



## SPECIAL SCREENING (MATINEE)

SUN 04 OCT 3.30PM

### THE DEAD

**DIR: JOHN HUSTON**      **UK 1987**      **83 MINS**  
Dublin, 1904. Friends congregate at a New Year's party, anxious in case one of the regulars, Freddie Mallins (Donal Donnelly), turns up drunk, to the disapproval of his mother (Marie Kean). In fact, the faint sense of disharmony that steals across the proceedings will come from another source entirely: remembrance of lost loves and the past. Long out of circulation in this country, John Huston's great film of the celebrated James Joyce story receives a welcome re-release. It is peculiarly gratifying when a great filmmaker crowns his career with material uniquely congenial to his talents. There are few more moving cinematic swansongs than Huston's THE DEAD. Fine performances from Donal McCann, Donal Donnelly, Marie Kean and a memorable self-effacing, enigmatic star turn from Angelica Huston.

*Admission: €6/5 (concession)  
Information/booking Town Hall Theatre phone 091-569777*

30 OCTOBER – 01 NOV

### JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL

Galway Film Society in association with the Embassy of Japan and access>CINEMA is delighted to bring the rich and varied cinema of contemporary Japanese filmmakers to Galway. The Japanese Film Festival commences this year in Galway on Oct 30 - Nov 1 before travelling on to Cork, Limerick and Dublin. Titles confirmed at time of print include the award winning films A Stranger of Mine and Kamikaze Girls. Full details will be available in the Japanese Film Festival programme from October.

*Membership of Galway Film Society includes admission to the Japanese Film Festival closing film on Nov 1st.*



