

INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE OF MARTIN SCORSESE'S
THE IRISHMAN
TO CLOSE 63RD BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL



Embargo: Monday, 5th August. 10.00am GMT

LONDON, Monday, 5th August: The 63rd BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express is thrilled to announce that *THE IRISHMAN* will be this year's Closing Night Gala, which is directed by one of the true giants of cinema Martin Scorsese and starring Academy Award winners Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Joe Pesci. The Festival is delighted to be bringing the work of this iconic filmmaker to the UK for its International Premiere on Sunday 13th October in London, with Martin Scorsese and cast expected to attend. The BFI London Film Festival is also pleased to announce that there will be simultaneous preview screenings of *THE IRISHMAN* taking place at cinemas across the UK.

Reuniting Scorsese with his *Gangs of New York* screenwriter Steve Zaillian, who adapts from Charles Brandt's novel *I Heard You Paint Houses*, *The Irishman* is a grand scale epic examining the influence of organised crime in post-war America. Told through the eyes of World War II veteran Frank Sheeran (De Niro), a hustler and hitman who worked alongside some of the most notorious figures of the 20th Century. Spanning decades, the film chronicles one of the greatest unsolved mysteries in American history, the disappearance of legendary Union President Jimmy Hoffa and offers a monumental journey through the hidden corridors of organised crime: its inner workings, rivalries and connections to mainstream politics.

Martin Scorsese, director commented "I'm extremely honored to be having the International Premiere of *THE IRISHMAN* at the closing night of the BFI London Film Festival. This picture was many years in the making. It's a project that Robert De Niro and I started talking about a long time ago, and we wanted to make it the way it needed to be made. It's also a picture that all of us could only have made at this point in our lives. We're all very excited to be bringing *THE IRISHMAN* to London."

Tricia Tuttle, BFI London Film Festival Director said “What an immense cinephile thrill it is to close the 63rd BFI London Film Festival with the International Premiere of Martin Scorsese’s *The Irishman*. British Film Institute Fellow Scorsese is one of the true greats of cinema – as both a creator and a tireless champion of preservation and film history – and here he and his creative team have delivered an epic of breathtakingly audacious scale and complexity, exploring relationships of trust and betrayal, regret and remorselessness, which dominated a period of American history. This is a major occasion for film lovers and I cannot wait to share this film with UK audiences.”

The 63rd BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express takes place from Wednesday 2nd October-Sunday 13th October 2019. The full Festival programme will be announced on Thursday 29 August 2019.

- Ends-

Assets

Stills: <https://vandam.netflix.com/shares/da0703d8cd64440ba9a953440ab076cd?assets=16297305>

Please credit still as follows: Courtesy of Netflix

Trailer: YouTube link to embed: <https://youtu.be/ks5JKhhvDv8>

For further press information and general enquiries about the 63rd BFI London Film Festival:

Please note the contacts and red-carpet accreditation for the different festival sections.

OPENING/CLOSING AND HEADLINE GALAS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS and ASSOCIATED SCREEN TALKS:

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GENERAL ENQUIRIES and FESTIVAL ACCREDITATION

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For further details on the UK release of THE IRISHMAN, please contact:

Email: Will.Taylor@organic-publicity.co.uk

Festival Information & Ticket Booking

BFI Members' priority booking opens 10:00am, 5th September – join at www.bfi.org.uk/join

Pre-sale booking dates for Amex cardholders: 10th & 11th September

Public booking opens 10:00am, 12th September

Telephone Bookings: 020 7928 3232 between 10:00 – 20:30 (from Tuesday 3rd September – Sunday 13th October)

Online: www.bfi.org.uk/lff

In person: BFI Southbank Office: 11:00 – 20:30 *(open 10:00am from 5th + 12th September)

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the BFI

The BFI is the UK's lead organisation for film, television and the moving image. It is a cultural charity that:

- Curates and presents the greatest international public programme of World Cinema for audiences; in cinemas, at festivals and online
- Cares for the BFI National Archive – the most significant film and television archive in the world
- Actively seeks out and supports the next generation of filmmakers
- Works with Government and Industry to make the UK the most creatively exciting and prosperous place to make film internationally

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter. The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.

The BFI London Film Festival

BFI London Film Festival is Britain's leading film event and one of the world's best film festivals. It introduces the finest new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience and attracts significant international film industry participation. LFF is a compelling combination of diverse films, red carpet glamour, friendly audiences and vibrant exchange. LFF provides an essential profiling opportunity for films seeking global success; promotes the careers of British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes and positions London as the world's leading creative city.

Tricia Tuttle Biography

Tricia Tuttle's appointment as Director of BFI Festivals follows her role as Artistic Director of the 62nd Edition of the BFI London Film Festival and five successful years as Deputy Head of Festivals at BFI, including BFI Flare and BFI London Film Festival. Moving from North Carolina in 1997 to complete a joint MA at BFI and Birkbeck, University of London in Film and TV Studies, Tricia's passion for film has seen her work as a programmer, lecturer, writer and journalist. Her career has spanned a five year tenure at BAFTA, starting in 2008 and with her appointment as Film Programme Manager in 2011. Tuttle has been instrumental in evolving BFI Festivals, continuing to expand audience reach year on year and introducing impactful initiatives such as BFI Flare's FiveFilms4Freedom, in partnership with the British Council. In March 2019, she was recognized in Variety's annual International Women's Impact Report as a woman making an impact in showbiz around the globe.



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About Netflix

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