

**GUTH  
GAFA**

**11 INTERNATIONAL  
DOCUMENTARY  
FILM FESTIVAL  
PROGRAMME**

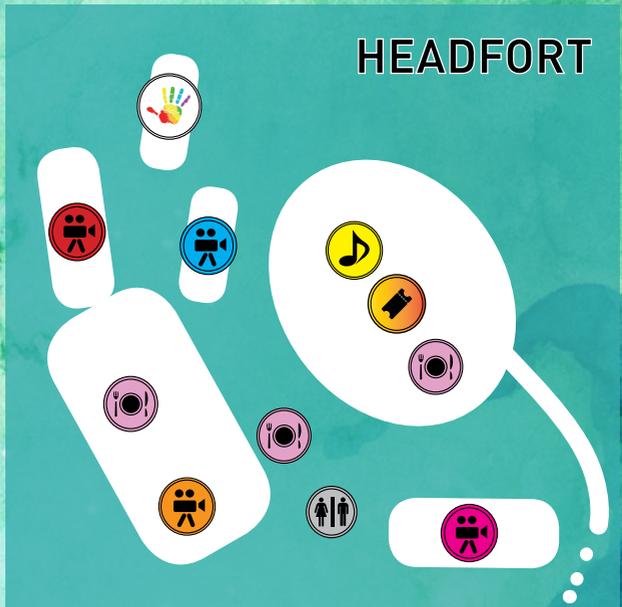
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**4-7 AUGUST 2017  
KELLS CO. MEATH**

# GUTH GAFA

## FESTIVAL VILLAGE



- Adam Room
- Road House Cinema
- The Hangar Cinema
- Headfort Theatre
- Festival Office
- Kids Workshops
- Ticket Office
- Festival Food
- Festival Club
- Headfort Arms Hotel

# Messages of Hope

We believe in citizen power, we believe individuals can in fact heal this world when we act together. Films like **Quest**, **Gaza Surf Club**, **Mama Colonel** and **A Cambodian Spring** in this year's programme are proof of that.

Understanding and celebrating difference is a cornerstone of Guth Gafa's commitment to changing society. **Communion, Life, Animated & Normal Autistic Film**, highlight autism, or neurodiversity as it's correctly termed, while **The Grown-Ups** is an upbeat look at a centre for adults with Down syndrome. These are films that hopefully will dispel myths about the normal.

There are also films that give us hope for the planet; for sustainable living and preserving the magic of the strange phenomenon called life, something Voyager 1 is still looking for in **The Farthest**, a documentary report from the stars.

Music has always been a strong strand for Guth Gafa, particularly because it unites communities and gives us a voice. This year we have **Whitney 'Can I Be Me'** and The Grateful Dead's **Long Strange Trip**. We also have strong films about music: hip-hop, opera, choral, Farsi rap and a bawdy take on Scottish folk music.

Guitar riffs give way to the shriek of missiles as Assad's planes bomb what's left of Syria. **City of Ghosts** and **The War Show** reflect on this war and the evil that is ISIS. For sense and compassion to triumph, the world must be informed about what is going on, and Guth Gafa stands in solidarity with the brave activists who risk everything to bring us the facts.

Thank you for supporting Guth Gafa.

**Neasa Ní Chianáin**  
**David Rane**



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

Guth Gafa International Documentary Film Festival began in 2006, and presents over 40 feature length and short documentaries every year. Every director of every selected film is invited to Guth Gafa to present their work and to participate in post-screening Q & As with the audience.



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Breis eolais: Further Information

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[www.creativeeuropeireland.eu](http://www.creativeeuropeireland.eu)



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Bronagh Farrell  
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Darren Browne  
Joseph Dargan  
Denise Dunphy & Stano

# A WORD OF SUPPORT

Many thanks to the organisers of the Guth Gafa Film Festival for the invitation to write a few words of support for the 11th Guth Gafa International Film Festival as a local T.D., Minister, and most importantly as a fan and supporter of the festival.

As a local community here in Kells and North Meath, and as a wider community of documentary film lovers from Ireland and abroad, we can look forward to a very exciting, informative and indeed transformative weekend.

Many of our assumptions and world views will be thoughtfully challenged and provoked. We will be thrown off-guard and taken out of our comfort zone, but it is a weekend which will still be entertaining and enjoyable, giving us an insight into different cultures, and issues of concern across the world, alongside our own unique local culture, history, food and hospitality.

The presence of the Guth Gafa Film Festival in Kells is helping to transform the image of our town and of our county. Guth Gafa taps into Kells's ancient historic mission of being a great seat of learning, artistic expression and education and adds a new, modern and exciting chapter to the story of our locality.

Thank you to all of those who have been working to make Guth Gafa a success over the last year. I look forward to a really great weekend for Kells, for film, and for the advancement of important social and human rights issues.

Wishing the 11th Guth Gafa Film Festival every success, and looking forward to the 12th!

## **Helen McEntee T.D.**

Minister for European Affairs  
Meath East Fine Gael T.D.



## **Helen McEntee T.D.**

Minister for European  
Affairs and Meath East  
Fine Gael T.D.

# A WORD OF SUPPORT

Now more than ever, in a world obsessed by Fake News, the Guth Gafa International Documentary Film Festival is a significant cultural event which we are proud to host in County Meath.

David, Neasa and the Guth Gafa team are to be commended for the diversity and variety of the 2017 programme through which they shine a light on what is real, and on the integrity of that reality.

They challenge our preconceptions, ideas and the accepted 'norm' and provide audiences with the chance to reflect, engage, discuss and debate in an informed, educational and importantly, enjoyable environment.

The talk-back sessions with the film directors themselves provide a unique and wonderful opportunity for audiences to explore themes and processes further, and are a wonderful component of the Guth Gafa Festival.

Meath County Council are proud to be one of the main supporters of this festival, a festival which gives Meath citizens and visitors, national and international, a chance to engage and enjoy world class events over three days in the splendid setting of Headfort House in Kells.

We look forward to working with Guth Gafa in developing this festival further into the future and wish them every success in 2017.

**Jackie Maguire**  
Chief Executive  
Meath County Council



**Jackie Maguire**

Chief Executive  
Meath County Council

# ShinAwil

would like to wish  
the best of luck to all the  
films taking part in the  
Guth Gafa Film Festival



DRAGONS' DEN





# A CAMBODIAN SPRING

Chris Kelly, UK, Ireland, Cambodia, 2017, 121'

6th Aug, 7.45pm

"Will no-one rid me of this troublesome priest?" is an oft-repeated quote that proves the uncomfortable relationship between church and State. In the case of Cambodian Buddhist monk, Luon Sovath his opposition to the brutal rule of Prime Minister Hun Sen is centred on land dispossession. Defending Boeung Kak, a low-lying community flooded by reclamation work, has brought Luon Sovath into conflict with not only the State but the Buddhist hierarchy as well. Competing factions in the resistance are at each other's throats and while venerable Sovath is evicted from his pagoda as punishment, the opposition falters and the regime plunders on. Director Chris Kelly's **A Cambodian Spring** is chilling witness to greed and corruption and reminds us that once one's eyes have been opened to injustice one can never again rest easy.

**Director:** Chris Kelly  
**Producer:** Chris Kelly, Bob Moore, Edwina Forkin, Christopher Hird  
**Camera:** Chris Kelly  
**Editor:** John Mister, Ryan Mullins, Pawel Stec, Chris Kelly  
**Sound:** William Kelly  
**Music:** James Holden

## Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for children 12 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

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**STORYHOUSE**



**Chris Kelly** is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and founder of Little Ease Films. He has spent the last nine years making his first feature documentary **A Cambodian Spring** which recently won the Special Jury Prize for International Feature Documentary at Hot Docs 2017 and Best Documentary at the Brooklyn Film Festival 2017. A regular contributor to the Guardian newspaper, in 2014 he produced an award-winning undercover investigation into slavery in the Thai fishing industry. He is currently developing an animated feature film on this subject.