JAPAN FOUNDATION  Embassy of Japan in Ireland  
在アイルランド日本国大使館

JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL 09



## CHRISTMAS FILM SCREENING (MATINEE)

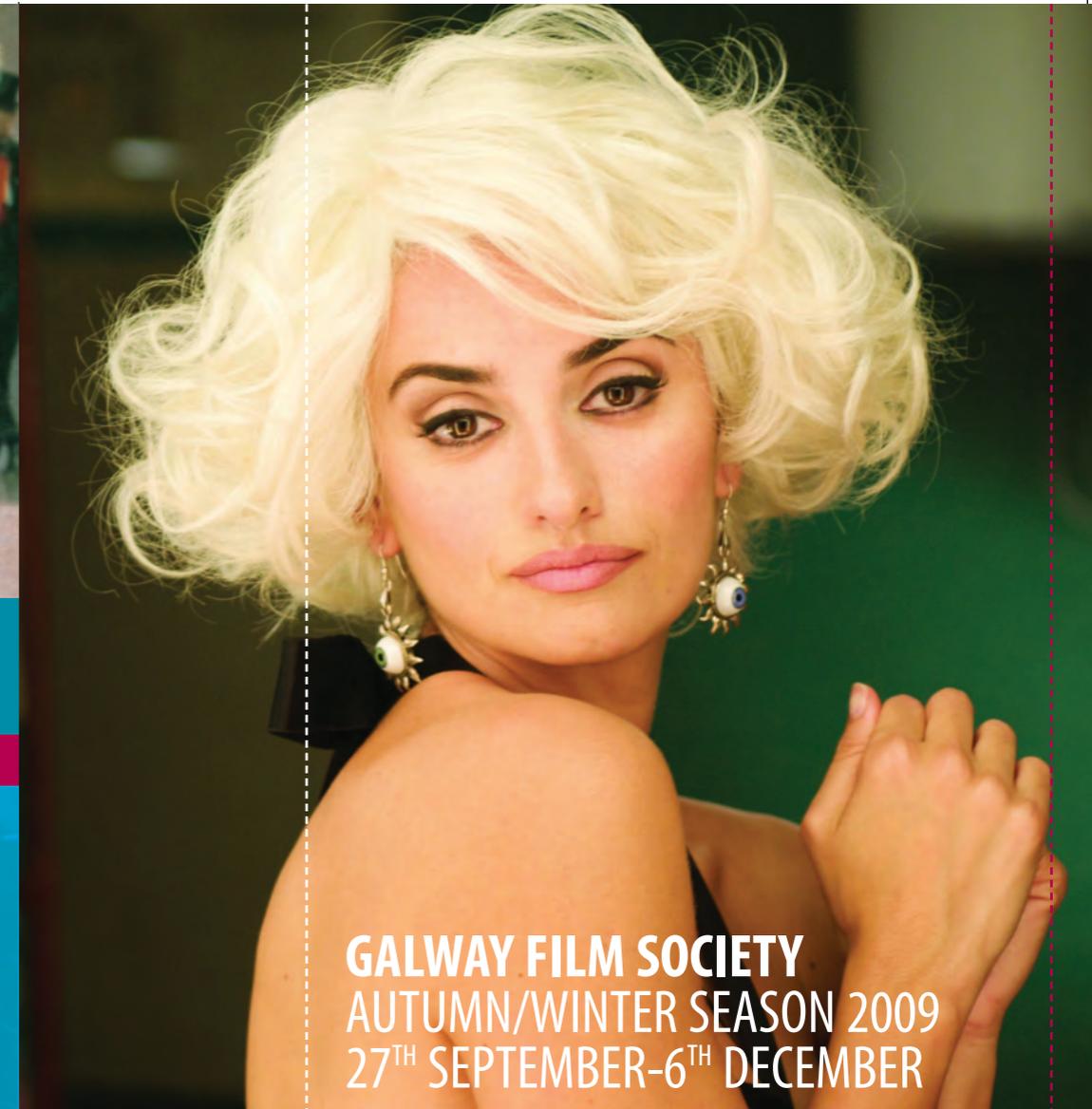
SUN 06 DEC 3.30PM

### WHITE CHRISTMAS

**DIR: MICHAEL CURTIZ**      **USA 1954**      **115 MINS**  
Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye meet during the Second World War and become firm friends. They team up to become popular as a song and dance duo ripping up the nightspots with their own brand of feel-good hits. After five years of rolling success they need a holiday and arrive at a New England skiing resort in the company of two comely sisters, Rosemary Clooney and Vera-Ellen. They find the place is nearly bankrupt, as there has been no snow for over a year. The local top man is their old army boss General Waverly (Dean Jagger), and sure enough our two heroes wade in to help their old comrade and organise a benefit concert. But can they save the resort? With wit, exuberance, and some show stopping hits, (including of course the title song), "White Christmas" is a cracking musical. Sure, it is outrageously sentimental and it takes very little time to develop any of the characters, but then so what? It's warm, sweet, and perfect for a pre-Christmas afternoon matinee.

*The above film will be screened in a party atmosphere with carol singing, spot prizes and light refreshments 30 mins prior to screening.*

*Admission: €6/5 (concession)  
Information/booking Town Hall Theatre phone 091-569777*



## GALWAY FILM SOCIETY AUTUMN/WINTER SEASON 2009 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER-6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER



INFORMATION/BOOKING TOWN HALL THEATRE  
PHONE 091/569777

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SUN 27 SEPT 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

RUDO Y CURSI

DIR: CARLOS CUARÓNUSA, MEXICO 2009 103 MINS

In RUDO Y CURSI, a new Mexican comedy Tato and Beto are two football-playing working-class brothers, each constantly trying to put one over the other. The pair work side by side at a banana plantation, while playing for their local football team. Tato dreams of a pop career, while Beto has aspirations to become a top footballer. What they are both aiming for, however, is to build their mother a big house on the beach. The film sees Y Tu Mama Tambien's Gael García Bernal and Diego Luna reunited but Rudo And Cursi is in a different ball park altogether, a much funnier affair. Bernal and Luna bring the same casual and endearing spontaneity they showed in Y Tu Mama Tambien to the fore again here, they are never less than human and their brotherly rough and tumble is altogether convincing. Their performances stick in the memory.

The following short film will be screened before above feature.

GRANNY O'GRIMMS SLEEPING BEAUTY

DIR: NICKY PHELAN 2008

Granny O'Grimm, a seemingly sweet old lady, loses the plot as she tells her version of Sleeping Beauty to her terrified granddaughter.

