

Agent: Peter MacFarlane

MO O'CONNELL

Director / Writer / Producer / Actor

Founder & Head of 3 Hot Whiskeys Prods. Ltd

<https://www.3hotwhiskeysfilms.com/>

Mo is a RADA trained multi-award-winning actor, writer, director & producer. Mo has recently completed the Advanced Producer's Diploma Programme at TU Dublin & Screen Ireland with John McDonnell & was awarded a Distinction.

This course selected Mo for the David Puttnam Scholarship Course in June 2023. Mo won the Pitching Award at the Galway Film Fleadh for the feature version of her multi-award-winning short film, HAVEN.

Mo recently directed a world premiere of a new play by Garret Baker, THE WAR WOUNDED, at the Dublin Gay Theatre Festival 2023 and played the lead in THE DEVIL HIMSELF by Paul Nugent for AboutFace Theatre Company in the main space at Smock Alley in August/September 2023.

Mo and co-writer Gemma Creagh have been nominated as Semi-Finalists for their short script PETROL at the Kerry International Film Festival October 2023.

Recent Awards

Best Short Film for HAVEN at the B3 Biennale Frankfurt Oct 2023.

Best Intl Short Film for HAVEN at the South Texas Intl Film Festival Sept 2023.

Best Narrative Short for HAVEN from Berlin Women Cinema Film Festival July 2023.

Best Actress for Liath Hannon for THE WAR WOUNDED directed by Mo at the Dublin Gay Theatre Festival May 2023. The production received 4 nominations in full including Best Ensemble nomination.

Best Arthouse Award for BRUISE, from Fastnet Film Festival in May 2023.

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Special Mention for BRUISE at the Bloomsday Film Festival June 2023.

Best Immigrant Story for HAVEN from the Humboldt International Film Festival April 2023.

Consulate of Ireland Award for HAVEN at the Chicago Irish Film Festival February 2023.

Best Lead Actress for HAVEN, Maria McDermottroe, at the Toronto Women's International Film Festival February 2023.

Mo won the prestigious Pitching Award at the Galway Film Feadh in July 2022 for an idea for the feature version based on her short, HAVEN.

Both BRUISE and LAMBING had their World Premieres at the Galway Film Fleadh 2022.

Best Director Award for BRUISE at the Louth International Film Festival in October 2022.

Best Director Award for BRUISE at the Canadian Experimental Dance & Music Film Festival 2022.

The star of BRUISE, Emily Kilkenny-Roddy won a Special Mention from Sandbar International Film Festival 2022.

BRUISE also garnered an Honourable Mention from judge, Séamus McGarvey for cinematography.

BRUISE earned a Special Mention Award at the Dingle Distillery International Film Festival in November 2022. The judges said: 'The director, using dance as a way of depicting the unspeakable, the unshowable, makes a powerful cinematic statement against domestic and sexual abuse'.

LAMBING, produced by Mo, received an 'Honourable Mention' at Louth International Film Festival.

LAMBING won 'Best International Short Film' at its UK Premiere at Discover Film UK.

Training & Mentorship

March 2023

Minding Creative Minds provided mentorship to Mo from Sinead O'Brien.

Screenskills Ireland Mentorship Scheme 2020

Mo received mentoring from Emma Norton of Element Pictures.

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Extra Mentorship from the Screen Ireland Spotlight Scheme 2020

Michael Zam of 'Breaking Bad' and Yvonne Donohoe of 'Blinder Pictures'.

Screenskills Ireland Training Courses

Attended the 'Writing a Web Series' Course with Eilish Kent in July 2020.

How to Write a TV Series with Emmanuel Oberg 2021

Mo completed an intensive 2-month TV writing course with the brilliant Emmanuel Oberg.

Film Links

SPA WEEKEND trailer

Trailer 3: <https://vimeo.com/350099946>

Role: Director/Lead Actor/Producer/Editor/Co-Writer

World premiere at: Female Filmmakers Festival of Berlin 15th June 2019

Awards:

1. "She Is On Fire" Award at the Female Filmmakers Festival of Berlin 2019. Read a fantastic review of SPA WEEKEND from Luke Maxwell at the Dublin Inquirer here: "Spa Weekend's script is tighter, and funnier, than many other comedies taking up screens in a cinema near you..."
https://www.dublininquirer.com/2019/08/14/spa-weekendreviewed?fbclid=IwAR0wHFQbrWJ91P44CTkQSh07YT95Oh0fGDm_47_wAmDVSqFyWMKAm3AGQgg
2. Winner of the "Festival Director's Choice" Award at its British Premiere at the Unrestricted View Film Festival in July 2020.
3. Winner of the Best International Feature Film at the Polish International Film Festival October 2020.

BRUISE Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/796456579>

HAVEN Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/796417588>

HUM Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/501862507?share=copy>

LAMBING Trailer

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<https://vimeo.com/754370331?login=true>

DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FILM FESTIVAL (DICFF)

Mo is the Festival Director of DICFF. It had its inaugural year online (because of Covid) on December 3rd and 4th 2020 and was a big success, creating a large following. The first in-person event of DICFF took place 1st to 4th December 2022.

<https://www.dublininternationalcomedyfilmfest.com/>

Education

Oct 2022 – June 2023

Advanced Producer Programme with John McDonnell at TU Dublin & Screen Ireland

July 2020

Wrote a Web-Series with Eilish Kent Screenskills Ireland

March 2013- May 2013

Masterclass in Scriptwriting with Stephen Jeffreys at RADA, London

2009-2012

BA in Acting from RADA, London

Received a Scholarship at RADA

Won the prestigious Henry Marshall Acting Award whilst at RADA

Selected for & Completed the Stephen Jeffreys Masterclass in Scriptwriting at RADA in 2013

September 2019

Gave Workshops on Acting and Filmmaking at Screen Argyll's 'Sea Change' Film Lab and Festival.

2012-2019

Taught acting at RADA, in primary & secondary schools around London & at Filmbase, Dublin.

2002-2005

BTEC Higher National Diploma in Film Production & FETAC Certificate in Television Film Studies from Ballyfermot College, Dublin, Ireland.

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