A story about secrets, shame, forgiveness, and love.

THE WHIPPING CLUB

SCREENPLAY BY DEBORAH HENRY

THE WHIPPING CLUB

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"The Whipping Club takes us to mid-20th-century Ireland, where a good Catholic girl decides to give up her half-Jewish child for adoption. Secrecy, lifelong guilt, and remorse aren't even half of what she and the child will suffer in Deborah Henry's novel."

—O – Oprah Magazine July Summer Reading Issue 2012

SAM NEILL
THE WHIPPING CLUB
A story about secrets, shame, forgiveness, and love.
A SAMACO FILMS / BROADSWORD ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION
DIRECTED BY STEVE NESBIT
EVA GREEN JAMIE DORNAN SAM NEILL "THE WHIPPING CLUB"
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER FRANCO SAMA
PRODUCED BY DAVID RALPH, TOMAS MAHER & ZEB MOORE
SCREENPLAY BY DEBORAH HENRY
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY DEBORAH HENRY
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL LAVELLE
CASTING BY GARY ZUCKERBROD
CO-PRODUCED BY GREG POWELL & ANTHONY W. JOHNSON

SYNOPSIS

Set in the 1960s, and hidden in Ireland's political background, thousands of adults and children are forcibly separated.

The Whipping Club follows the travails of Marian McKeever, a feisty young Catholic school teacher, and Ben Ellis, the Jewish journalist with whom she falls in love. Against all odds, they plan to marry until a stunned Marian discovers she's pregnant. Confused, overwhelmed by the onslaught of objections to their marriage, she believes she is protecting her future with Ben, by hiding her pregnancy, and delivers the baby in secret. Marian relinquishes her newborn child Adrian to the nuns of Castleboro Mother Baby Home, assuring him a better life with an American family.
A decade later, Ben and Marian, now wed, raise their ten-year-old daughter, Johanna. Out of the past walks the nurse who delivered Adrian. She confesses to Marian that her young son has not been living in America, but institutionalized in a notorious Catholic orphanage. Worse, there is little hope for his survival.

Tormented by guilt that has plagued her throughout her marriage, Marian confronts the truth and reveals this long-buried secret to her family. She puts everything she holds dear at risk. Determined to bring her child home, she corrects the wrongs of her past by challenging a society that serves up children to a corrupt and abusive childcare system.
The Whipping Club chronicles young Adrian Ellis's perilous travels. His escape from a corrupt and violent officialdom grabs international headlines. Interweaving the stories of several characters, including Adrian's inmate-friend who does not survive, Adrian's father must finally take a heroic stand to save his son.

The Whipping Club delves into the sacrifices one makes in order to protect their loved ones. This raises powerful questions concerning *sin's nature.* Through guilt and redemption, this harrowing suspense story explodes into a wrenching family drama when secrets in a marriage, family and a society are revealed.

A story about secrets, shame, forgiveness, and love.

SCREENPLAY BY DEBORAH HENRY

WRITER'S STATEMENT

Why I wrote THE WHIPPING CLUB, to a great extent, remains mysterious to me, similar to why we fall in love with certain people and all the other great mysteries of life.

I know that I am captivated that one misstep can change the course of one's life. I know that I am fascinated with the notion of freedom and am outraged by social, political, and religious intolerance, outraged by cruelty to the innocent, outraged by man's inhumanity to man.

After many years of reading and researching, these questions came: What is the one thing you cannot live with? What is the one thing that you cannot live without? And What makes you cry? The answer was simple. The mere possibility that I may not be able to protect my children shook me to my core.

I wrote *Whipping Club* because the plight of these children garnered mystery and synchronicity. I had to let go and live with the discomfort of writing, with no clue where any of this writing would lead. By fumbling along, I chased after anyone who could aid me in my quest. The characters and people who knew their plight were raised or lived in foreign countries, mostly Ireland. Through my research, some were refugees from Lithuania, and one character hailed from Poland.

Why bother with all this writing that emerged toward the end of the journey. I wrote *THE WHIPPING CLUB* because what I found hidden, I needed to uncover.

