

## **FIN Partners announces Finola Dwyer of Wildgaze Films as keynote speaker**

*Oscar-nominated producer of Brooklyn, An Education, to open co-pro market September 12–14 in Halifax, Canada*

**August 13, 2019 (Halifax, Canada)** - FIN Partners, one of Canada's most popular co-production/co-financing markets is thrilled to announce its opening keynote speaker for this year's market taking place September 12-14 in Halifax. Finola Dwyer, Oscar-nominated producer of *Brooklyn, An Education, Their Finest, Our Souls at Night*, will speak about her career to date producing high quality films with internationally renowned talents, and a particular focus on her eye for winning partnerships.

**Keynote Conversation: A Conversation with London-based independent film and television producer, Finola Dwyer (*Brooklyn, An Education, Their Finest, Our Souls at Night*).**

**9:15am, Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax.**

Kicking off the second of a two-year Regional Spotlight focus on the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the USA, Dwyer will set the tone for the market with a candid conversation about her career highlights, vision forward, and her successful partnerships with talent both in front of, and behind, the camera.

Finola Dwyer is bringing vast experience as a highly successful independent film and television producer to FIN Partners this year. She is one half of the duo running Wildgaze Films – voted one of the top 50 film production companies in the UK by Screen Daily in 2018. Dwyer and her producing partner, Amanda Posey, have previously made Academy history as the first female producing team to have two Best Picture nominations. Some of their titles include: *An Education* (2009), which was Oscar nominated and a BAFTA Award winner; and *Brooklyn* (2016) which enjoyed immense US box office success. It was nominated for three Oscars (including Best Picture) and six BAFTAs, winning Outstanding British Film BAFTA that year. Wildgaze Films' most recent feature, a co-production filmed in Western Australia – *Dirt Music*, is anticipating its World Premiere at TIFF 2019.

FIN Partners is a unique and well-established co-production/co-financing market held in Halifax, Nova Scotia this September 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. It focuses on dramatic feature film and fiction series projects being developed for all platforms and is well known for its unparalleled access to co-pro opportunities, focused project offerings and agenda. This will be the second of a two-year term highlighting producers and delegates from Spotlight Regions of the United Kingdom, Ireland and the USA – though 100 projects from around the world will be pitched and hopefully matched for future release. There are 1,000, 25-minute, 1-2-1 meetings scheduled for these dates between delegates in hopes of helping successful co-productions form.

Investors, buyers, financiers, sales agents, broadcasters, and distributors will be on site looking for their next project. Also arranged are investor and co-production focused roundtable sessions, cutting edge panels, networking events, keynotes, cocktail receptions and everything FIN Atlantic International Film Festival has on offer. Trans Atlantic Partners producers will also be present – an established training and networking programme for experienced film and TV producers from Europe, Canada and the USA. On top of this, Film London is celebrating their region's inclusion by giving two Atlantic Canadian TV drama producers a familiarization trip to London this December. The selected producers will be announced at FIN Partners' annual and acclaimed Lobster Dinner by the Sea.

FIN Partners is presented by Telefilm Canada; with support from Signature Partner: Bell Media & CTV; Platinum Partner: Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage; and Gold Partners: Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, Canadian Media Production Association, and Super Channel.

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