# CITY OF GHOSTS

Matthew Heineman, USA, 2017, 90'

4th Aug, 8.15pm 7th Aug, 2.00pm

In the ISIS occupation nightmare that is Raqqa, there are two options for activist group, Raqqa Is Being Slaughtered Silently (RBSS): to remain inside the city and secretly film the atrocities or to leave and work on the outside, making sure the material gets online and to the big networks. The images they send out are graphic and chilling. The group, co-founded by Abdalaziz Alhamza take enormous risks – those who've been caught inside Raqqa have suffered terrible deaths. Nor are those on the outside safe: as a warning to the traitors who publish online, ISIS posts a video clip showing the execution of the father of one of the activists. In a safe house in Germany the young son, Hamoud, watches the film and weeps.

**Director:** Matthew Heineman  
**Producer:** Matthew Heineman  
**Camera:** Matthew Heineman  
**Editor:** Matthew Hamachek, Paz Wassermann, Matthew Heineman  
**Music:** Jackson Greenberg, H. Scott Salinas

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

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New York based **Matthew Heineman** was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature and won three Primetime Emmy Awards for his film **Cartel Land**. At its premiere at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival, Heineman won the Best Director Award and a Special Jury Prize for **Cartel Land**, and at Sundance 2017, the Candescent Award for most powerful social issue film for **City Of Ghosts**.



# COMMUNION

Anna Zamecka, Poland, 2016, 72'

6th Aug, 2.15pm

Ola is fourteen but has the responsibilities of an adult as she cooks and cleans and cares for her autistic brother Nikodem and her father, who's fond of a tippie. Thirteen year old Nikodem is about to make his first Holy Communion and it's this occasion, Ola hopes, that will force her estranged mother to visit and may even bring the family back together. Nikodem doesn't seem that committed to the communion process and when alone in the church intones into the microphone: "I am the Lord – I am a Demigod!" He also seems immune to the coaching the priest gives, arguing that he considers gluttony to be a virtue. Chaos reigns in a tender, funny film that reflects the three characters' struggles to bond as family.

**Director:** Anna Zamecka  
**Producer:** Anna Wydra, Anna Zamecka, Zuzanna Król  
**Camera:** Małgorzata Szytak  
**Editor:** Agnieszka Glińska, Anna Zamecka, Wojciech Janas  
**Sound:** Anna Rok, Katarzyna Szczerbak

#### Parental Guidance Note

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**Anna Zamecka** lives and works in Warsaw, Poland. She studied Journalism, Anthropology and Photography in Warsaw and Copenhagen. She completed the Dok Pro Documentary Programme at Wajda School. **Communion** is her full-length debut.



# THE EAGLE HUNTRESS

Otto Bell, USA, 2016, 87'

Family-Friendly Films

5th Aug, 1.45pm 7th Aug, 11.15am

Mongolian teen, Aisholpan and her dad do lots of stuff together but in the remote Altai Mountains that doesn't mean hanging out at the mall – more likely it's herding and eagle hunting. Traditionally the art of hunting with eagles has been a male preserve but Aisholpan has had a taste of it, and begs her dad to teach her the secrets of the ancient art. Initially he's not sure, the elders disapprove and historically there's never been an eagle huntress. But daughters have a way of getting what they want and soon she's in the saddle with a Golden Eagle on her arm. It is surely a film about success of the girl child but equally it's a profoundly beautiful story of a gentle man – a lesson to fathers everywhere.

**Director:** Otto Bell  
**Producer:** Stacey Reiss, Sharon Chang, Otto Bell  
**Camera:** Simon Niblett  
**Editor:** Pierre Takal  
**Sound:** Andrew Yarme  
**Music:** Jeff Peters

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**Otto Bell** runs Courageous, a commercial studio of filmmakers and designers based in New York. He has directed over fifteen documentary films as far afield as Uganda, Japan, Egypt and Vietnam for brands such as IBM and Philips. He has also created and produced multi-award winning world affairs programming such as Horizons on BBC World News and Shunya on Times Now of India. Otto is a graduate of Oxford University and the prestigious WPP Fellowship Scheme. He lives in Manhattan, but originally hails from Northern England.



# ELIÁN

Ross McDonnell, Tim Golden, Ireland /UK/ USA, 2017, 108'

5th Aug, 2.00pm

It's Thanksgiving in Miami and Elián González, a modern day Baby Moses, is discovered floating in an inner tube just off the coast. Elián's mother and the other members of their group have perished at sea on the voyage from Cuba: now the boy is set to embark on yet another dangerous journey – navigating the strong political currents that run between Cuba and the USA. Elián's Miami relatives want him in the US but his father, long estranged from the mother, wants him back in Cuba and who better to champion this quest than the granddaddy of political judo, Fidel Castro. It's a fight to the finish as every legal angle is pursued while the streets explode and politicians make political hay.

**Directors:** Ross McDonnell, Tim Golden  
**Producers:** Trevor Birney, Brendan J. Byrne  
**Camera:** Ross McDonnell  
**Editor:** Michael J. Palmer, Hannah Vanderlan  
**Music:** McKenzie Stubbett

#### Parental Guidance Note

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Dubliner, **Ross McDonnell** has worked as a photographer, cinematographer and director and received numerous awards. Twice nominated for an Irish Film and Television Award, his film **Colony** (2010) received its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival and won the First Appearance Award for first feature film at IDFA in Amsterdam.

Investigative journalist **Tim Golden's** in-depth coverage of the Elián story in 2000 revealed the real characters behind the headlines. He has worked for numerous publications including The Marshall Project and The New York Times and shared the Pulitzer Prize for journalism for his work on drug corruption in Mexico and the Iran-Contra affair.



# THE FARTHEST

Emer Reynolds, Ireland, 2017, 121'

5th Aug, 4.30pm 7th Aug, 2.15pm

In 1977, the Voyager satellite began its journey through the solar system, its mission to document each planet and to carry a time capsule greeting from Earth to any intelligent life out there. Most young schoolkids consider 20 as old until you point out that the stardust from which they are made is fourteen billion years old – that's a lot of sleeps. But it's not only kids who marvel at space travel, the physicists and cosmologists who've made missions like Voyager possible, invariably speak of things galactic with a child-like sense of wonder. The film is a feast for the eyes and the imagination as stunning re-digitised images from the Voyager expedition take us along for a wild ride towards the stars.

**Director:** Emer Reynolds  
**Producer:** John Murray, Clare Stronge  
**Camera:** Kate McCullough  
**Editor:** Tony Cranstoun  
**Sound:** Steve Fanagan  
**Music:** Ray Harman

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**Crossing the Line**



Director **Emer Reynolds** is an Emmy nominated, multi-award winning documentary director and feature film editor, based in Dublin, Ireland. **The Farthest**, her feature documentary made its debut this year at the Dublin International Film Festival where it picked up three awards including the Audience Award and Best Irish Documentary, and has just made its International premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival to rave reviews. Emer previously directed **Here Was Cuba**, a feature documentary on the Cuban Missile Crisis, described by the Hollywood Reporter as "a real-life end-of-the-world-thriller".



# GAZA SURF CLUB

Philip Gnatd, Mickey Yamine, Germany, 2016, 87'

6th Aug, 1.45pm

Against the background of bombed-out buildings, the small group of surf devotees wax up their primitive boards and head out to do battle with the waves. In a grim reversal of surf mythology, Gaza surf riders find themselves captives of history as the Californian promise of freedom in the sun is crushed by Israel's iron grip on the territory – no material to build or repair boards makes it through the blockade. A chance encounter on the web brings together a Hawaiian surf shop owner and Ibrahim Arafat, the best surfer in Gaza. A visa is eventually prised from the authorities and Ibrahim heads for Honolulu to study surfboard design. His shock at the thong culture has a parallel back home, as girl surfers struggle with the modesty bigotry to find their own place in the sun.

#### Parental Guidance Note

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**Director:** Philip Gnatd, Mickey Yamine  
**Producer:** Mickey Yamine, Benny Theisen, Stephanie Yamine, Andreas Schaap  
**Camera:** Niclas Reed Middleton  
**Editor:** Marlene Assmann, Helmar Jungmann  
**Sound:** Mohammed Alsousi  
**Music:** Sary Hany

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**Philip Gnatd** worked for five years as a camera assistant in TV and cinema productions, before studying at the Media University in Stuttgart. In 2003 he received the sponsorship prize of the Baden-Wuerttemberg Film Industry for the documentary, **Paula**.

