

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: PATRICIA COMEAUX, MARKETING CONSULTANT, 225-271-4187 (not for publication)

IRELAND COMES TO BATON ROUGE
THE BATON ROUGE IRISH CLUB PRESENTS
THE 5TH ANNUAL IRISH FILM FESTIVAL

The 5th Annual Baton Rouge Irish Film Festival will be held on Friday and Saturday, July 19 and 20, 2013, at the Manship Theatre in downtown Baton Rouge. This event has grown in scope since the first one held in 2009. The 2013 Film Festival has added another day to the festivities at the Manship Theatre. The first event, **Wee Irish Film Night**, will be held on Friday night, July 19, with a showing of seven short films: *The End of the Counter*, *Barry's Bespoke Bakery*, *Fear of Flying*, *Irish Folk Furniture*, *El Toro*, *Sylvia* and a non-judged T.V. short, *Mrs. Brown's Boys* plus live Irish music and refreshments. Audience members will be asked to vote on their favorite shorts at the conclusion of the night and an award will be presented to the Director for Best Short Irish Film. Admission for Wee Irish Film Night is \$8.50, all inclusive.

On Saturday morning, the day will begin with **"An Rinceoir": Dance Workshop** offered particularly for young dance students in Baton Rouge, New Orleans and surrounding areas. The students will experience Irish dances performed by the McTeggart Dancers. A documentary, *A Bronx Dream*, will be shown telling the inspiring story of how children from the poorest school districts of the Bronx discovered Irish Dancing and Irish culture and how they became passionate for a country they had only dreamed about. The film tells the story of merging vastly differing cultures binding together resulting in the Keltic Dreams Irish Dance Troupe, whose members are Hispanic and African-American and whose lives have been

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changed forever by their experiences. There is no admission cost for the Dance Workshop.

Immediately following the Dance Workshop, the Na Cait Dubh Bagpipers will perform on the plaza and will then lead the festivities into the Shaw Centre for the first film of **Festival Day**. Audiences will enjoy three feature films: *The Secret of the Roan Inish*, a film based on the Irish and Orcadian folklores of selkies; *Earthbound*, a science-fiction comedy and *The Guard*, a comedy/crime/thriller. In addition a documentary, *Blazing the Trail: The O’Kalems in Ireland*, will be shown. This feature-length documentary tells of the New York Based Kalem Film Company which made history in the early 20th century, recounting their filming adventures in Ireland. During the day refreshments will be served and the band “Wild Irish Roots” will be on hand. Tickets for each of the feature films on Festival Day are \$8.50 which includes one feature film, refreshments and Irish music.

Boudreaux and Thibodeaux’s, 214 Third Street in downtown Baton Rouge, will host an **After-Party** immediately following the showing of the last film. Music will be provided by the band “Wild Irish Roots”. The After-Party is free and opened to the public with a cash bar.

On Sunday, July 21, **Military Day** will present the feature film, *Fortress*, at the Celtic Media Centre, 10000 Celtic Drive in Baton Rouge. This event is free and open to the public with light refreshments served.

Phil Brady’s Bar and Grill will host **Pub Night** on Monday, July 22 at 4848 Government Street. The full-length movie, *Grabbers*, will be shown along with another T.V. episode of *Mrs. Brown Boys*. Pub Night is free and open to the public offering \$1 burgers with a cash bar.

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Over 40 million Americans consider themselves Irish or of Irish descent and in recent years this has brought about a revival of genealogy and the study and enjoyment of rich Irish culture, including works of literature, film, music and art. The Irish Film Festival helps to bring this culture to the public where audiences will enjoy a wide variety of films along with music and dance. The films this year and in the past four years have been provided to the Irish Film Festival through the Irish Film Institute which has worked hand in hand with the Festival committee in choosing a wide variety of films each year.

To purchase tickets, contact the Manship Theatre at 225-344-0334 or visit their web site at manshiptheatre.org. or for more information visit irishfilmfestival.com.

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