework in preparation for them to become brides.

As the eldest sisters are married off, the younger ones bond together to avoid the same fate. The fierce love between them empowers them to rebel and chase a future where they can determine their own lives in Deniz Gamze Ergüven's debut, a powerful portrait of female empowerment. There was a huge reaction to *Mustang* from 2016 and we're delighted to screen it again for audiences this year.



NUMBER ONE Tonie Marshall

France | 110mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

- 18:45 Mon 20 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €8/€7
- 14:00 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €10/€9
- 12:15 Sun 26 Nov 2017 Cinemobile €10/€9

Emmanuelle Blachey is a 40-something senior executive working in the renewable energy sector. She's an ambitious team leader, quick on her feet and unafraid to make tough decisions. Married for 20 years and a mother of 2 children, Emmanuelle's success appears to be consummate. However, all the perceived certainties come into focus when a powerful and influential women's network ask her to run for CEO of a major French

company. In looking to become the first French woman to crash through the glass ceiling, the risks, challenges and sacrifices that she faces are brilliantly teased out by director, Tonie Marshall.

What makes her movie exceptional is the way in which Marshall matches the personal motivation with the existing reality: Emmanuel doesn't decide to accept the challenge to advance the cause of women in business, she does it because she has a vision and an inner belief, fully understanding the limitations of her ascent to power; this allows *Number One* to rise above polemic and present a story which is not only timely and thought-provoking, but remarkably insightful also. This is one of the best films of the year with a superb central performance from Emmanuelle Devos; we are thrilled that Tonie Marshall will be in Kilkenny to present the weekend screenings.



THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE Aki Kaurismäki

Finland | 100mins | 2017 | Drama | Comedy | Colour

- 21:15 Tue 21 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 21:00 Wed 22 Nov 2017 Cleere's €8/€7
- 16:00 Sat 25 Nov 2017 Billy Byrne's €9/€8

Finland's master of deadpan comedy, Aki Kaurismäki returns with the story of an unlikely friendship between a Syrian asylum seeker and an elderly Finnish restaurant owner. Khaled arrives at the port of Helsinki concealed in a coal container, fleeing war-torn Syria to seek asylum in Finland. Dazed and frustrated by the monolithic administration he encounters at the detention centre, he makes a break for it and heads out onto the streets. There he meets Wikström, a former shirt salesman who has recently left his alcoholic wife for a new life as a bachelor restaurateur. Together, they help each other to navigate the adversities they face in these unfamiliar and often baffling new worlds. With hilarious sight gags and poker-faced one liners, Kaurismäki's latest balances his unparalleled wit with a pressing critique of the unforgiving bureaucracy that greets vulnerable asylum seekers in modern-day Europe. Humane and sincere, it's proof of cinema's power to tell stories that matter, with beauty and heart.



POLISSE Maiwenn

France | 127mins | 2011 | Crime | Drama | Colour

- 18:45 Tue 21 Nov 2017 Set Theatre €8/€7
- 18:15 Wed 22 Nov 2017 Billy Byrne's €8/€7
- 16:00 Fri 24 Nov 2017 Cleere's €9/€8

Polisse charts the daily grind for the cops of the Paris Police Department's Juvenile Protection Unit. Their activities range from taking in child molesters, busting underage pickpockets and chewing over relationship issues at lunch to interrogating abusive parents, taking statements from children and confronting the excesses of teen sexuality. Knowing the worst exists and living with it, how do these cops balance their private lives and the reality they confront every working day?

A huge hit when released in 2011, and winner of the Cannes Jury Prize, *Polisse* presents a powerhouse of emotional jolts, freewheeling comedy and socially-minded storytelling, packed with raw energy and visceral performances from an accomplished cast. Director, Maiwenn presents an engrossing network of stories that benefit from the impressive work of nearly a dozen talented French actors – almost like a whole season of *The Wire* packed into a single two-hour film.

Polisse covers much ground, it convincingly jumps from laughter to tears and back again, never losing sight of the brutal realities at its core.