Deborah Henry

PROPOSED CAST

EVE HEWSON

THE WHIPPING CLUB

SCREENPLAY BY DEBORAH HENRY

Marian McKeever

THE WHIPPING CLUB

EVA GREEN

OR EQUIVALENT

EVE HEWSON

Ben Ellis
THE WHIPPING CLUB
COLIN O'DONOGHUE
JAMIE DORNAN
OR EQUIVALENT

Father Brennan
SAM NEILL
OR EQUIVALENT
THE WHIPPING CLUB

Johnanna Ellis

THE WHIPPING CLUB

JULIA BUTTERS

Adrian Ellis
THE WHIPPING CLUB
TBA

PRODUCTIONTEAM

STEVE NESBIT DIRECTOR

Steve Nesbit began his career in wildlife stills photography before moving on to cinematography and directing. Steve worked both in television and commercials before graduating on to feature films. He is a ghostwriter for some and an award-winning writer. He resides in the US and UK.

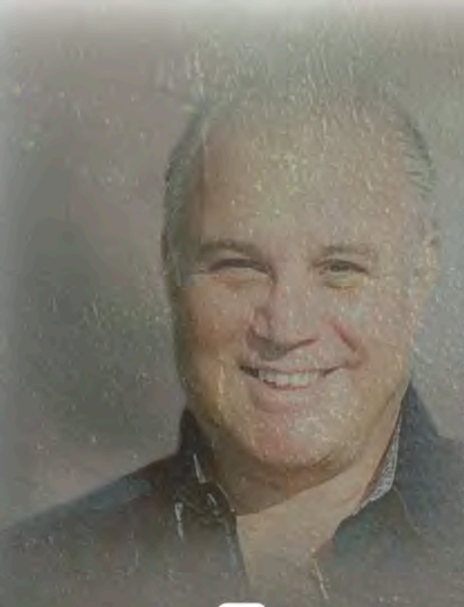
Edinburgh International Film Festival
Nominated, The Michael Powell Award for Best British Feature Film

2019

National Film Awards, UK
Won, National Film Award
Best Feature Film for Gloves Off (2017)
MoliFilms Entertainment

2018

British Independent Film Festival
Nominated, British Independent Film Festival Award
Best Director for Gloves Off (2017)



SAMACO FILMS
A FILM FINANCE COMPANY

FRANCO SAMA EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Independent feature film producer Franco Sama boasts a remarkable and extensive history in public speaking, public relations, and nearly two decades of independent film development, production and financing experience. Sama has Executive Produced or produced an impressive array of over twenty (20) successful independent feature films, including, most notably, "Guns, Girls and Gambling" starring Gary Oldman, Christian Slater, and Dane Cook, which is now a cult favorite. This film also gained a distribution deal from Universal Home Entertainment. Other films Sama has produced include "Black Limousine" starring David Arquette and Vivica Fox, "Tooth and Nail" starring Michael Madsen and Vinnie Jones, and "Paid" starring Corbin Bernsen.

Sama also serves as Executive Producer on the film festival darling "Petunia" starring Thora Birch, Brittany Snow, and Academy Award winner Christine Lahti. His shingle "Samaco Films, LLC," headquartered at Los Angeles Center Studios in Downtown Los Angeles, is currently financing and producing a slate of several independent feature films, including *TAKE MY WIFE*, *PLEASE*, *VODUN, THE WHIPPING CLUB (IRELAND),* and *ALEXIS COLETTE"* (U.K.). Their latest film, "*The Inheritance*," has completed Principal Photography and will begin distribution in Q3 of 2021.

Sama is also a highly sought-after public guest speaker. His hugely popular film financing and distribution forum program "Finance Indie Road Map," otherwise known as "The F.I.R.M.," is explicitly designed to educate and assist first and second-time filmmakers in their quest to develop, fund, produce and release their first feature film (s). In his constant effort to educate and assist new filmmakers, Sama travels throughout the United States and Internationally educating emerging filmmakers on the business of film funding and has been the keynote speaker and guest panelist at the 2018 & 2019 V.I.P. Film Summit held in Washington D.C., respectively. Sama also serves on the Board of Directors for the non-profit organization New Filmmakers, L.A.