From the Irish Film Board's Frameworks collection.

PLUS...



SUN 4 OCT 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

O'HORTON

DIR: BENT HAMER NORWAY, GERMANY, FRANCE 2007 89 MINS

Retirement is a difficult stage in life, especially for somebody who has spent a lifetime dedicated to the same profession. The early scenes in this film, where we see a train gliding in and out of tunnels through a beautiful snow-covered landscape, illustrate something of how much Odd Horten (Bård Owe) loves being an engine driver, so it's easy to anticipate that this will be a story of sadness and loss. In fact, it's almost the opposite, as Odd embarks upon a series of adventures which reveal how many strange and wonderful things there are to be found in the world all around us. The film's gentle, absurdist humour is perfectly complemented by a charmingly understated performance from Owe as he shows a spirit and tenacity more often associated with the very young than with the old. But at this stage in his life, what does he have to lose? O'Horten is beautifully shot and has a warmth and generosity of spirit that is a joy to watch.

Winner - Best Director, Flanders International Film Festival 2008



SUN 11 OCT 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

THE CLASS

DIR: LAURENT CANTET FRANCE 2008 128 MINS

Cantet deservedly received the Palme d'Or at last year's Cannes Film Festival for The Class, in which the protagonist is a teacher at an inner city Paris school. Substantially improvised through a workshop process, this enthralling film follows one academic year in the lives of the teacher and his class of 14-year-olds. The Class is based on a book by François Bégaudeau, a 36-year-old teacher who wrote it while on leave of absence. Bégaudeau himself plays the central role of the dedicated teacher with such charisma that other roles surely will beckon. Bégaudeau's teacher is a man with a capacity for making mistakes, and his portrayal is far removed from that contrived archetype, the supposedly inspirational teacher too often found in such scenarios. As it addresses the hopes, dreams and failures of that multi-racial class, the film presents a microcosm of contemporary France. Cantet's astutely paced film becomes more and more involving as we get to know the pupils and to care for them and their prospects, and as we empathise with the teacher and the responsibilities and challenges facing him. The Class is fascinating and irresistible. - Michael Dwyer, The Irish Times

Winner - Special Jury Prize, San Sebastian Film Festival 2007
Winner - Peace Award, Berlin Film Festival 2008



SUN 18 OCT 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

EVERLASTING MOMENTS

DIR: JAN TROELL DENMARK, FINLAND, NORWAY, SWEDEN, GERMANY 2008 131 MINS

Discreet, old fashioned, traditional and altogether admirable, this is Jan Troell in what he does best, a period drama about a woman photographer living in Sweden at the turn of the last century. Paying minute attention to the smallest details, taking its time but never appearing to drag its feet, immensely sympathetic to its heroes and villains alike, this is an intimate family portrait and at the same time a rich canvass of working class life at that particular time. It concerns a simple woman married to a charming but hopeless redneck, who became a photographer at a time when no woman would have dreamt of embracing such a profession and no man, certainly not the kind of working class lout she had for a husband, would condone it. Maria is a striking character, a small, determined, courageous woman, who dares her husband and her fate, fiercely defends her brood and almost gives up her natural talent for images, only for their benefit. Over it all, there is Jan Troell eye behind the camera, wrapping it all up in splendid monochromatic images, a perfect choice to portray working class life of that time, and allowing some stunning visual effects.

EVERLASTING MOMENTS has won a number of awards and was nominated for the Golden Globes Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2009.



SUN 25 OCT 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

NO FILM

SUN 01 NOV 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

JAPANESE FILM - TO BE ANNOUNCED

SUN 08 NOV 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

KATYN

DIR: ANDRZEJ WAJDA POLAND 2007 121 MINS

A towering presence in the world of post-World War II cinema, Andrzej Wajda is famous for drawing inspiration from Poland's history, and has created a magnificent oeuvre of work that devastates even as it informs. He was presented with an honorary Oscar in 2000 for his contributions to world cinema. On Stalin's orders, the Soviets slaughtered some 22,000 Polish prisoners of war in Katyn forest near Smolensk in western Russia - mainly military officers and professional-class civilians. Wajda's film is a powerful and even remarkable memorial to these victims and to the belated destruction of one of the most persistent untruths about the second world war. This is a film with great moral seriousness, and clear-eyed deliberation but with flashes of poetry and tragedy, forcing audiences to acknowledge the sheer scale of brutality meted out and the grievous consequences for the families affected.