SECRET SCREENING

Russia | 92mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

- 21:15 Fri 24 Nov 2017 Cleere's €9/€8

This is a secret premiere! Vova and his best friend Kisa make ends meet by working for the local thug in Vladivostok, Russia until one assignment forces them to question their own morality and puts their friendship to the ultimate test.



THE SQUARE Ruben Östlund

Sweden | 142mins | 2017 | Drama | Comedy | Colour

- 20:00 Fri 24 Nov 2017 IMC Cinema €10/€9

Force Majeure director Ruben Östlund returns with a knife-sharp satire on art, culture and communication in the digital age.

Winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival, *The Square*

WHERE CINEMA SPEAKS ONE LANGUAGE.

stars Claes Bang (*The Bridge*) Elisabeth Moss (*The Handmaid's Tale, Mad Men*) and Dominic West (*The Wire*). Christian (Bang) is a divorced but devoted father of two, and the respected curator of a contemporary art museum in Stockholm. He's gearing up to launch their next show, 'The Square', a daring installation examining altruism and our duty to help others. However, Christian's own views on social responsibility are put to the test when he becomes the victim of a scam, forcing him to question the world around him and his place in it.

With pitch-perfect performances, inventive set pieces and a cutting deadpan wit, *The Square* is a hilarious, unique and often surreal look at idealism and cynicism in the modern world. One screening only.



THE STUDENT

Kirill Serebrennikov

Russia | 118mins | 2016 | Drama | Colour

- 🕒 20:00 📅 Mon 20 Nov 2017 📍 Set Theatre 💰 €8/€7
- 🕒 20:00 📅 Tue 21 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €8/€7
- 🕒 18:30 📅 Fri 24 Nov 2017 📍 Billy Byrne's 💰 €9/€8

Veniamin, a teenager in the midst of a mystical crisis, has his mother, schoolmates and entire high school turned upside down by his questions: can girls go to their swimming classes in bikinis? Does sex education have a place in school? Should the theory of evolution be taught as part of the Natural Sciences?

The adults are soon overwhelmed by the certitudes of the youngster who swears only by Scripture. No one but Elena, his biology teacher, will alone challenge him on his own ground. This is an extraordinarily powerful, thought-provoking and darkly funny film from Russian director Kirill Serebrennikov, which turned heads at its premiere in the Cannes Film Festival last year. The drama sours and a large part of the reason for this is down to the astonishing, visceral performance from its leading actor, Pyotr Skvortsov. Don't miss it.



TOM OF FINLAND

Dome Karukoski

Finland | 115mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

- 🕒 20:45 📅 Wed 22 Nov 2017 📍 Billy Byrne's 💰 €8/€7
- 🕒 21:30 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 ★
- 🕒 14:45 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €8/€7 ★

The proudly erotic drawings of artist Touko Laaksonen, known to the world as Tom of Finland, shaped the fantasies of a generation of gay men, influencing art and fashion before crossing over into the wider cultural consciousness. But who was the man behind the leather? Dome Karukoski's stirring biopic follows his life from the trenches of World War 2 and repressive Finnish society of the 1950s through his struggle to get his work published in California, where he and his art were finally embraced amid the sexual revolution of the 1970s. Tom's story is one of love, courage and perseverance, mirroring the gay liberation movement for which his leather-clad studs served as a defiant emblem. Finnish actor Pekka Strang (who will be in Kilkenny) superbly anchors the film with a performance of quiet charisma and real intelligence: an actor on top of his game.