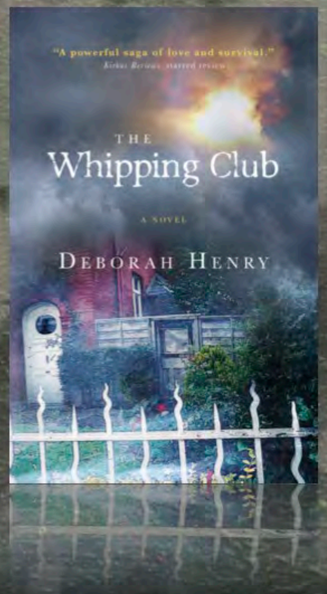
DEBORAH HENRY WRITER

Deborah Henry wrote a screenplay based on her critically acclaimed novel. The Whipping Club, which received a Kirkus starred review, appeared on Kirkus Reviews' Best of 2012 list, praise from Publisher's Weekly, and selected for Oprah's Summer Reading List. She holds an MFA from Fairfield University. The Copperfield Review published the first short story. Afterward, she became a historical fiction finalist for Solander Magazine and long-listed in the Fish Short Story Prize. She has been an expert guest on radio programs and NBC, FOX, and CBS television in top markets nationally. Deborah is an active member of The Academy of American Poets, a patron of the Irish Arts Center in New York, and founded the Deborah Henry Scholarship Fund for the Abroad Writers Conference in Dublin. She has traveled extensively in Ireland and divides her time between New York and New England. She has recently completed her second novel and a fairy tale published in Uganda and Australia.

Deborah received rave reviews from Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Olen Butler, International Man Booker Prize Finalist Josip Novakovich, Longtime arts editor for the Irish Voice, Irish America IrishCentral.com, Cahir O'Doherty, Bestselling authors Caroline Leavitt, Dawn Tripp, Jaquelyn Mitchard, among many others. Publishers Weekly calls her debut "riveting."

"The prose of The Whipping Club is gripping, and almost poetic in its emotional depth, while the research is concise and accurate, and the story haunting…The Whipping Club holds the promise of a long and meaningful career for Deborah Henry as a serious writer. Bravo!"
—Seattle Post-Intelligencer

"Henry weaves multilayered themes of prejudice, corruption and redemption with an authentic voice and swift, seamless dialogue. Her prose is engaging, and light poetic touches add immediacy. Echoing the painful lessons of the Jewish Holocaust, Henry's tale reveals what happens when good people remain silent. A powerful saga of love and survival."
—Kirkus, starred review



DAVID RALPH PRODUCER

With over twenty-five years' experience in the film business since 2005, David has headed up BROADSWORD ENTERTAINMENT with interests in film, tv, animation, and consultancy. David started in the industry as a screenplay writer, having his first feature script optioned in 1994. He subsequently moved into project development and film finance structuring. David works with producers such as Oscar Award Winner John Peverall (*THE DEER HUNTER*) and John H. Williams (*SHREK*, plus production companies White Eagle (*Sylvester Stallone*), Long Road Entertainment (*Jean-Claude Van Damme*), and Hell's Kitchen (*Jim Sheridan*).

With the last ten years spent as a film finance consultant in Europe and the US, David has amassed a vast wealth of knowledge in all aspects of the film, from development right through to release. Broadsword Entertainment's upcoming slate begins with a Haiti set thriller called *GHOST MAN* with director Simon Crane. The post-apocalyptic actioneer *DEATH RUN* with director Alexander Witt (*RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE*) follows, then finishing with the horror anthology series *THE STOKER TALES*, based on the short stories of *DRACULA* creator Bram Stoker.

TOMÁS MAHER PRODUCER

In 2006, Tomas returned to Ireland and joined Broadsword Entertainment. He had worked on the fringes of the film business for several years. Tomas handles the company's legal affairs and operations and oversees the company's slate of writer clients. Presently, Tomas spearheads the development of the animated feature *WINGIN IT* to star Natalie Imbruglia, Gregory Porter, Jason Isaacs, and the limited crime series THE SURGEON for Dana Delany.

GREG POWELL CO-PRODUCER

Greg Powell is the most commercially successful stunt coordinator of all time. He has been at the top of his profession for the last thirty-five years. He has built up close relations with those he has worked with, including *Tom Hanks, Ryan Reynolds, and Tom Cruise*. They have all utilized Gregg's expertise in such productions as THE DA VINCI CODE, THE HITMAN'S BODYGUARD, and *MISSION IMPOSSIBLE*. Greg's most significant success to date has been the HARRY POTTER movies, for which he has won the Screen Actors Guild Award for best stunts. Nominated for his work on *BAND OF BROTHERS*, he will have upcoming releases, including *HITMAN'S WIFE'S BODYGUARD, JOLT (with Kate Beckinsale),* and *THE OUTPOST* directed by *Rod Lurie*.