**Mickey Yamine** grew up in Cairo, moving to Germany at 18. After various jobs in film and TV, he studied film production in Babelsberg. His graduation-film **Tropic of Bear** (2010), won an honorable mention at Festival del Film in Locarno and was aired on German TV. He has produced numerous films and TV commercials in Cairo and Berlin.



# THE GROWN-UPS

Maite Alberdi, Chile, The Netherlands, France, 2016, 82'

6th Aug, 2.15pm 7th Aug, 4.45pm

Anita works in a bakery, in a school that provides sheltered employment for people with Down syndrome. But life is less than sweet for Anita and her boyfriend Andres: desperate to get married they don't see why they can't. Although the bakery is a safe space, the couple are bored with the routine and want to move on ... together. Drawing out each member of the bakery staff as a complex character, director Alberdi skillfully provides an ordinary backdrop to this tender love story, a story that comes complete with lust and tragedy – just like any other love story. *The Grown-Ups* subtly questions society's view of the differently-abled as childlike and asexual, as non-contributors with diminished rights.

**Director:** Maite Alberdi  
**Producer:** Maite Alberdi, Denis Vaslin, Fleur Knopperts, Sebastián Brahm  
**Camera :** Pablo Valdés  
**Editor:** Juan Eduardo Murillo, Menno Boerema  
**Music:** Miguel Miranda, José Miguel Tobar

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for children 12 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



**Maite Alberdi** has developed a highly particular directing style that achieves an intimate portrayal of the characters she works with, through everyday stories in small-scale worlds. In 2011 she premiered her first and noted feature film **The Lifeguard** at IDFA. Through her production company, Micromundo, she directed her film, **Tea Time**, which has received several awards including Best Female-Directed EDA Award-IDFA and Best Documentary Award at Miami International Film Festival. She was nominee for the Goya Awards as Best Ibero-American Film. Her short film **I'm Not From Here**, was nominated for the European Film Awards 2016.



# THE ISLANDS AND THE WHALES

Mike Day, UK, Scotland, Denmark 2016, 82'

5th Aug, 2.00pm

The remote Faroe Islands with their stark natural beauty and trenchant weather have few visitors; it's an insular society, stoic and tough. Because no crops grow the Faroese survive on fish, seabird and whale for protein. Unfortunately it turns out that eating whale meat gives one an unhealthy dose of mercury – bad luck for the islanders who really, really, like whale and have done for centuries. But wait, who are these new arrivals, riding jet-skis and hoping to interrupt the latest whale butchery – a group of whale fanciers with green credentials. "Can't you just be vegetarian?" they implore the whale killers. The islanders' spiritual minders, the legendary Huldufolk, are not keen on the new developments and grumble from the hills.

**Director:** Mike Day  
**Producer:** Mike Day  
**Camera:** Mike Day  
**Editor:** Mary Lampson, Nicole Hálová, Mike Day, Claire Ferguson, David Charap  
**Sound:** Chris Barnett  
**Music:** Antony Partos, Mike Sheridan

#### Parental Guidance Note

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**Mike Day** is a cinematographer, director and producer from Scotland. Originally trained as a lawyer, Mike made the transition into film in 2009 when he headed off into the Scottish Outer Hebrides on a boat with a camera and met the Guga Hunters of Ness. The resulting documentary was commissioned by the BBC and screened internationally. **The Islands and the Whales**, which was released in 2016, has gone on to win awards and a BAFTA Scotland nomination and is due for UK release in 2017.



Family-Friendly Films

# LANDFILL HARMONIC

Brad Allgood, Graham Townsley, USA, 2015, 83'

6th Aug, 11.15am



“Where there’s muck, there’s money”, is an old rag ‘n bone saying, but in the case of the Recycled Orchestra of Cateura, it’s: “Where there’s muck there’s music” as kids from this Paraguayan slum beat the odds to play classical music on recycled tin can instruments. Environmental activist and musician Favio Chavez wanted to teach recycling skills to the landfill pickers but soon realised that the most plentiful material available was talent. Working with local carpenter Nicolas Gomez, Chavez created all the instruments for their orchestra from oil cans and other discarded junk. Violins, cellos and trumpets magically emerge from the city’s detritus and through hard work, discipline and a sprinkling of good fortune this strange delightful orchestra ends up playing world venues, sharing the stage with rock bands like Megadeth and Metallica.

**Director:** Brad Allgood, Graham Townsley

**Producer:** Juliana Penaranda-Loftus

**Camera:** Neil Barrett, Timothy Fabrizio, Brad Allgood

**Editor:** Brad Allgood

**Sound:** Josue J. Farina, Paul Rusnack, Eduardo Gonzalez

**Music:** Michael A. Levine

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**Brad Allgood** is a Los Angeles-based filmmaker specialising in emotionally charged adventure, social issue, music and Spanish-language films that inspire audience engagement. He has directed, photographed and edited long-form and short-form documentaries including **My Village, My Lobster**, the CINE-winning documentary about indigenous lobster divers in Nicaragua; **120 Days and Undocumented in America**.

**Graham Townsley** is an Emmy-nominated filmmaker whose documentaries have been shown on PBS, The Discovery Channel, The History Channel and The National Geographic in the U.S.; Canal + in France; Channel 4 and the BBC. He founded Shining Red Productions in 2008. He is also an anthropologist with a Ph.D from Cambridge University.



# LIFE, ANIMATED

Roger Ross Williams, USA, 2016, 91'

6th Aug, 7.45pm 7th Aug, 2.15pm

Owen Suskind's mind map is about Disney, and that hasn't changed much for twenty years. Autism arrived when Owen was about three, and stayed; through the growing spurt that would have had him tying his laces, gaining language proficiency and other social skills. What no-one realised was that Owen was developing, but through the proxy life of Disney characters he'd encountered on-screen; so if you weren't a genie, or a mouse, or a bear, you couldn't reach him. By absolute chance his father discovered that through using dialogue from the animated movies, Owen was able to express a personal idea or emotion. But could Disney characters advance him in the real world? Indeed: studying, having a girlfriend, coping with traffic were all skills he later learnt via those charming animated stories we all grew up with. It's a magical story about magical stories.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for children 10 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



The first film that **Roger Ross Williams** directed and produced was **Music by Prudence**, which won the 2010 Academy Award for documentary short subject, the first African American director to win an Academy Award. **Life, Animated** is his second feature documentary, which premiered at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival. Williams serves on the Alumni Advisory Board of the Sundance Institute. He frequently mentors filmmakers from the developing world and under-represented communities on how to channel personal adversity into their art.

**Director:** Roger Ross Williams  
**Producer:** Roger Ross Williams, Julie Goldman  
**Camera:** Tom Bergmann  
**Editor:** David Teague  
**Sound:** John Osborne  
**Music:** T. Griffin

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# LONG STRANGE TRIP

Amir Bar-Lev, USA, 2017, 241'

7th Aug, 7.00pm

Imagine a wall of 500 loudspeakers, ten metres tall. Imagine a band so charismatic that devoted fans would follow the band all year, for twenty years; imagine Woodstock in 1969 – imagine the Grateful Dead. Drawn into the counter-culture by the influence of the beat poets, the band quickly gained a following of hippies as the establishment called them – the wave of young people trying to find traction in a country in transition, a country mired in the Vietnam War. Defying categorization, denying all forms of leadership and demanding the freedom to experiment, the Grateful Dead changed the landscape of popular music forever. Thoroughly engrossing, at times funny, moving and trippy, **Long Strange Trip** and its population of weird and wonderful characters, led by the musical genius that was Jerry Garcia, is set to satisfy the most ardent of Dead Heads and win the hearts of a legion of new fans.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.



**Amir Bar-Lev** is the acclaimed documentary director of **Happy Valley: The Concert for Sandy Relief**; **Re:Generation**; **The Tillman Story**; and **My Kid Could Paint That**; which have collectively garnered him some of the film industry's highest honours and widespread critical praise. He also served as co-producer on the Academy Award Nominated Documentary, **Trouble the Water**.

