

LOUTH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

25th-27th SEPTEMBER

2026



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council



LOUTH
FILMMAKERS
SOCIETY



DUNDALK
CREDIT UNION

Welcome to the Louth International Film Festival 2026

Welcome to the Seventh Edition of the Louth International Film Festival, in association with An Táin Arts Centre and Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT), taking place from 25th–27th September.

Over three days, the festival celebrates innovative and engaging storytelling from around the world, bringing together filmmakers, industry professionals and audiences for an inspiring programme of films, discussions and special events.

Festival Team

Executive Festival Director :	Lorcan Dunne
Artistic Director :	Colm Mullen
Festival Director:	Jay Peter Javeri
Programme Director:	Barry Keating
Fundraising Director:	Paul Cumiskey
Shorts Programmers:	Shona Kelly and William O'Keeffe
Guest Relations:	Anja Schille
Social Media Engagement:	Lauren McCartney
Official Photographer:	Shauna Bowden
Audio Visual Technicians:	Paul O'Hale and Liam Byrne

Festival Patrons

Seamus McGarvey (ASC, BSC, ISC)

Seamus McGarvey (ASC, BSC, ISC) is an Oscar-nominated Irish cinematographer, best known for his collaborations with Joe Wright on *Atonement* and *Anna Karenina*.

McGarvey's work has earned numerous accolades, including BSC Awards, IFTA Awards, and the Royal Photographic Society's Lumière Medal.

Dearbhla Walsh

Dearbhla Walsh is a multi award-winning Irish director whose work spans film and television. She has directed acclaimed series including *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Fargo*, *The Punisher*, and Apple TV+'s *Bad Sisters*, for which she won IFTA awards and a BAFTA for Best Drama Series, and is also an EMMY winning director.

John Moore

John Moore is an Irish film director and producer born in Dundalk. His early work caught the attention of 20th Century Fox, leading to his feature film debut with the action war film *Behind Enemy Lines* (2001). Moore went on to direct several high-profile films, including *Flight of the Phoenix* (2004), *The Omen* (2006), *Max Payne* (2008), and *A Good Day to Die Hard* (2013).



Awards



Dearbhla Walsh Award for Best Director
Seamus McGarvey (ASC, BSC, ISC) Award
for Best Cinematography

Fred Dekker Award for Best Student Film

John Moore Award for Best in Louth

Audience Choice Award

Best Short Fiction

Best Short Documentary

Best Feature Documentary

Best Feature Fiction

Best Actor

Best Actress

Best International Film



photo: Wick

25

SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY

IMC Cinema - Screen 1

9:30 am - 12:00 pm	DkIT & Young Filmmakers Showcase
12:00 pm - 12:20 pm	<i>Don't Stop Believin'</i> and <i>Molly and Mark's Misunderstanding</i> presented by Colm Mullen
12:25 pm - 1:15 pm	Schools Filmmaking Panel with Colm Mullen and Guests
1:20 pm - 3:10 pm	<i>Sunphlowers</i> with DkIT Students. Introduction by Dr. Sheila Flanagan
3:20 pm - 5:20 pm	Shorts Block 3 and Q&A
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	<i>Mary Is Missing</i> and Q&A with Dr. Ingrid Lewis
6:40 pm - 8:10 pm	<i>Irish and UK Premiere: Lilly</i> with Oscar-nominated actress Patricia Clarkson

IMC Cinema - Screen 2

10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Shorts Block 1 and Q&A
12:40 pm - 1:30 pm	<i>Collision</i> and Western Front Studios Q&A
1:40 pm - 3:40 pm	Shorts Block 2 and Q&A
3:50 pm - 5:30 pm	<i>Murphy Vs Christmas</i> with Cast/Crew Q&A
5:40 pm - 7:30 pm	World Premiere: <i>Love Hate Hunt Kill</i> and Q&A
7:40 pm - 9:00 pm	AEMI <i>Desire Lines</i> Touring Programme

Toale's Festival Club

9:00 pm	Networking & Afterparty
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SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY

An Táin Arts Centre - Screen 1

11:00 am - 1:00 pm	Shorts Block 5 and Q&A
1:10 pm - 2:00 pm	NTA (National Talent Academies) Industry Panel
2:10 pm - 4:00 pm	<i>Journacide</i> with Sean Murray
4:10 pm - 4:50 pm	Louth On Screen: <i>The Pink Slice</i> , <i>Grief Stricken</i> and <i>Dearg</i> , Q&A with Emma Ray
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Shorts Block 6 and Q&A
7:10 pm - 9:10 pm	<i>Sludge</i> Feature and Q&A