Emerald Giant Productions

Your Vision is our Business

ZEB MOORE CO-PRODUCER

Zeb Moore runs Emerald Giant Productions, Magic Roundabout Theatre Company, and The Richard Harris Int. Film Festival. He produced his first micro-budget feature in 2003, with Fade to Black Films - "Somebody's Daughter."

In 2008, he moved into theatre and produced 12 critically acclaimed plays from various writers. He won the Midwest Arts Media & Culture "Best Production" award for "Dolly West's Kitchen" by Frank McGuinness.

In 2013, Zeb founded the "The Richard Harris International Film Festival," which has grown exponentially for the last eight years. Now a 5-day event, the film festival incorporates a centrepiece music event, which has featured 3-time Grammy winner Jimmy Webb and Golden Globe-nominated and award-winning movie composer Brian Byrne. Zeb recently produced a feature film, "The Yellow Wallpaper," which is currently doing the Film Festival Circuit.

BALLET MAGIQUE

ANTHONY W. JOHNSON CO-PRODUCER

Anthony W. Johnson is the creator and holds the registered trademark(s) for Ballet Magique. An entertainment company fuses Dance, Magic, Music, Theatre, and Wushu into dynamic performances. Ballet Magique also received accolades from around the globe. "Ballet Magique's Ring of the Rose" also gained several Lester Horton Award nominations for "Outstanding Achievement in Choreography," Costume and Lighting Design." Ballet Magique's next production is a riveting and slick musical about Leonardo da Vinci's legendary life, art, and creations. Johnson is also the founder of Laughing Man on Fire Productions, where he creates and produces innovative content for all genres. A proud member of both The Dramatist Guild and Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. Johnson was a ballet soloist with The Chicago Lyric Opera, performing in Operas like "Aida" and "The Ghost of Versailles."

Johnson toured with legendary Sir Paul McCartney's "Drivin' U.S.A." and was on contract to sing and dance for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, American Entertainment, and Bush Gardens.

Presently Johnson is directing and producing his film "Alexis Colette." Johnson will also direct the thriller "Blood, Sex and Rockin' Roll."
Johnson is also set to direct his screenplay thriller "VODUN," which has also been optioned by Samaco Films, LLC.

GARY ZUCKERBROD CASTING DIRECTOR

Gary M. Zuckerbrod's casting career expands over three decades from working on television shows such as *"The Twilight Zone"* to the *Eddie Murphy film "Trading Places." "West Craven's New Nightmare"* and the blockbuster Quentin Tarantino motion picture *"Pulp Fiction."*

Gary is the original casting director of the hit CW show *"All American."* Other television credits include *"Cold Case," "Without A Trace," and "Frequency," as well as the film "Frequency."*

His resume is extensive and varied. This past year he cast the motion picture *"Apparition" and TV Movies "Tempting Fate" and "Very Valentine."*

Gary was president of the CSA Casting Director's Society of America and won Best Casting at Artios for the dramatic episodic Without a Trace. And he was nominated for a *Primetime Emmy for Outstanding Casting Miniseries, Movie Special "The Ron Clark Story."*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE WHIPPING CLUB
PROPOSED BUDGET $4,383,280
WRITTEN BY
DEBORAH HENRY
DIRECTOR
STEVE NESBIT
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
FRANCO SAMA
PRODUCERS
DAVID RALPH, ZEB MOORE, TOMÁS MAHER
CO-PRODUCERS
GREG POWELL, ANTHONY W. JOHNSON
PRODUCTION COMPANIES
SAMACO FILMS, BROADSWORD ENTERTAINMENT, EMERALD GIANT
GENRE
DRAMA
LOCATION
IRELAND

FINANCIAL PLAN

The Whipping Club producers are seeking to raise a minimum of initial investment funds equal to 30% to 50% of the proposed $4,383,280 production in cash equity.

Doing so will trigger the next step of making legitimate offers to talent, including a high-profile director and bankable actors to play the leading roles.

Once said the initial investment is secured, veteran Executive Producer Franco Sama shall seek to gain the rest of the funding via traditional Independent Film resources.