**Director:** Amir Bar-Lev  
**Producer:** Eric Eisner, Nick Koskoff, Alex Blavatnik, Ken Dornstein, Justin Kreutzmann  
**Camera:** Nelson Hume  
**Editor:** Keith Fraase, John Walter  
**Music Supervisors:** David Lemieux, Joe Rudge, Kyle McKeveny

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# MAMA COLONEL

Dieudo Hamadi, Democratic Republic of the Congo/France, 2017, 72'

7th Aug, 5.00pm

'Mama Colonel' is an officer in a unit set up to counter sexual violence in the Congo. With apparently modest resources, Munyole Honorine captures the heart of the community by simple practical interventions aimed at restoring victims' hope and dignity. In this war-torn region, peace has been drip fed to the population. The rollercoaster of violence has included ethnic cleansing by execution, mutilation or rape, the last being the most underreported of all. Those crafting peace deals in European capitals can frame elegant solutions in politico-speak but for a rape survivor from Kisangani who has no resources, such rhetoric means nothing. Enter 'Mama Colonel', who works like a Trojan, can't abide slackers, and tells them so. She confronts issues like witchcraft head-on in a way that empowers the community, something no politician would dare to do.

**Director:** Dieudo Hamadi  
**Producer:** Christian Lelong, Kiripi Katembo Siku  
**Camera:** Dieudo Hamadi  
**Editor:** Anne Renardet  
**Sound:** François Tariq Sardi

#### Parental Guidance Note

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**Dieudo Hamadi** was born in Kisangani (Democratic Republic of the Congo) in 1984 and studied Medicine in 2005-2008. In 2013, his first feature documentary **Atalaku** won the Joris Ivens award for Best First Film at Cinema du Réel (France), Best Foreign Film at the San Diego Black Film Festival (USA), the Jury Prize at FIDADOC (Morocco) and 3 other awards. In 2014, his film **National Diploma** received both the International Prize of the SCAM and the Potemkin award at Cinéma du Réel and was selected for nearly 60 festivals worldwide.



# MY MOTHER IS PINK

Cecilie Debell, Denmark/Germany, 2017, 75'

5th Aug, 5.45pm

Road trips are always about discovering: not so much the new sights and sounds but rather one's internal landscape. When Malou Gabriella and son Michael set off in Malou's bright pink campervan it's to heal their relationship. And colour is the order of the day as cross-dressing Michael has coloured his body bright blue for the trip. "This is not easy... I need a shield" he says of the bonding voyage they have embarked upon. Clubbing their way across country the two exchange memories and Malou explains why she could not have been there for the young Michael. Director **Cecilie Debell** has taken a wrecking ball to the conventions governing mother-son relationships, with a film that is both exquisitely tender and outrageously free.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

**Director:** Cecilie Debell

**Producer:** Heidi Kim Andersen, Wenche Hugaas Jensen

**Camera:** Sebastian Danneborn, Troels Rasmus Jensen

**Editor:** Jella Bethmann

**Sound:** Flemming Christensen

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**Cecilie Debell** graduated from Roskilde University in 2015 with a degree in Journalism, and has since worked as a TV programme planner and post producer. She has made entertainment programmes for TV2, a documentary series for Ultra and a series of programmes about men for DRK. Previous small-scale projects include a Danida production in India and a short film in New York, but **My Mother is Pink** marks her film debut.



# NORMAL AUTISTIC FILM

Miroslav Janek, Czech Republic, 2016, 88'

6th Aug, 4.45pm

For these high-functioning kids, being somewhere on the autistic spectrum comes with the added burden of talent. The talent is a double-edged sword because talent separates them further from their contemporaries, but without it the weight of difference might be unbearable. The children play classical music, write poetry, draw and conceptualise at a level far beyond their years: their struggle is to escape from a system that would draw them back to Earth; to the practical, to terminal boredom. "Can't you send me back to my time?" asks one of the protagonists. Director Miroslav Janek has made a film that bridges our world and theirs, offering an insight into the beauty within.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for children 12 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets

**Director:** Miroslav Janek

**Producer:** Jan Macola

**Camera:** Miroslav Janek

**Editor:** Tonička Janková

**Sound Recording:** Daniel Němec

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**Miroslav Janek** emigrated to the United States in 1980 where he worked with a number of documentarists, including Godfrey Reggio. He has worked back in his homeland since the mid-1990s. He enjoyed great success with his film about sight-impaired photographers, **The Unseen** (1996 – Best Documentary Film ex aequo at KVIFF). His extensive filmography of documentaries presented at KVIFF includes **Battle for Life** (2000), **Crimson Sails** (2001), **Kha-chee-pae** (2005), **Citizen Havel** (2008), and **The Confessions of Kateryna K.** (2008).



# QUEST

Jonathan Olshefski, USA, 2017, 104'

6th Aug, 8.00pm

A North Philadelphia family finds being a force for good in a community is no insurance against 'inner city troubles'. It's cold irony that as the music producer father provides a platform for rap artists to claw their way out of poverty, the family become victims of random violence from the street. Chris Rainey, aka "Quest" runs a recording studio for young rappers in need of a platform while his wife Christine'a, aka "Ma Quest" works at a local shelter for abused women. For the Raineys, the neighbourhood they call home is a mix of ordinary and life-shattering; affirming solidarity and frightening violence. Ultimately, in spite of the fact that material success has eluded them, the family emerges progressive and proud.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for children 12 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

**Director:** Jonathan Olshefski  
**Producer:** Sabrina Schmidt Gordon  
**Camera:** Jonathan Olshefski  
**Editor:** Lindsay Utz  
**Sound:** Jonathan Olshefski  
**Music:** Christopher Rainey, T. Griffin

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**Jonathan Olshefski** is a documentary filmmaker and artist. He strives to tell intimate and nuanced stories that honour his subjects' complexity by employing a production process that emphasises collaboration, dialogue, and relationship to amplify their voices and reflect their points of view in an artful way. He has an MFA in Film and Media Arts from Temple University and is currently an Associate Professor at Rowan University where he teaches in the department of Radio, TV, and Film.



## Family-Friendly Films



# SCHOOL LIFE (IN LOCO PARENTIS)

Neasa Ní Chianáin, David Rane, Ireland/Spain, 2016, 100'

5th Aug, 8.00pm 6th Aug, 11.15am

The award-winning film that charmed audiences in America and Europe returns home for screenings at the very location at which it was shot – Headfort School plays host to a local film made good. The story of teachers, John and Amanda Leyden, on the brink of retirement, reflecting on a collective 90 years of chalk, is pure magic. It appears that for John, the differences between Latin, Mathematics and Rock 'n' Roll are nominal, while Amanda steam-rolls reading with a zealot's passion. The film reflects a unique kind of fondness that existed between tutor and ward in years gone by – a genuine love of all that makes childhood so precious. A triumph for County Meath, the film carries a warm empowering message for parents and kids alike: 'school days can be cool days'.

**Director:** Neasa Ní Chianáin, David Rane

**Producer:** David Rane

**Camera:** Neasa Ní Chianáin, Eleanor Bowman, Tristan Clamorgan

**Editor:** Mirjam Strugalla

**Sound:** David Rane, Reto Stamm, Keith Grainger

**Music:** Eryck Abecassis

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**Neasa Ní Chianáin** started directing documentaries in 2001. She has directed four features, including **Frank Ned & Busy Lizzie** (2004) and **Fairytale of Kathmandu** (2007). Her film, **The Stranger**, premiered in Locarno Film Festival in 2014. **School Life** screened at IDFA (World premiere) and Sundance (North American premiere), and goes on cinema release with Magnolia Pictures this September.

**David Rane** has directed documentaries since 1997, including **Chiapas** (1998) and **No Man's Land** (2001) and has produced documentaries, short fiction films and animation, including the BAFTA-winning **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight** (2002). He has produced all Neasa's films to date. **School Life** is their first co-directed feature.



# SINGING WITH ANGRY BIRD

Hyewon Jee, South Korea 2016, 88'

## Family-Friendly Films

5th Aug, 11.30am

Opera singer Jae-Chang Kim started The Banana Children's Choir for kids from a slum area in Pune, India and through his dedication and the kids' hard work the choir became a hit and travelled to Korea to perform. Not satisfied with that, the choirmaster, soon nicknamed Angry Bird by his wards, saw a greater task ahead – to involve the parents, ostensibly leading to a concert. But Jae-Chang Kim's vision was as much about helping to integrate the community as it was about making music. He's a charming character: stern and grumpy, and then suddenly impish as he exhorts his angels to hit that note. Director, Hyewon Jee has woven into the gentle narrative a sharp social study of the community as it struggles through poverty and other shanty town ills to finally find its voice.