TONI ERDMANN

Maren Ade

Germany | 162mins | 2016 | Comedy | Drama | Colour

- 🕒 20:45 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 Watergate 💰 €8/€7
- 🕒 18:00 📅 Fri 24 Nov 2017 📍 Watergate 💰 €10/€9 ★
- 🕒 17:30 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cleere's 💰 €9/€8 ★

Nominated for an Oscar and winner of the 2016 Best Film at the European Film Awards, *Toni Erdmann* is a remarkably touching and outrageously funny portrait of a father-daughter relationship. Ines is a highly-strung career woman whose life in corporate Bucharest takes a turn for the bizarre with the arrival of her estranged father Winfried. A practical joker with a liking for silly disguises and childish pranks, Winfried attempts to reconnect with his daughter by introducing the eccentric alter ego Toni Erdmann to catch Ines off guard, not knowing how capable she is of rising to the challenge.

This film premiered at Cannes in 2016 where it received the highest aggregate critics score in the festival's history. It is an extraordinary piece of film-making from Maren Ade, which showcases outstanding performances in its central roles, notably from Peter Simonischek, who will be in Kilkenny to present the weekend screenings. If you haven't seen it, don't miss it!

More info for each film, including trailers, can be found at

www.subtitlefest.com/films

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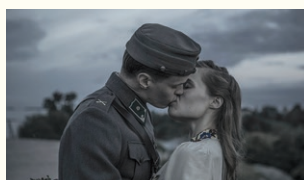
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UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Aku Louhimies

Finland | 179mins | 2017 | Drama | War | Colour

- 🕒 17:30 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 IMC Cinema 💰 €15 🇮🇪 ★
- 🕒 14:30 📅 Sun 26 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🇮🇪 ★

With the biggest budget in the history of Finnish film and shot over 4 seasons with 14,000 extras, Aku Louhimies's *Unknown Soldier* is the most anticipated presentation at Subtitle 2017. The film is based on a best-selling book by Väinö Linna, who wrote about his personal experiences in the war and it follows a platoon of ordinary Finnish soldiers in the battlefield between Finland and the Soviet Union during World War 2.

Linna's depiction of the human psyche and warm humour make the story still very relevant, but significantly Louhimies has based his picture on the uncensored version of the story, which was published in 2000. This has allowed him to anchor the film with an unflinching realism, which is one of his trademarks.

The director believes this to be an essential ingredient to making *Unknown Soldier* accessible and thought-provoking to a contemporary audience: bringing the past and present together in an exploration of what it is to be human. It's a remarkably accomplished work from a special director – beautifully scored by Sinfonia Lahti and brilliantly photographed by Mika Orasmaa. Louhimies and over 10 of the cast will be in Kilkenny for a special VIP preview of this film. We. Can't. Wait.



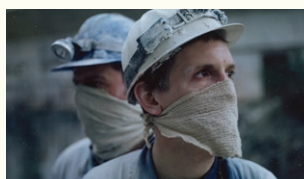
WATERBOYS

Robert Jan Westdijk

Netherlands | 103mins | 2016 | Comedy | Drama | Romance | Colour

- 🕒 18:30 📅 Wed 22 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €8/€7 🇮🇪
- 🕒 19:00 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 IMC Cinema 💰 €10/€9 🇮🇪 ★
- 🕒 23:00 📅 Sat 25 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €10/€9 🇮🇪 ★

You can't choose your father. Neither can you choose your son. Victor is a cynical crime novelist; his son Zach is a cello-player. When they get thrown out by their women on the same day, the two men have to sort out themselves and their relationship during a turbulent trip to Scotland where Victor's latest book has to be promoted. *Waterboys* – named after Mike Scott's band – is a film about a father who needs to grow up and his son who should take life less seriously. Robert Jan Westdijk has put together a wonderful, feel-good romantic comedy-drama, with subtle life lessons; he is helped no end by performances from a combination of Dutch and Scottish actors that is a joy to watch. Do yourself a favour and catch this film, it's a treat – with a kicking sound track to boot!



WINTER BROTHERS

Hlynur Pálmason

Denmark | 100mins | 2017 | Drama | Colour

- 🕒 18:45 📅 Tue 21 Nov 2017 📍 Cinemobile 💰 €8/€7 🇮🇪
- 🕒 21:00 📅 Thu 23 Nov 2017 📍 IMC Cinema 💰 €10/€9 🇮🇪

Emil (Elliott Crosset Hove) works with his brother in a limestone quarry and sells to miners the adulterated alcohol he makes. Relationships change when the mixture prepared by Emil is accused of poisoning one of them and the trust of those around him, including his brother, drifts away from him.

