

Kerry Film Festival JURY PANEL 2017



MAURA KELLY

Maura Kelly is an Emmy-winning producer, development executive and principal of Purple Mountain Media, a consultancy practice in NY.

A Killarney native, her career spans leadership positions in broadcast television at PBS/ WNET (Executive Producer) where she built media franchises and help raise over \$15mm for programming - to working with global companies: The Jim Henson Co, Tile Films, Tribeca Film Institute & PBS Kids. Maura was elected to the Board of Directors of NY Women in Film (2013-2016). She's a member of the Writers Guild of America and a contributor to the HuffPost.

@MauraKellyMedia

GERARD KEENAN

Chief Executive Irish Chamber Orchestra

Gerard has worked all his life in music as both a performer and a manager. On finishing school he joined the Army No. 1 Band where he served for nine years.

After fifteen years playing professionally he moved into management and over the years has managed; National Youth Orchestra of Ireland, Irish Chamber Orchestra, National Chamber Choir. For seven years he worked at the DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama as Ensembles and Concerts Manager, Gerard moved to Limerick to take up the position of Orchestra Manager with the Irish Chamber Orchestra in 2006. He was appointed Chief Executive of the ICO in May 2012.

NICKY FENNELL

Nicky Fennell has worked as a producer, editor, director and film journalist for over 30 years. He currently lectures in Media and Communications Studies in MIC Limerick for where he teaches documentary making and lectures on Irish Film.

FODHLA CRONIN O'REILLY

Fodhla Cronin O'Reilly won the 2013 Cartoon d'Or and was nominated for an Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards for her short animated film *Head Over Heels*. She holds an MA in producing from The National Film & Television School in the United Kingdom.

While developing feature films through her company Sixty Six Pictures, Fodhla also produces commercials and online branded content for clients such as Google, Stella Artois and BT. Fodhla produced William Ouldroyd's debut feature film, *Lady Macbeth*. The film premiered in the prestigious Platform section at the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival. It won the Critics Choice Awards at Zurich, Thessaloniki and San Sebastian Film Festivals. Roadside Attractions are releasing the film in the United States.

Fodhla is currently producing a major feature music documentary about the sixties, narrated by Sir Michael Caine.

SÉ MERRY DOYLE

Sé Merry Doyle has directed some of the most successful documentaries to come out of Ireland.

The internationally acclaimed 'John Ford - Dreaming the Quiet Man' featuring Martin Scorsese, Maureen O'Hara and Gabriel Byrne gives a powerful insight into John Ford's twenty year obsession to make his most personal movie.

'Jimmy Murakami - Non Alien' tells the harrowing tale of the animator who created 'Snowman' and 'When the Wind Blows' returning to Tule Lake concentration camp in California where he spent his childhood during WW2 because of his Japanese heritage.

CLARE STRONGE

Clare Stronge is a Dublin-based specialist factual producer and director. She has produced and directed documentaries for channels such as BBC2, BBC4, Channel 4, National Geographic and Discovery Channel. She produced Solar Superstorm for Discovery's prestigious Curiosity strand in 2012, winning a Cine Gold Eagle for Science & Technology.

In 2014 she produced and directed the feature-length natural history documentary Spider House for BBC4. Most recently Clare produced the multi award-winning IFB-backed feature documentary The Farthest, which tells the story of NASA's iconic Voyager mission and its infamous Golden Record. The Farthest film premiered at Tribeca Film Festival in New York in April 2017 and was released theatrically in the US, UK and Ireland (becoming the biggest documentary at the Irish box office this year). It was subsequently broadcast on PBS, ZDF, Arte and BBC4.

SEAMUS DUGGAN

When in college studying English Literature on his way to becoming the new James Joyce. Séamus was distracted by work in the Curzon and Lighthouse Cinemas (same place, different regimes). This led him into the Dublin Film Festival and to being part of the team who opened the cinema in the Irish Film Centre.

After running the successful Filmmakers' CE scheme in Filmbase, he went on to manage the organisation for a number of years, overseeing many successful short film schemes and the move to their current home on Curved Street.

He produced the IFTA nominated documentary The Bass Player and has programmed Shortscreen on RTÉ2 for more years than he cares to admit. He will get back to being the new James Joyce next year, unless distracted. He also sings with The Knocking Shop, who have yet to be called the New U2.