**Director:** Hyewon Jee  
**Producer:** Sunah Kim  
**Camera:** Sung-Duk Won, Wooyong Song  
**Editor:** Hyewon Jee, Wonjung Bae

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**Hyewon Jee** is an International Emmy nominated director who has been working in Korean TV industry for over 20 years. She started her career at a prominent documentary production company in 1995 and later briefly worked as a commissioning editor for a nationwide broadcasting network. In 2008, she left to focus on making stories that are dear to her heart, and established a production company, Upright Media with her producing partner/husband Wooyong Song. She has produced and directed many TV documentaries about culture, history, and human interest stories and won numerous awards. **Singing with Angry Bird** is her first feature-length documentary.



# THE WAR SHOW

Andreas Dalsgaard, Obaidah Zytoon, Denmark, 2016, 100'

6th Aug, 5.00pm

Without the war, Obaidah Zytoon's **The War Show** would just be a show, a story about her friends, her family, her neighbours, her country (Syria) with its stark beauty; it would be a story about young people finding love, pursuing careers, it would be filled with the sights and sounds of an ancient culture becoming modern – television is full of such heart-warming tales. However, this film is certainly about war, about how a group of young people chose to stand up against Assad's brutal regime. But even in the trenches love happens, even in blood-stained streets art can be found and in spite of harassment, detention and torture, for Zytoon and her cast, the show must go on.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

**Director:** Andreas Dalsgaard, Obaidah Zytoon  
**Producer:** Miriam Nørgaard, Alaa Hassan  
**Camera:** Obaidah Zytoon, Dana Bakdounes, Amr Kheito, Hisham Issa, Wassim Anonymous, Lars Skree  
**Editor:** Adam Nielsen  
**Sound:** Olli Huhtanen  
**Music:** Colin Stetson

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**Andreas Dalsgaard** was educated in anthropology and later film directing at The Danish National Film School. His award-winning documentary films have been shown at +200 festivals worldwide and include **Afghan Muscles** (2007) **Bogota Change** (2009), **The Human Scale** (2012) **Life Is Sacred** (2015) and numerous shorts. He is also co-founder of the production company Elk Film.

**Obaidah Zytoon** was born in Zabadani, Syria in 1976. She studied English literature at the University of Damascus before becoming a radio host and producer, working both in Syria and internationally. In 2008, she produced her first documentary film, **Through Women's Eyes**. Following the 2011 Syrian uprising, Obaidah co-founded the Syrian artist-activist collective Waw Al-Wasel, which produces multi-media art and short films related to the Syrian conflict.



# WHEN GOD SLEEPS

Till Schauder, USA/Germany, 2017, 88'

5th Aug, 8.15pm

According to Iranian religious leaders, rapper Shahin Najafi is not a religious man. In fact they sentenced him to 100 lashes and three years in jail for his bad attitude. Fortunately, he was in Turkey at the time but even there things began to heat up for the musician and he was forced to flee to Germany. Always interested in gender issues, Shahin releases a music video featuring phallic images intercut with religious symbols – it's an instant hit but sees the religious leaders up the price on his head to \$500,000. So Shahin immediately decides to go on tour! His band fractures but a gig goes ahead amid tight security. It's this kind of audacity that will bring us a better world.

**Director:** Till Schauder  
**Producer:** Sara Nodjoumi, Till Schauder  
**Camera:** Till Schauder, Gerardo Milsztein  
**Editor:** Tina Grapenthin  
**Sound:** Michael Geck, Rene Niklas, Mattis Hanspach, Alexander Yaker, Jule Buerjes, Frank Bubenzer  
**Music:** Max Avery, Lichtenstein, Shahin Najafi, Majid Kazemi

## Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

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**Till Schauder**, born 1971 in Seattle/USA got his start interning for Roger Corman in Los Angeles before he directed award winning student films at the University of Television and Film, Munich. After earning his MA, he relocated to the US to study acting at New York University. In 2012, Schauder completed his first documentary, the critically acclaimed **The Iran Job**, which was released worldwide, mentioned as an Oscar contender and shortlisted for a German Academy Award. In 2014 he was awarded the prestigious Gerd-Ruge-Stipendium by Medienstiftung NRW to develop **When God Sleeps**, which world premiered in April at the Tribeca Film Festival.



# WHERE YOU'RE MEANT TO BE

Paul Fegan, Scotland, 2016, 75'

5th Aug, 5.30pm 7th Aug, 5.00pm

Aidan Moffat, city slicker and pop provocateur, has taken a crowbar to some of Scotland's best loved folk songs, with mixed results. His mission to give the country's centuries old oral tradition a makeover runs aground when the doyen of Scottish folk music, Sheila Stewart, tells him exactly what she thinks of his efforts. "I was disgusted", she says. Not to be deterred, Aidan embarks on a countrywide tour to win hearts and minds for his new versions of the standards, replacing the traditional lyrics with bawdy blue verses. It raises more than a few grey eyebrows in the mixed audiences and he's lucky to make it out of town without being lynched. In the end, his fondness for the now late Sheila Stewart is revealed in a wry speech from the stage in which he questions tradition and his right to mess with it.

#### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

**Director:** Paul Fegan  
**Producer:** Paul Fegan  
**Camera:** Julian Schwanitz  
**Editor:** David Arthur  
**Music:** Aidan Moffat, Steve Jones, Jenny Reeves, Michael John McCarthy, James Graham

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**Paul Fegan's** debut short documentary, **Pouters** [2012], won countless awards including Best Documentary (Jury Award) at London Short Film Festival, Best Film (Audience Award) at Hamburg International Short Film Festival and Best Scottish Short Film (Jury Award) at the Glasgow Short Film Festival. He also directed music videos, including Belle & Sebastian's *Come on Sister* and Moffat and Wells' *The Copper Top*. Fegan also has an extensive background in music promotion and has been producing music events for over 20 years, including Triptych Music Festival. He is the director of production company Better Days.



# WHITNEY 'CAN I BE ME'

Nick Broomfield, Rudi Dolezal, UK, USA, 2017, 100'

4th Aug, 8.00pm 5th Aug, 8.30pm

Directors Broomfield and Dolezal have taken a fair bit of heat over a film that tracks Whitney Houston and her entourage, as she makes her way from humble beginnings in Newark to become Los Angeles' Grammy magnet. But this furore is a distraction; the filmmakers have captured an essence that is so much more than tabloid fodder and more than a Cinderella story of rags to riches, obscurity to fame. The film reflects on America's progress in race politics, the concept of the star machine, fortune and God, and of course talent. The outer layers of the machine are brilliantly stripped away to reveal the voice of the decade. Houston reaches out with an offer that no fan could resist – 'I will always love you'.

**Director:** Nick Broomfield, Rudi Dolezal  
**Producer:** Nick Broomfield, Marc Hoeflerlin  
**Camera:** Sam Mitchell  
**Editor:** Marc Hoeflerlin

### Parental Guidance Note

These films have been recommended by the Guth Gafa Programming Team as suitable for ages 16 and over. However, parental discretion is advised and we ask parents to consider the film synopsis and watch the film trailer before purchasing tickets.

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**Nick Broomfield** studied Law at Cardiff, and Political Science at Essex University before going on to study Film at the National Film School, under Professor Colin Young. He made his first film **Who Cares** about Slum Clearance in Liverpool, while at University, by borrowing a wind up Bolex camera, and shooting it on short ends. Known for his extensive body of work which includes **Biggie and Tupac**, **Aileen: Life and Death of a Serial Killer**, and **Kurt & Courtney**.  
**Rudi Dolezal** was born on February 5, 1958 in Vienna, Austria. He is a director and producer, known for **Power Vision - Pop Galerie** (1995), **Austropop-Legenden** (2012) **Freddie Mercury, the Untold Story** (2000), and most recently, **Whitney 'Can I Be Me'**



# NO TIME TO WASTE

A focus on food films, what we eat and what we don't

6th Aug, 4.30pm

We believe in the power of film to raise awareness about important issues. Every year, Guth Gafa features at least one film which focuses on food and the environment, addressing pertinent issues of climate change, food production, consumption and waste. This year in partnership with Boyne Valley Food Series and Sheridans Cheesemongers, Guth Gafa will present a keynote food film, which will promote discussion on food production, sustainability and waste, led by local food producers, environmentalists and people leading the way in creating solutions for the problems we face.