Such resources include, but are not limited to, advancing against state and local tax incentives, advancing debt funding via potential collateralized assets. These assets come from Distributors, minimum guarantees, and pre-sales of foreign territories worldwide. We may also decide to gain additional equity, mezzanine, and gap financing sources.

BUDGET

THE WHIPPING CLUB

BY DEBORAH HENRY

SAMACO FILMS
The Whipping Club

Producer: Franco Samaco
Writer: Deborah Henry
Unions: SAG
Shooting Location: TBD

Prep: 4 weeks
Shoot: 5 weeks
Post: 10 weeks
Prepared by: Liz Vacovec

Acct#	Category Description	Page	Total
1000	WRITERS/SCRIPT	1	$47,925
1100	PRODUCER'S UNIT	1	$235,650
1200	DIRECTOR	1	$58,674
1300	CAST	2	$645,650
1400	BITS & STUNTS	4	$27,713
1500	CASTING	5	$32,930
	ABOVE THE LINE TOTAL		**$1,048,542**
2000	PRODUCTION STAFF	6	$308,999
2100	EXTRAS & STANDINS	9	$173,289
2300	SET DESIGN	12	$85,324
2600	SET DRESSING	13	$106,164
2700	PROPERTY	15	$46,206
2800	PICTURE VEHICLES/ANIMALS	16	$12,275
3000	WARDROBE	16	$163,038
3100	MAKEUP & HAIR	18	$90,708
3200	SET OPERATION	20	$148,727
3300	SPECIAL EFFECTS	23	$1,250
3400	SET LIGHTING	23	$68,505
3500	CAMERA	24	$164,134
3600	PRODUCTION SOUND	27	$29,991
3700	TRANSPORTATION	28	$242,256
3800	LOCATIONS	29	$341,752
4000	PRODUCTION FILM & LAB	32	$25,000
4800	MARINE UNIT	32	$34,252
	BELOW THE LINE TOTAL		**$2,041,870**
5400	VISUAL EFFECTS	34	$50,000
5500	EDITORIAL	34	$142,113
5600	MUSIC	35	$75,775
5700	POST SOUND	35	$100,000
5800	FILM LIBRARY	36	$5,000
5900	OPTICAL AND TITLES	36	$15,000
6100	DIGITAL INTERMEDIATE	37	$71,500
6200	NETWORK DELIVERABLES	37	$29,000
	POST PRODUCTION TOTAL		**$488,388**
7000	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	38	$236,000
7100	INSURANCE & MED. EXAMS	38	$70,000
7200	PUBLICITY/SOCIAL MEDIA	38	$50,000
7300	ROYALTIES, RESIDUALS & CERTIFICATES	39	$50,000
7400	Contingency : 7.0%		$278,936

Acct#	Category Description	Page	Total
7500	Bond Fee : 3.0%		$119,544
	Total Above-The-Line		**$1,048,542**
	Total Below-The-Line		**$2,530,258**
	Total Above and Below-The-Line		**$3,578,800**
	Grand Total		**$4,383,280**

SALES ESTIMATES

THE WHIPPING CLUB

synergetic

minds.us
new media group

SALES ESTIMATES

Film **THE WHIPPING CLUB**

Director: TBA

Cast considered:

Colin Farrell	Michael Sheen
Christian Bale	Tim Roth
Colin Firth	Sam Neill
Gary Oldman	

Notes:
International estimates are Minimum Guarantees only and do not include additional royalties from Box office and VOD sales.

For USA and Canada, the amounts are Box office estimates.

Estimates must be adjusted when director & cast has been locked

Synergetic Distribution
9301 Wilshire Blvd
Beverly Hills, 90201
www.synergetic.film

NetMinds New Media Group
16654 Soledad Canyon Rd - # 343
Canyon Country, CA 91387
www.netminds.us