KATYN has won numerous awards and was nominated for the Oscars best foreign language film in 2008



SUN 15 NOV 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

FROZEN RIVER

DIR: COURTNEY HUNT USA 2008 96 MINS

Frozen River set in and around the physically beautiful but socially deprived Mohawk reservation that's located partly in upstate New York and partly in southern Quebec brings together two women, one white, the other a Mohawk Indian in the days before Christmas, and initially we're not invited to like either. Gradually, we discover that both women are decent mothers struggling in desperate situations. The two women are first mutually suspicious, then cautiously trusting partners in crime working as people-smugglers, driving Asian aliens hidden in the car boot across the frozen and unpatrolled St. Lawrence into America. The pair, whom we come to care deeply about, are living on thin ice, and the frozen St. Lawrence signifies both the opportunity to make quick money and the risk of disaster. The trafficking points to the terrible irony of two Americans living hand-to-mouth while facilitating the passage of foreigners who pay everything they've got to snakehead gangs to start a new life in the States. Courtney Hunt's low-budget blue-collar thriller, Frozen River, is one of the most impressive feature debuts of the past several years.

Winner - Best First Feature, Galway Film Fleadh 2009
This film will be screened in association with The Galway One World Centre



SUN 22 NOV 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

BROKEN EMBRACES

DIR: PEDRO ALMODÓVAR SPAIN 2009 127 MINS

The action of Broken Embraces unfolds in two periods: flashing back and forth between the present day and 1994. Mateo, a former film director who lost his sight in a car crash now writes screenplays yearning to escape his ruined real self for the fantasy-refuge of the cinema. But an obligatory of a shady financier, Ernesto Maertel, triggers memories of his movie-making career in the 90's. Martel bankrolled Mateo's final movie on condition that his mistress was given the lead. The mistress is played by Penélope Cruz in a state of almost hyperreal gorgeousness. A part of cinema's magnificent artifice. "Pedro Almodóvar has always managed to combine elegance and exuberance, and his latest movie is no exception: a richly enjoyable piece of work, slick and sleek, with a sensuous feel for the cinematic surfaces of things". "Pure moviegoing pleasure"- Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian.

Nominated for Golden Palm Award Cannes Film Festival 2009



SUN 29 NOV 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE

DIR: RÉMI BEZANÇON FRANCE 2008 113 MINS

The First Day of the Rest of Your Life delivers a highly entertaining, perceptive and energetic portrait of how just one single day can irrevocably alter the course of one's life. Using a kaleidoscopic multi-character approach, Bezançon uniquely demonstrates how the family unit shapes us as individuals and, in doing so, he provides a refreshing view of issues such as growing up, loss of virginity, parenthood, infidelity and bereavement. It studies the unique responses of each family member to discrete moments in their collective and personal histories. Where wide angles accentuate pragmatic doctor Albert's distance, his grungy adolescent sister Fleur is closely-lensed and enclosed in her world of inner turmoil. Slow-motion and flashbacks personify their idle dreamer brother Raphael, and long lenses create intimacy and closeness around their mother, establishing her as the nerve centre of the household. Calm, soft colours and stillness emanate from the portrait of the father's day to sensitively denote his passive, mellow nature. Bound together by an era-defining soundtrack and intelligent editing, this is a sharp and moving homage to family life and the memories it creates and harbours.

This film was a big hit at the Edinburgh Film Festival.
It has won numerous awards including The César Awards, France 2009.



MEMBERSHIP/SEASON TICKET FOR ALL ABOVE NINE FILMS

€36/32 (Concession)

GUEST ADMISSION TO SINGLE FILMS

€8/6 (Concession)

INFORMATION/BOOKING: TOWN HALL THEATRE

Phone 091/569777

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE THEIR SEATS 10 MINS BEFORE SCREENING.