

New Irish Cinema

Swansong – Story of Occi Byrne



Saturday 11 July | Town Hall Main | 19.00

Conor McDermottroe | Ireland | 2009

When he was young, Austin (Occi) Byrne was tormented by the recurring rhyming taunts of the local bullies who were relentlessly cruel about the fact that Occi had no father.

As he grows older, within the closed ecclesiastical communities of 1970's Ireland, those taunts have escalated in his delicate mind into a chorus.

Occi's quest to find his father becomes core to his identity; but his mother – all but shunned by her parents and the local community, keeps this secret.

Narrated through Occi's wayward world view, his story unfolds as a series of chaotic encounters, tempered by moments of tenderness and longing.

Written by Sligo-born writer Conor McDermottroe, the timely *Swansong* puts on central stage a hero who, at every step, is abused by the system: the church, the hospitals, the community – a troubled soul who never gives up his search for peace.

The Director and cast will attend the screening

Running Time 90 mins | Colour | 35 mm

Producers Hermann Florin, Edwina Forkin, Tom Maguire

Script Conor McDermottroe based on his play "Swansong"

Cast Martin McCann, Jodie Whittaker

Production Florin Film & Zanzibar Films

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