

Press Release: For Immediate Release
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Rooney Mara and Joaquin Phoenix to light up the red carpet for Garth Davis' up-coming feature film *Mary Magdalene* at the Audi Dublin International Film Festival

Joining a stellar line-up of special guests and the world's best films at the Audi Dublin International Film Festival, actors Rooney Mara and Joaquin Phoenix, alongside director Garth Davis (*Lion*), are set to make an appearance at a gala screening of *Mary Magdalene* at the Savoy Cinema, Dublin at 18.30, Wed 28th Feb. *Mary Magdalene* is released in cinemas nationwide on 16th March.

Gráinne Humphreys, ADIFF Festival Director said '*I'm delighted to be able to announce Mary Magdalene as a new addition to the programme of the upcoming Audi Dublin International Film Festival. And of course, we're thrilled that we're able to welcome two extraordinary film actors, Rooney Mara and Joaquin Phoenix, alongside director Garth Davis to the festival. I know that Dublin is going to make them very welcome.*'

Focus Features presents, in association with Film 4 and FilmNation, a See-Saw Films and Porchlight Films production. Set in the Holy Land in the first century, *Mary Magdalene* is the story of a young woman who leaves her small fishing village and family to join a new movement. Inspired by its charismatic leader, Jesus of Nazareth, and his teachings, Mary sets out with the disciples on the journey to Jerusalem, where she finds herself at the centre of the founding story of Christianity. MARY MAGDALENE brings a unique and fascinating character to the fore and places her at the heart of the greatest origin story of all. *Mary Magdalene* is produced by Iain Canning, Emile Sherman and Liz Watts.

Mary Magdalene is an exciting new addition to this year's Audi Dublin International Film Festival (21st Feb-4th March), which also includes 6 World Premieres, well over 100 Irish Premieres, and Immersive Stories, an innovative Virtual Reality conference. Further special guests include Bill Pullman, Vanessa Redgrave, Lynne Ramsay, Paul Schrader, Barry Keoghan, Cillian Murphy and many, many more.

Tickets for *Mary Magdalene* (Savoy Cinema 28th Feb, 18.30) and all the events at the Audi Dublin International Film Festival are available now at www.diff.ie or +353 (0)1 687 7974

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About Audi Dublin International Film Festival (21st Feb-4th March 2018)

The Dublin International Film Festival is sponsored by Audi, its principal funder is the Arts Council and it is also in receipt of funding from official industry partner, the Irish Film Board. Key partners and funders include hotel partner The Merrion Hotel, print transport partner Wells Cargo, post-production partner Windmill Lane, social listening partners Olytico, digital out-of-home provider Orbscreen, official food ordering app Just Eat and champagne partner Moët & Chandon, with media partners Entertainment.ie, 98FM, The Times & The Sunday Times and micromedia.ie. Kerry Foods' Cheestrings are sponsors of the ADIFF's Fantastic Flix family programme. Venue Partners include Cineworld.

Founded in 2003, the Dublin International Film Festival sets the agenda of the year with its programme of outstanding Irish and international film. Offering unique access to a plethora of filmmaking talent, the festival transforms Dublin into a hub of glamour, creativity and film appreciation.

Over the past fifteen years, the festival has hosted over 600 major guests, including winners of the festival's prestigious Volta Award such as Al Pacino, Julie Andrews, Danny DeVito, Daniel Day-Lewis, Joss Whedon, Brendan Gleeson, Angela Lansbury, Stanley Tucci, Stellan Skarsgård, Kristin Scott Thomas and Ennio Morricone.

The festival has screened world cinema from 52 different countries, a total of almost 1,500 films, of which 300 were Irish features including Irish premieres of *Sing Street*, *Once*, *Ondine*, *In Bruges*, *Calvary*, *The Stag* and *The Secret of Kells*. The festival's young people's programme Fantastic Flix is expanding each year, engaging schools and families and building a new generation of film fans.

ABOUT AUDI

Audi is Ireland's leading premium car brand. Vorsprung durch Technik combines progression, sportiness and sophistication, and is at the core of Audi's car-building philosophy. Audi leads the way in technological and engineering excellence, pioneering new innovations, such as quattro®, for a truly unique driving experience.

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