	ASK	TAKE
NORTH AMERICA		
USA	$4,000,000	$1,500,000
Canada	$300,000	$120,000
	4,300,000	**1,620,000**
EUROPE		
Benelux	$150,000	$100,000
France	$600,000	$200,000
Germany \ Austria \ Switzerland	$600,000	$250,000
Greece	$100,000	$50,000
Italy	$250,000	$150,000
Portugal	$100,000	$60,000
Scandinavia	$250,000	$100,000
Spain	$500,000	$200,000
United Kingdom	$750,000	$400,000
	$3,300,000	**$1,510,000**
EASTERN EUROPE		
Bulgaria	$75,000	$50,000
Czech Republic/Slovakia	$75,000	$50,000
Former Yugoslavia	$35,000	$20,000
Hungary	$100,000	$75,000
Poland	$150,000	$50,000
Romania	$75,000	$40,000
Russia	$250,000	$100,000
Pay TV - E. Europe	$25,000	$15,000
	$785,000	**$400,000**
MIDDLE EAST		
Israel	$25,000	$15,000
Middle East	$80,000	$30,000
Turkey	$150,000	$75,000
	$255,000	**$120,000**
ASIA		
China	$30,000	$15,000
Hong Kong	$75,000	$40,000
India & Pakistan	$60,000	$40,000
Indonesia	$100,000	$50,000
Japan	$600,000	$275,000
S Korea	$400,000	$150,000
Malaysia	$75,000	$40,000
Philippines	$75,000	$40,000
Thailand	$125,000	$55,000
Singapore	$75,000	$40,000
Taiwan	$200,000	$75,000
Vietnam	$45,000	$25,000
South East Asia Pay TV	$100,000	$50,000
	$1,960,000	**$895,000**
LATIN AMERICA		
Argentina/Par/Uru/Chi	$50,000	$25,000
Brazil	$120,000	$50,000
Central America	$10,000	$5,000
Colombia	$15,000	$5,000
Mexico	$150,000	$100,000
Peru/Bolivia/Ecuador	$25,000	$10,000
Venezuela	$25,000	$15,000
Pay TV – Latin America	$100,000	$50,000
	$495,000	**$260,000**
MISCELLANEOUS		
Australia & New Zealand	$160,000	$100,000
South Africa	$50,000	$20,000
Airlines	$100,000	$50,000
	$310,000	**$170,000**
GRAND TOTAL	**$11,405,000**	**$4,975,000**

WATERFALL

INTEREST
BEARING ESCROW ACCOUNT

DISTRIBUTION FEES

DEFERMENTS FEES

INVESTOR

120%

INVESTOR POOL

PRODUCER POOL

PROFITS SPLIT IN PERPETUITY
50%

COMPARABLE FILMS

SOPHIE'S CHOICE MEETS SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION

LOOK . TONE.

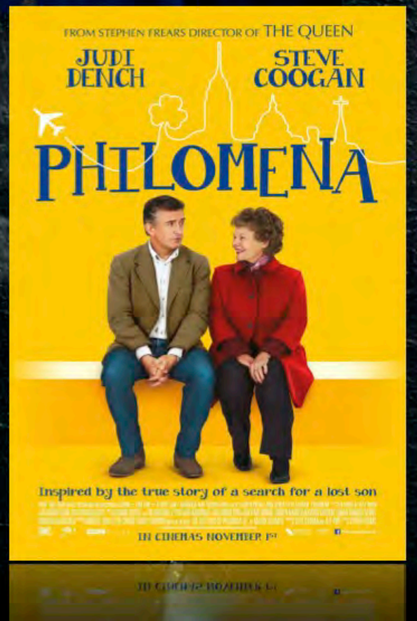
COMPARABLE FILMS

STYLE

GENRE

DRAMA

Jews have lived in Ireland for centuries. The earliest reference is in the *Annals of Innisfallen*, a chronicle of medieval Irish history, in the year 1079, that states, "five Jews came from over the sea with gifts to Tairdelbach [king of Munster] and then were sent back again over the sea." Today, the Jewish community of Ireland numbers approximately 2,557, with almost 2/3 living in Dublin. Between 2011 and 2016, the Jewish population of Ireland increased by 30%, which officials attributed to an influx of young professionals working with U.S.-based multinational firms that have set up offices in Ireland.



PHILOMENA
Budget
$12,000,000
Opening Weekend
$128,435
Gross (US & Canada)
$37,709,979
Gross (World)
$100,129,872

BY THE GRACE OF GOD
Budget 6.8 MM
Opening Weekend
$7,7652
Gross (US & Canada)
$67,059
Gross (World)
$7,755,652

In 1907, the National School for Jewish Children was established. A children's hostel opened on Clifton Park Avenue during the Second World War, and a Millisle farm served as a refuge for children escaping the war.

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ZEB.EMERALDGIANT@GMAIL.COM

THE WHIPPING CLUB

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