An Táin Arts Centre - Screen 2

10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Shorts Block 4 and Q&A
12:40 pm - 2:10 pm	Family Friendly Film: <i>Glitched</i>
2:20 pm - 3:00 pm	<i>Dark Disquiet</i>
3:10 pm - 4:45 pm	<i>Hunting Party</i>
4:55 pm - 6:55 pm	<i>The Middle Finger</i> Feature and 10th Anniversary Q&A
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	<i>Evil Puddle</i> Feature with Video Intro and <i>The Third Date</i> Short

An Táin Arts Centre Studio Theatre - Screen 3

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	<i>Cill Stuífín</i> Doc and Q&A
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Toale's Festival Club - Daytime

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Ryan Duffy Photography Headshots
2:10 pm	NTA (National Talent Academies) Networking Event
2:20 pm - 3:00 pm	Sustainability in Filmmaking with Daragh Goan
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Indie Filmmaking Panel with Barry Keating and Guests

Mo Chara Pub

9:00 pm	Networking & Afterparty
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27

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY

An Táin Arts Centre - Screen 1

10:10 am - 12:00 pm	Shorts Block 7 and Q&A
12:10 pm - 1:00 pm	Directors Panel with Sarah McCann
1:10 pm - 3:10 pm	Shorts Block 8 and Q&A
3:10 pm - 5:10 pm	<i>Conversations in Bed</i> Feature with Director Q&A
5:15 pm - 5:50 pm	Director Mark Forbes Interview: <i>Who Gets to Make Films? Class and Access in the Film Industry</i>
6:00 pm - 6:50 pm	Awards Ceremony
7:00 pm - 8:50 pm	Closing Film: <i>Horseshoe</i> and Q&A

An Táin Screen Arts Centre - Screen 2

10:30 am - 12:20 pm	<i>ANYWHERE</i> Feature
12:30 pm - 2:20 pm	<i>The Swimming Diaries</i> Doc and Q&A
2:40 pm - 3:50 pm	<i>Quiet on Set</i> Documentary
4:00 pm - 5:55 pm	Shorts Block 9 and Q&A

An Táin Arts Centre Studio Theatre - Screen 3

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	<i>Reel to Revolution</i> Doc and Q&A <i>Belfast Girls</i> Script Reading with Jaki McCarrick
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Toale's Festival Club - Daytime

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Ryan Duffy Photography Headshots
1:05 pm - 2:00 pm	Actors Home with Luci Lenox Networking Event
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Industry Panel with Sinéad Murphy
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>Once We Were Punks</i> Doc and Q&A

Mo Chara Pub

9:00 pm	Networking & Afterparty
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Irish Film



Sunflowers



Friday, September 25



IMC Cinema, Screen 1



1:20 PM (80 minutes)

In a rural village along the East coast of Ireland, recently bereaved widow Catherine uncovers the truth of what her deceased husband has been hiding. Catherine must fight against all odds to keep her family business and home.



Mary Is Missing



Friday, September 25



IMC Cinema, Screen 1



5:30 PM (25 minutes)



When care worker Mary vanishes without a trace, Detective Foley arrives at the Yellow Tree Day Service, and investigations begin. As reports from the eyewitnesses become more and more confounding, we are asked to explore the reliability of truth, the strangeness of fiction, and the people we choose to believe.



Collision



Friday, September 25



IMC Cinema, Screen 2



12:40 PM (25 minutes)



After a hit and run leaves a local teacher dying on a quiet road in the West of Ireland, a closeted hurler and an openly gay school-mate go on the run together.

As the town hunts for answers, the boys are forced to confront their guilt, their bond, and a love neither was ready to face.



Murphy Vs Christmas



Friday, September 25

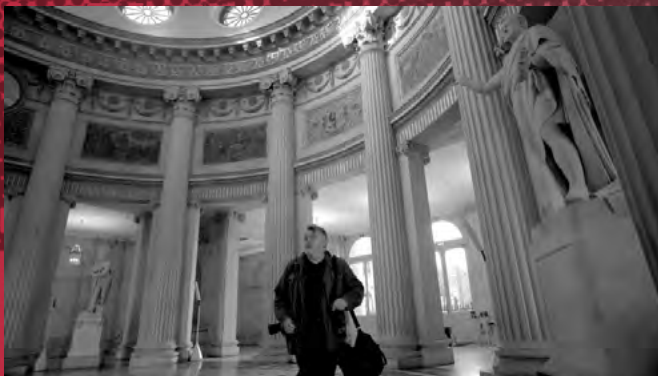


IMC Cinema, Screen 2



3:50 PM (81 minutes)

Blending absurdist humour with sharp social commentary, MURPHY vs CHRISTMAS is a modern parable about truth, authority and the power of compassion.



Eoin Murphy, a 49-year-old disillusioned avant-garde artist who values truth above all else, is asked by his six-year-old daughter whether Santa Claus is real.



