

PRESS RELEASE #3a

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**IRELAND COMES TO BATON ROUGE
THE BATON ROUGE IRISH CLUB PRESENTS
THE 10TH ANNUAL IRISH FILM FESTIVAL**

The 10th Annual Baton Rouge Irish Film Festival will be held on Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28, 2018, at the Manship Theatre in downtown Baton Rouge. This film festival continues to address the mission of the Irish Club to promote, encourage and support Irish culture, through the literary arts, music, theatre and film, especially in the Greater Baton Rouge area. This year's festival will show a total of 6 full-length films, a documentary and 12 shorts.

The "Kick-Off" event for the festival will be **PHIL BRADY'S IRISH PUB NIGHT** on Monday, July 23 at Phil Brady's Bar and Grill, 4848 Government Street in Baton Rouge. Doors open at 6:00 - featuring \$1 burgers, cash bar and drink specials, music and fun. A short film, *Macarooned*, begins at 7:00 and the feature film, *Rat*, follows the short. Pub Night is free and open to the public.

The extremely popular event, **WEE IRISH FILM NIGHT**, will be held on Friday night, July 27, with a showing of eleven short films. Included in the shorts line-up are *Departure*, *Man to Man*, *Thespish*, *Shellshock*, *Gustave*, *The Wedding Speech*, *I Am Jesus*, *Throwline*, *Strangers in the Park*, *The Time-Keeper* and *the Family Way*. These short films were reviewed and selected by the Irish Club Film Selection Committee from hundreds of submissions by Irish film-makers. The audience will vote on their favorite film at the conclusion of the night and the O'Kalem award will be announced for the Best Short Film. In addition to the short films, during the intermission audience members will enjoy refreshments by Splendid Baton Rouge, a cash bar and music by the Celtic band **Ordog**, featuring Beth Patterson, Pete Dawson and Frank Bladen. The band will also be on hand during the intermissions during the day on Saturday. Tickets for Wee Irish Film Night are \$8.50 per person plus tax, all-inclusive and may be purchased from Manship Theatre.

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The incomparable **Beth Patterson**, well-known internationally, will join the band for this year's festival. Beth is an Irish Folk and Celtic musician. She combines traditional Irish, Celtic and folk ballads with Cajun, world-beat and progressive rock influences and her own creative song-writing. She began her professional career in her teens as a classical oboist and Cajun bass player. Beth spent a year studying traditional Irish music and ethnomusicology at University College in Cork Ireland and she holds a bachelor's degree in Music Therapy from Loyola University, New Orleans. Her favorite instrument is the eight-string Irish Bouzoki. **Pete Dawson**, who plays the flute, penny whistle and sings, has been playing since the age of six and has garnered high acclaim from a multitude of his peers including members of the Chieftains! His highly infectious style of playing will keep you "dancing." **Frank Bladen** plays the Bodhran and many other percussion instruments and sings as well. His unique rhythm and percussion skills are a driving force when performing.

FESTIVAL DAY begins at 10:00 AM on Saturday, August 28 at the Manship Theatre with a showing of the ever-popular classic Irish film, **Darby O'Gill and the Little People**, that has been a family favorite for decades. *Darby O'Gill seems to be full of Blarney as any old codger in Ireland, but the stories of leprechauns he tells at the pub are true! In fact, he and the tiny king Brian, ruler of the little people, are friendly adversaries, continual out-foxing each other.* This is one of the stories of how Darby asks for a bit of magical help from the wily King. This film is open and free to the public.

The day continues with a bagpiper and welcoming speech prior to the first feature film ***Zoo***, also a family friendly film plus a performance by the Muggivan School of Irish Dancers. Films that follow during the day are ***Maze; It's a Long Way From St. John's***, a short film shown prior to the docudrama, ***Song of Granite***; followed by ***The Drummer and the Keeper*** and ***Halal for Beginners***. Admission to each feature film is \$8.50 ticket per person while the short film and the docudrama are free and open to the public. There will be intermissions during the day with refreshments and music and an **After-Party at the King Bar**

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in Hotel Indigo immediately following the last film.

The Irish Film Festival helps to bring the rich Irish culture to the public where they will enjoy a wide variety of films. To purchase individual tickets, contact the Manship Theatre at 225-344-0334 or visit their web site at manshiptheatre.org.

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