The films will be announced shortly on the Guth Gafa website and social media.

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# SHORT LENS



7th Aug, 12.00pm

This year, for the first time, Guth Gafa introduced a short form Irish documentary competition to create a new platform for emerging filmmakers, who were invited to submit new work exploring themes in the area of human rights, social and environmental issues.

Four films have been shortlisted. An international jury of three industry experts and/or filmmakers will choose the winning film which will be announced following the screening of the shortlisted films on Monday in the Hangar Cinema.

## Competition Prize

The winner will receive mentorship on their next film project - from development to production, over the next 12 months, by filmmakers connected to the Guth Gafa festival.

## ANIMA

Colm Mullen, 2017, 24'

Through personal accounts and interviews with scholars and health care professionals, artist Marie Brett explores questions relating to our

understanding of death and dying in contemporary Ireland. The conversations span medical, philosophical, folkloric and legal perspectives, offering an insight into the intimate and privileged moments of the artist/participant encounter.



## FEATS OF MODEST VALOUR

Mia Mullarkey, 2016, 26'

**Feats of Modest Valour** is a short documentary that intimately observes three

people with Parkinson's disease, all longing for a remedy. Woven together with animation and personal accounts, the film offers a holistic insight into both the science and the emotional aspect of the disease.



## HUM

Nathan Fagan, 2017, 19'

Diagnosed at 19 years old with schizoaffective disorder - which has been described as the 'unhappy marriage of bipolar

and schizophrenia' - Kevin Nolan began writing music to regain some of the freedom he'd lost due to his illness. **Hum** is an intimate and music-fueled tour of Kevin's world.



## THROWLINE

Mia Mullarkey, 2017, 14'

A group of taxi drivers in Kilkenny, Ireland, join together to form a suicide prevention group. Uniquely positioned to

patrol the night, the drivers keep vigil over the city's streets and bridges and offer help to those who feel desperate.



# The Next Generation Student SHORT DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION



6th Aug, 11.00am

This is the fifth time that Guth Gafa will host this unique competition. Students from across Ireland were invited to submit short documentaries on the areas of human rights, social and environmental issues. This competition demonstrates Guth Gafa's commitment to offering a viewing platform for students' creative endeavours. An international jury of three industry experts and/or filmmakers will choose the winning film, which will be announced following the screening of the shortlisted films on Sunday in the Adam Room.

## Competition Prize

The winner will receive two weeks shooting equipment from Soilsíú Films, one day of post-production from Screen Scene and one day of sound post-production at Ardmore Sound.



During WW2, German pilots experiencing difficulties would try and make it to Ireland to avoid POW camps in England. This film is about what happened when a German

bomber plane with a crew of eight on board crash landed in the rural town of Nenagh.

### AN LÁ A THIT AN CONDOR

Director: Allister Higgins 2017, 13'



The film casts Alzheimer's in a gentle light and conveys the daily challenges of a family whose family member suffers from this disease. It shows how a person's memories are not

lost even though their mind may be lost in the moment.

### IS CUIMHIN LIOM – GERALD LENIHAN

Director: Sarah McCoy 2017, 16'



Journey; the act of travel is painless, transient, until paired with distress. Every day at least 12 women travel from Ireland to the UK to access safe, medical abortion. Having to seek impartiality outside of their own

country comes at a cost, to body and mind. The journey becomes an event, a lie and an added hardship.

### JOURNEY

Director: Karen Byrne 2017, 10'



On March 1st 2017 Traveller Ethnicity was formally recognised in Ireland. **Raw Deal** is an exploration of the

identity of our ethnic Travelling community today.

### RAW DEAL

Director: Aoife Harte 2017, 12'



An old key is turned in an old lock and a door to the past is opened. Sitting idle for decades, a long forgotten print works is rediscovered. Its contents are a

time capsule back to the bustle of a town in years gone by.

## RE:PRINT

Director: Patrick O'Malley 2017, 10'



**Shedders** follows the lives of a group of men who spend their Thursday evenings in a shed. It explores their role in society as men, breaking the stigma

around mental health and tells how spending one hour a week together changed their lives for the better.

## SHEDDERS

Producer: Emma O'Brien 2017, 9'



Every tattoo tells a story: of love, of loss, of battles won – three people explain their ink in **Skin Deep**.

## SKIN DEEP

Director: Laura Byrne 2017, 10'



Exploring body hair removal, social pressure and the complexities of feminism, **The Sugarist** is a documentary film featuring Lindsay Leggett, owner of a sugar waxing salon

in Dublin. The film addresses the relationship between body hair removal and feminist ideals, contemporary beauty standards and representations of women in the media.

## THE SUGARIST

Director: Cayla Williams 2017, 6'



Set in Galway, the bay is the backdrop to a dialogue about climate change: can locals rise to the challenge global

warming presents to coastal communities.

## THINKING GLOBALLY - ACTING LOCALLY

Director: Jack Lunt 2017, 3'

# KIDS & FAMILIES



The Guth Gafa family-friendly programme gets underway on Saturday in our festival village at Headfort House, Kells and runs throughout the festival with a choice of films daily for all and a selection of children's workshops.



## THE EAGLE HUNTRESS

Aisholpan, is a 13-year-old Mongolian girl who takes up the traditionally male role of eagle hunting to become the first female eagle huntress in her family in 12 generations. See page 12 for screening times

Otto Bell, USA, 2016, 87'



## SCHOOL LIFE

Under their teachers' watchful eyes, children at Headfort School climb trees, build forts and play rock music in this fun Hogwarts-like boarding school for primary age learners. See page 25 for screening times

Neasa Ní Chianáin, David Rane, Ireland/Spain, 2016, 100'



## SINGING WITH ANGRY BIRD

A Korean opera singer who starts a children's choir in a slum in India faces a much tougher job when he tries to teach the parents as well. See page 26 for screening times

Hyewon Jee, South Korea 2016, 88'



## LANDFILL HARMONIC

A children's orchestra, using instruments made out of recycled trash from a landfill in Paraguay, takes the world by storm, and even shares a stage with rock band Megadeth. See page 18 for screening times

Brad Allgood, Graham Townsley, USA, 2015, 83'

# CHILDREN'S ANIMATION

A selection of short animated films suitable for younger children will be screened over the weekend.



5th Aug, 12.00pm



7th Aug, 11.30am

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## MEET THE ANIMATOR

Award winning animator, Corrina Askin, the creator of such pre-school animated series as **Castle Farm** and **Joe and Jack**, will be at Guth Gafa on Monday to introduce and present some of her favourite work and share some of her secrets. Corrina's work has appeared on CBeebies, Milkshake, Channel Five, Disney Latin America, Canal + and ABC Australia. She writes, designs and co-produces on all her work. Children's Animation/Meet the Animator takes place in the Adam Room at 11.30 am on Monday.



## KIDS' ZONE WORKSHOPS AT GUTH Gafa

As well as our children's film programme, we are offering a choice of three workshops each afternoon of the festival for children aged 5-12, giving parents a chance to catch a film. These fun workshops in Printing & Art, Art & Music, Music & Printing will be led by experienced professional instructors and will take place 2pm -5pm on Saturday, Sunday and Monday at Headfort Montessori on site. Children must be checked in at 1.45pm. Price €10 (includes a snack and drink). Tickets are available via the Guth Gafa website ([www.guthgafa.com](http://www.guthgafa.com)), box-office and also at the door.

# PANEL DISCUSSIONS

## THE FARTHEST Behind the Scenes with the Creative Team

**SATURDAY 5th. AUGUST - following screening of The Farthest**

Finding producers who shared her love of Voyager and space was key to the success of **The Farthest**, filmmaker Emer Reynolds' ambitious project, chronicling the four-decade work of nuclear-powered probes Voyager 1 and Voyager 2, which have travelled over 22 million combined miles since leaving earth to study the outer solar system. But how does a filmmaker even begin to construct a film from hours of video interviews, archive material, original footage and Voyager photos?

Meet some of the key people behind this hugely ambitious and multi-award winning film, following its screening in the Adam Room on Saturday 5th at 4.30pm.