AEMI Desire Lines Touring Programme



Friday, September 25



IMC Cinema, Screen 2



7:40 PM (80 minutes)



“Desire Lines” is aemi’s 2026 touring programme, featuring a selection of artist and experimental films from Irish and international contemporary practices. It premiered at the Irish Film Institute and will tour to various venues across 2026, including LIFF, where it will be followed by a Q&A

session with featured filmmakers. The term “Desire Lines” refers to unofficial paths in landscape architecture, symbolizing deviations from established routes.



Journacide



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 1



2:10 PM (110 minutes)

“Journacide: The War on Truth” is a documentary by Seán Murray investigating the targeted killings of journalists in Gaza and Lebanon, highlighting the suppression of truth in conflict zones.





Louth on Screen:

The Pink Slice, Grief Stricken and Dearg



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 1



4:10 PM (40 minutes)

Three short films with a Louth connection, followed by a Q&A with Emma Ray, director and visual artist behind Dearg. With a Fine Art background and a passion for production design, Emma creates richly textured, atmospheric worlds.



Sludge



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 1



7:10 PM (85 minutes)



Sinead Murphy's debut film, *Sludge*, follows a young homeless woman living on the fringes of Irish society and deeply in love with her best friend. Haunted by fractured traumatic memories and visions of a dark-hooded figure, she struggles to hold onto reality as her friend is drawn into the orbit of a dangerous underworld. As her world unravels, she must confront the terrifying truth behind the figure that stalks her, and face the darkness within.



Cill Stuifín



Saturday, September 26



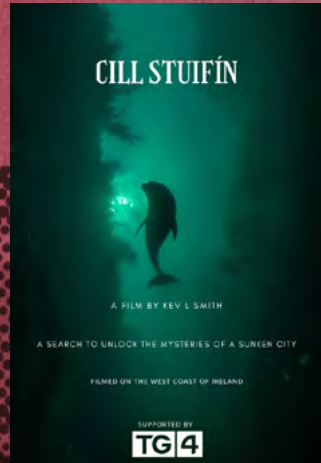
An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 3



1:00 PM (61 minutes)

Off the coast of West Clare lies Cill Stuifín, a village long believed to have been swallowed by the sea, some say by a freak wave, others by an ancient curse.

Blending Irish folklore, marine science, and the raw energy of the Atlantic, this cinematic documentary explores the mystery of a lost village and the urgent warning it holds in the face of climate change and rising seas.



Family friendly film: *Glitched*



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



12:40 PM (92 minutes)



Twins create a VR game in their grandmother's castle. When a glitch opens a supernatural portal, they must help a ghost reunite with his lost love or stay trapped in his game forever.



Dark Disquiet



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



2:20 PM (42 minutes)

A woman, Abigail, must endure a tragedy in the face of a struggling relationship with her husband.



The Middle Finger



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



4:55 PM (83 minutes)



Dennis, a lonely and frustrated teenager, is reluctantly transformed into a superhero, embedded with the symbol of a hand showing its middle finger, and must awkwardly endure his training and save his world from extinction in this superhero parody.



The Swimming Diaries



Sunday, September 27



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



12:30 PM (100 minutes)

The *Swimming Diaries* originated as a book, a memoir exactly 25,000 words long, with each word representing one of the 25,000 metres or strokes swum by Susan Thomson during the month when her mother was dying. The film translates the book back into movement, hovering between experimental documentary, musical theatre and contemporary opera to trace a journey from life to death.



Closing Film: *Horseshoe* and Q&A



Sunday, September 27



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 1



7:00 PM (88 minutes)



All families are mad.
Four estranged siblings must reunite to settle their late father's will.
Things get even more complicated when he shows up.



Once We Were Punks and Q&A



Toale's Pub



Sunday, September 27



3:00 PM (96 minutes)

1980's Bailieboro, Co Cavan.
 Dreaming big, four school mates
 Justin, David, Noel and Paddy form
 a punk band setting their sights on
 world domination.
 They have a blast but the big break-
 through never comes to pass.
 They call it quits. The dream is over.
 Until they meet up at a funeral 25
 years later and to their own
 surprise, pick up where they left off.



International



Irish and UK Premiere: Lilly



IMC Cinema, Screen 1



Friday, September 25



6:40 PM (94 minutes)

Country: USA

With a heart-stirring love story at its
 center, LILLY follows the transformation
 of an ordinary citizen into the face of an
 issue, illuminating the personal cost of
 activism.

Like "Norma Rae" and "Erin Brockovich"
 LILLY is an emotional drama that
 entertains while it enlightens.
 With Oscar-nominated actress
 Patricia Clarkson.





World Premiere: *LOVE HATE HUNT KILL*



IMC Cinema, Screen 2



Friday, September 25



5:40 PM (85 minutes)

Country: USA

A romantic getaway spirals into a deadly nightmare when a young woman is hunted through the desert by a masked killer while incoming comet is poised to level the world.



