

## New Irish Cinema

## Swansong – Story of Occi Byrne



Saturday 11 July | Town Hall Main | 19.00

Conor McDermottroe | Ireland | 2009

**W**hen 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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