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## Autism Film Focus

**SUNDAY 6th AUGUST - following screening of Life, Animated**

As part of a special focus on Autism, Guth Gafa is screening three films; **Life, Animated** (US), **Normal Autistic Film** (Czech Republic) and **Communion** (Poland) which cast a gentle light on the wide and varied world of autism, through the real life experiences of young people with autism, and those around them.

We are delighted to welcome from Boston, USA, Cornelia Suskind, mother of Owen, the Disney-obsessed star of **Life, Animated**. Cornelia will join us to talk about the unique experience of her family and how, based on their experience, an app called Sidekicks has been developed, which has the potential to help countless children and young adults to better connect with the world. Cornelia will speak following the screening of **Life, Animated** in the Hangar Cinema on Sunday 6th at 7.45pm.

# WORKSHOP

"Sour Grapes", Dir. Jerry Rothwell, distributed by Blue Ice Docs

## HOW TO GET YOUR IRISH DOC INTO AN INTERNATIONAL MARKET

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Finding an audience abroad and achieving international distribution is a challenge facing every filmmaker. This workshop is aimed at first time filmmakers, up and coming filmmakers, as well as established filmmakers in the field of documentary.

The workshop, which will take place in the Headfort Theatre on Sunday 6th at 2.30pm, will be led by Robin Smith, Toronto-based head of independent film distribution company Blue Ice Docs and president of KinoSmith. Participants will hear from Robin on how to get their documentary into the international marketplace - illustrated by the experience of top filmmakers who have already taken their films to an international audience.

The workshop is a must for filmmakers either approaching their first experience of distribution, or those currently in distribution of their film in an international market. It is also for film professionals who see the need to establish sustainability of the documentary film industry in Ireland, through an understanding of the ever-changing landscape of global distribution.



### Robin Smith

Heralded as one of the world's leading documentary industry experts, Robin Smith has worked in management roles at a variety of film companies including the National Film Board of Canada, Alliance, Blackwatch Releasing, TIFF, Lions Gate Films, Seville Pictures and Capri Releasing.

He is CEO of Blue Ice Docs, which he co-founded in 2014 and which acquires, funds and develops a wide variety of non-fiction product from around the world. Blue Ice Docs describes itself as home of the best documentaries from around the globe.

He also founded and is also president of KinoSmith, Canada's leading boutique distribution company.



Portrait of a Gallery



Pull Like a Dog



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## Coffee with the filmmakers

On Saturday morning, Guth Gafa festival directors, David Rane & Neasa Ní Chianáin, will introduce the 2017 programme in the Green Room in Headfort House.

This will kick-start our new Filmmakers' Coffee Morning at 11am over the following two mornings, creating a space where filmmakers and members of the public can converge for conversations on topics stimulated by the films on show.

Guth Gafa prides itself in bringing as many filmmakers 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 an industry-free environment.

Among the filmmakers we are delighted to welcome to Guth Gafa this year are Jonathan Olshefski (**Quest**), Paul Fegan (**Where You're Meant to Be**), Cecilie Debell (**My Mother is Pink**), Mickey Yamine (**Gaza Surf Club**), Neasa Ní Chianáin & David Rane (**School Life**), Dieudo Hamadi (**Mama Colonel**), Chris Kelly (**A Cambodian Spring**), Brendan Byrne & Trevor Birney (**Elián**), Till Schauder & Sara Nodjoumi (**When God Sleeps**), Abdalaziz Alhamza (**City of Ghosts**), Emer Reynolds & production team (**The Farthest**).

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Guth Gafa 2015 - Festival Director David Rane & Festival Producer Sarah McCann with five of the many visiting directors.





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The Arts Council's new, upgraded **CULTUREFOX** events guide is now live. Free, faster, easy to use – and personalised for you. Never miss out again.



# GUTH GAFA HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

This is the second year of the Guth Gafa Human Rights Award, an award given by our festival to an individual or organisation, connected to a film we are screening, in recognition of their contribution to international human rights. We are delighted to bestow the 2017 award on the Syrian organisation, Raqqa is Being Slaughtered Silently (RBSS), a group of activists who use citizen journalism to expose the terror tactics of ISIS in Syria.

And we are honoured to welcome co-founder and spokesperson for RBSS, Abdalaziz Alhamza to Guth Gafa to accept the award on behalf of RBSS. The specially commissioned human rights award has been designed and created by local sculptor, Ann Meldon Hugh. The award presentation will take place following the screening of **City of Ghosts** in the Adam Room on Monday 7th at 2pm.

## Abdalaziz Alhamza

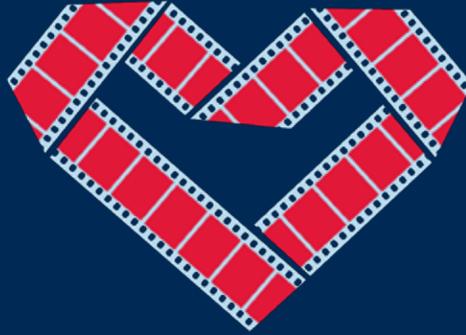
While a biochemistry student at Raqqa University, Aziz organised nonviolent protests and demonstrations against the Syrian regime. Once ISIS took over Raqqa in 2014, he fled Syria and helped found RBSS from abroad. His younger brother was drowned while trying to escape from Syria. The group uses social media and smuggled photos and videos to show life under ISIS, and has served as a major source for news organizations around the world. "I was a normal guy. I hung out with friends at cafés and bars. None of us were political. In Syria, before the revolution, it was a crime to be political in any way."



At the inaugural **Guth Gafa** Human Rights Award last year, Guth Gafa festival director, David Rane with recipient, international peace broker, Padraig O'Malley, sculptor, Ann Meldon Hugh and Amnesty International Ireland director, Colm O'Gorman.

# A D I F F

AUDI DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL



22<sup>ND</sup> FEB–4<sup>TH</sup> MAR 2018

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# KELLS.2017 Type Trail KELLS A CANVAS OF TYPE

## TYPE TRAIL

We are delighted that our friends at Kells TypeTrail have teamed up with Guth Gafa this year to create an additional visual trail along the Headfort Road between Kells and Headfort House, the home of Guth Gafa. Founded eight years ago, Mark Smith & his creative collective use the medium of lettering, to transform Kells into a canvas of type during the summer.

Each year one word is translated into a variety of languages. This year's theme is "WORDS" reflecting the diversity of the Kells community. Through a series of collaborations and workshops these words are interpreted by the TypeTrail team to bring an imaginative typographic message to Kells' streets.

This takes the form of up to 30 indoor and outdoor art installations which form a walking trail around the town. Mostly temporary in nature, each year one piece is chosen as at TypeTrail legacy piece with the long term objective of a permanent TypeTrail presence in the town. TypeTrail runs to 11 August 2017.



## KIDS PRINT WORKSHOP

In a workshop designed for children, aged 5-12, Mark Smith of Kells TypeTrail will introduce participants to the basics of printing. Children will work with water-based paints, and use stamps and wood block letters to create a print inspired from their experience at Guth Gafa. Workshops are at 2pm daily - check online and at box office for details.






The Headfort Arms Hotel

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Award winning dining at Vanilla Pod

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Summer Sundays in the Garden  
Sunday August 6th  
Enjoy the Guth Gafa

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in the garden at 3pm &  
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Kells, Co. Meath. Tel: 046 9240063  
Email: [info@headfortarms.ie](mailto:info@headfortarms.ie)  
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## Entertainment

The Festival Tent at Guth Gafa, sponsored by LPM Bohemia, is the place to taste our specially selected range of craft beers, award-winning wines and to enjoy the live music on offer. Guth Gafa's Festival Club starts at 10.30pm on Saturday and Sunday night with the bands playing at 11pm, and entry is free to cinema ticket holders.



### LEILA JANE & THE HEALERS – Sunday Night

Leila Jane began writing songs at age 15 and takes inspiration from all genres of American roots music with a voice that captures both gritty raw tones and smooth sweet melodies. In 2015, she received the Imelda May scholarship to study songwriting at BIMM, Dublin.

### NIWEL TSUMBU DUO – Saturday Night

Back by popular demand after a sizzling, tent-raising performance last year, Congolese guitarist, Niwel Tsumbu, and Irish multi-instrumentalist, Eamon Cagney.