Hunting Party



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



3:10 PM (94 minutes)

Country: UK



Frustrated with a legal system gone haywire, a secret society of judges releases criminals only to kidnap them later and hunt them on the large estate of Judge Hardin.



Evil Puddle



Saturday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



7:00 PM (94 minutes)

Country: USA

After using a magic rock, William accidentally causes the town's tap water to become a deadly force of nature to anyone that touches it.



ANYWHERE



Sunday, September 26



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



10:30 AM (102 minutes)

Country: USA

A roughneck commits a hasty and brutal crime after discovering his scumbag brother is planning to run off with his cheating wife, completely upending the only life he's ever known.





Quiet on Set:

The Class Division in the Film Industry?



Sunday, September 27



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 2



2: 40 PM (66 minutes)

Country: UK

Filmmaker Mark Forbes exams classism that has plagued the UK film and TV industry for decades and through the lens of individuals from working-class backgrounds as we observe the challenges they encounter when attempting to enter the field.



Conversations in Bed



Sunday, September 27



An Táin Arts Centre, Screen 1



3:10 PM (93 minutes)

Country: UK

A chamber piece which explores two separate relationships experienced by the same young fella.

The story focuses on two periods in his life years apart from each

other - a day spent in his family home during the summer before his final year of school and the post one-night stand pillow talk in the university area of Belfast after St. Patrick's Day.



DkIT & Young Filmmakers Showcase

IMC Cinema, Screen 1 , 9:30 am - 12:00 am

DkIT & Young Filmmakers Showcase

Who Am I?

In the Moment

Ultra

All Is Behind

The Winner

No Personal Ends to Serve

My Cup of Coffee

The Beekeepers

Moving On

Conversations with Myself

Capturing Albatross

The Bright Side of Life

BeamTo

Gangster, Brother, Father, Son

FRIDAY



Shorts Blocks

25

SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY

Block 1, IMC, Screen 2, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Theme: CROSSCOUNTRY

STUCK

Nine Counties

Irish Farmers: A Love Story

Pike

The Storyteller

Ireland's Oldest Altar Boy

Our Father

Tales of Railway's Past

Hands of Heritage

Horseback

Block 2, IMC, Screen 2, 1:40 pm - 3:40 pm

Theme: MODERN TIMES

Warrior

Drawing on Disaster

Agus Ni Dúirt Muid Tada (And We Said Nothing)

Attention Seeker

This Conversation Has Been Removed

My Friend Kev

Emergency Accommodation

Save Me From Heaven

25 - 26 SEPTEMBER

Block 3, IMC Cinema, Screen 1, 3:20 pm - 5:20 pm

Theme: CHANCE ENCOUNTERS

Randy as Himself

Decide Decide

Magic Markers

Copper Owl

A Hand to Hold

The Cure

The Stanislavski Method

Stutterbug

FRIDAY

Block 4, An Táin, Screen 2, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Theme: RECONSIDERATION

Crossing Over Barrack Street

Lessons From The Heart

Gullermo

Poulastore

Blood Relative

Archives

The Aftermath

November 12

Baby Gangster

SATURDAY

26

SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY

Block 5, An Táin, Screen 1, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Theme: OUT OF THIS WORLD

Call Centre Shiva

Normal

Sapphire

F*ck Mr Flanagan

Happy to Meet, Sorry to Part

Moloch

Memoryhole

Knight Of Wands

The Afters

Block 6 , An Táin, Screen 1, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Theme: PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Reborning

The Last Word

Babysitter

Izzard

Can You Hear Me?

Father

Shelter

HOLLY

27

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY

Block 7, An Táin, Screen 1, 10:10 am - 12:00 pm

Theme: TAKING A STAND

Award Nominees / Winners

Mouse

Another Day

A Vinyl Goodbye

The Lacey Way

Nana

Shush, Now

ÉIST

Block 8 , An Táin, Screen 1, 1:10 pm - 3:10 pm

Theme: TIES THAT BIND US

Award Nominees / Winners

Over The Moon

Text Me When You're Thirsty

Dawn of the Ick

Field Queens

DUST

Bed of Roses

Charity

Til Death Do Us Part

The Quiet Ocean

Block 9, An Táin, Screen 2, 4:00 pm - 5:55 pm

Theme: UNDER THE RADAR

Sibling Rivalry

Sorry to Bother You

The Galley

Sorry for your Loss

Unattended

Things Are Lost and Forgotten But Oh My Gosh,
They Remain!

NOT

Confinement

Embracing the Blue

Sheee

27

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY

Buy Festival Tickets:



Find Us:



Venues



An Táin Arts Centre, Crowe Street, Dundalk

IMC Cinema Dundalk, The Long Walk, Dundalk

Mo Chara, 19 Roden Place, Dundalk

Toale's Rock Bar, 7 Crowe Street, Dundalk

Festival Map



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