Icelandic director Hlynur Pálmason manages to construct a "lack of love story" and Emil is portrayed brilliantly by Crosset Hove, a simple man trying to gain acceptance in a hostile society that is constantly rejecting him. He is continually pushed outside of his community as he tries to reply to the repetitive question: "Why can't you be like everyone else?"

With its picturesque, snowy, industrial scenery, Pálmason creates an organic film that is impressively vivid. *Winter Brothers* could quite easily have been a modern take on a famous brotherly tragedy or another attempt to depict the loneliness of life in a harsh and loveless community; but the director decides to subtly balance all of these elements and deliver something that is both naïve and sophisticated, scratching away at the truths about masculinity and isolation. It is an original, delicate, edgy work of art with a strong heart. A film-lovers treat.

film-lovers treat.

film-lovers treat.

🌐 SPECIAL VIP PREVIEW

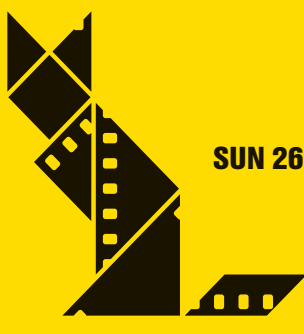
🇮🇪 IRISH PREMIERE

👤 DIRECTOR ATTENDING FESTIVAL

★ LEADING ACTOR(S) ATTENDING FESTIVAL



SPOTLIGHT EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL



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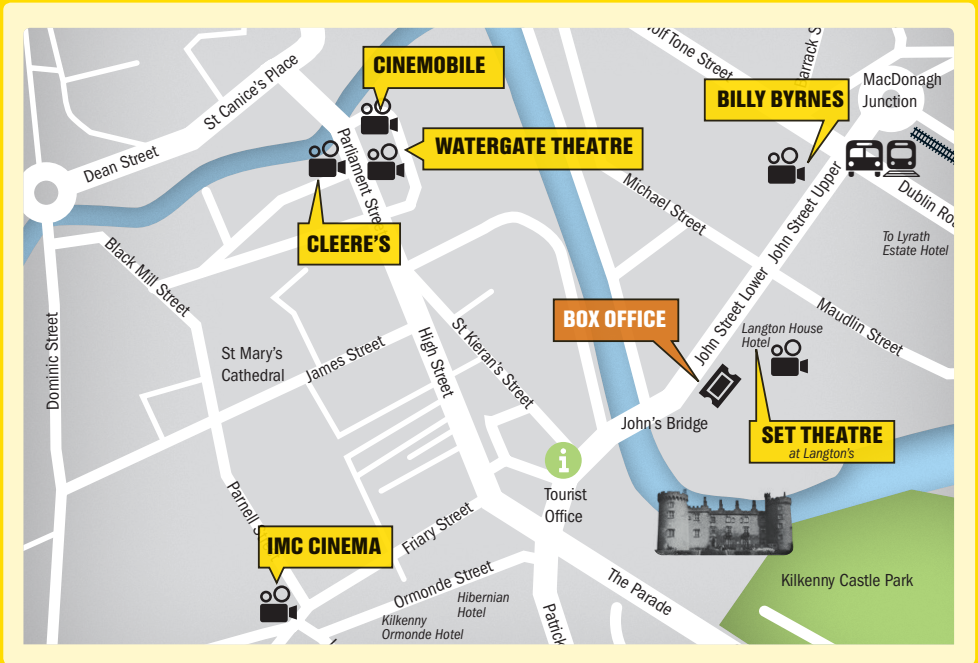
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Johannes Holopainen and Marketta Tikkanen in *UNKNOWN SOLDIER* (2017) directed by Aku Louhimies