### HEADFORT SCHOOL BAND

Former members of the now famous Headfort School Band, through the years, under the guidance of long-time band maestro, John Leyden, will come together throughout the weekend for impromptu sessions in the Festival village.

### TASTY EATS

Guth Gafa has teamed up once again with Bits on Spits (gourmet BBQ) and other local food and drink providers to offer great food to festival-goers. Gourmet coffee comes courtesy of PureCoffeeCo and sweet-tooth cravings will be satisfied by Navan-based bakery, Bakealicious.



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# ON THE ROAD- EDUCATION OUTREACH

Supported by



Guth Gafa International Documentary Festival is delighted to introduce our second Discovering Documentary Schools Outreach programme. This year we're in partnership with: Maynooth University's Department of Education, and the Professional Development Service for Teachers (Dept of Education and Skills) and excitedly exploring the possibilities of working with the new mobile Road House Cinema from Element Pictures.

Discovering Documentary is a project aimed at bringing documentary into the classroom; encouraging teachers to explore themes of social justice through the medium of visual storytelling.

In our experience a mobile cinema on wheels, like the new Road House Cinema, is a magnet for young people who love the cool element of a truck that transforms into a movie house via smart hydraulic rams, slides and hinges – it's a process to behold!

We plan to curate and roll-out a programme of outstanding international and Irish documentaries to teachers and pupils in as many as 50 secondary schools around Ireland – schools not currently served by film education outreach programmes. This travelling film project will be underpinned by a teacher support structure, designed in conjunction with Maynooth University, to empower teachers to fully exploit the potential of documentary as an educational medium.

By involving both pupils and teachers in this dynamic model we hope to contextualise social justice as a subject relevant to the community.





Crossing the Line Films wishes Guth Gafa a stellar success!

# Maynooth University Department of Education

We are passionate about all things educational!

## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

PhD in Education  
MLitt in Education

## TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Master of Education (General and with Specialism)  
Master of Education (School Guidance Counselling)  
Postgraduate Diploma in School Guidance Counselling  
Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Management  
Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership (Tóraíocht)  
Professional Master of Education

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

BSc Science (with Education)  
BSc Mathematics (with Education)

**For further details on our programmes visit:  
Website: [maynoothuniversity.ie/education](http://maynoothuniversity.ie/education)**



IN CINEMAS ACROSS USA  
SEPTEMBER 8

"JOYOUS AND HUMANE"

- THE PLAYLIST

"FINDS POETRY IN THE RAW NATURE OF EDUCATION"

- INDIEWIRE

# School Life

A Film by  
Neasa Ni Chianáin & David Rane

MAGNOLIA PICTURES PRESENTS A SCHOOL LIFE FILM AN ANTI-EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENTARY BY NEASA NI CHIANÁIN & DAVID RANE  
"SCHOOL LIFE" DIRECTED BY NEASA NI CHIANÁIN & DAVID RANE. CASTING BY MEGHAN STRICKLAND. MUSIC BY VICKI ABUCASSIS  
EDITED BY EICHO STAMOS. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NEASA NI CHIANÁIN & DAVID RANE. PRODUCED BY NEASA NI CHIANÁIN & DAVID RANE. WRITTEN BY MARK CHIBRELL  
SCREENPLAY BY ANGELO ORLANDO. MONTE PORTABELLA. EPTHYMIA ZYATYAGARI

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# Connect - Innovate - Succeed



# Meath Enterprise

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**Kells Enterprise & Technolgy Centre**

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info@meathenterprise.ie  
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Meath Enterprise Centre  
Trim Road  
Navan  
Co. Meath

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Fax: 074 9125185

Email: [info@bonnergill.com](mailto:info@bonnergill.com)

GRAND CENTRAL, CANAL ROAD, LETTERKENNY CO. DONEGAL

## FESTIVAL TEAM

### **Festival Co-Directors**

Neasa Ní Chianáin  
David Rane

### **Festival Producer**

Samantha Corr

### **Media Director**

Anita Guidera

### **Staff Writer**

Etienne Essery

### **Technical Director**

Mark Carroll

### **Guest Coordinators**

Penelope Jenkins  
Carmina Diaz

### **Volunteer Coordinator**

Frances Crickard

### **Festival Programmers**

Neasa Ní Chianáin  
David Rane  
Etienne Essery  
Anita Guidera  
Don McMahan  
Samantha Corr

### **Production Manager**

John Shanley

### **Print Transport Coordinator**

Maria Burke

### **Graphic Design/Branding**

Martin Simutis

### **Photography**

John Moore

### **Web Master**

Don McMahan

### **Technical Producer**

Reto Stamm

### **Festival Assistants**

Maria Muntane  
Angele Milner

### **Festival Crew**

Hugo Townsend  
Billy Woods  
Olive Butler  
Rein De Groot  
Éile Ní Chianáin  
Tadhg Rane Ó Cianáin

And to our many volunteers,  
a big thank you!

	Time	Adam Room 	Time	Road House Cinema 
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug				
			8.00pm	Whitney 'Can I Be Me' (100')

Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> August	11.30am	Singing with Angry Bird (88')	12.00pm	Children's Animation (60')
	2.00pm	The Islands and The Whales (82')	2.00pm	Elián (108') + Q&A
	4.30pm	The Farthest (121') + Q&A + Behind The Scenes	5.30pm	Where You're Meant to Be (75') + Q&A
	8.00pm	School Life (100') + Q&A	8.15pm	When God Sleeps (88') + Q&A
	10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB	10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	11.00am	Next Generation Shorts' Competition (100')	11.15am	School Life (100')+ Q&A
	2.15pm	The Grown-Ups (82')	1.45pm	Gaza Surf Club (87') + Q&A
	4.45pm	Normal Autistic Film (88')	5.00pm	The War Show (100') + Q&A
	8.00pm	Quest (104') + Q&A	7.45pm	A Cambodian Spring (121') + Q&A
	10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB	10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	11.30am	Children's Animation (60')	11.15am	The Eagle Huntress (87')
	2.00pm	City of Ghosts (90') + Q&A + Award	2.15pm	Life, Animated (91')
	5.00pm	Mama Colonel (72') + Q&A	4.45pm	The Grown-Ups (82')
	8.00pm	Best Of Fest Repeat Screening	7.00pm	Long Strange Trip (241' + 15' Break)

All Our Cinemas  
& Stages built by:



Online Booking at [www.guthgafa.com](http://www.guthgafa.com)  
will be available up until 24 hours  
before screening time

Tickets  
 €8 – Full Pr  
 €6 – Conces  
 not on  
 OAPs,  
 €5 – Kids un

Time	The Hangar Cinema 	Time	Other Events 
8.15pm	City of Ghosts (90')		

		11.00am	Coffee with Filmmakers (Green Room)
1.45pm	The Eagle Huntress (87')	2.00pm	Kids Workshop (Montessori)
5.45pm	My Mother is Pink (75') + Q&A		
8.30pm	Whitney 'Can I Be Me' (100')		
10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB	10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB

11.15am	Landfill Harmonic (83')	11.00am	Coffee with Filmmakers (Green Room)
2.15pm	Communion (72') + Q&A	2.00pm	Kids Workshop (Montessori)
4.30pm	No Time to Waste Food Films & Event	2.30pm	Distribution Masterclass (Theatre)
7.45pm	Life, Animated (91') + Q&A + Autism Film Focus		
10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB	10.30pm	FESTIVAL CLUB

12.00pm	Short Lens Competition (90')	11.00am	Coffee with Filmmakers (Green Room)
2.15pm	The Farthest (121')	2.00pm	Kids Workshop (Montessori)
5.00pm	Where You're Meant To Be (75') + Q&A		
8.00pm	Best Of Fest Repeat Screening		

## TICKETS (available all weekend at Headfort Box Office)

ice  
sion Price - available only at Box Office,  
line. Concessions available for Students,  
Unemployed - with ID  
der 12

### Passes

€25 - Individual Day Pass  
€60 - Full 3 Day Festival Passes  
(Saturday 5th - Monday 7th August inclusive)  
€40 - Student 3-Day Pass

Masterclass - €15 per person - book  
online

Panels/Discussions - free with cinema  
ticket or pass

Kids Workshops - €10



HEADFORT  
School