

IRISH FILM SCHOOL

FILMMAKING WITH JOHN BOORMAN

Course Overview

This intensive one-week course, led by award-winning, world-famous British director and screenwriter John Boorman, will guide you through the skills necessary to direct a feature film.

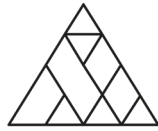
This practical, hands-on, immersive course in directing and contemporary filmmaking will bring you through the creative process from script to screen.

You will learn the art of screenwriting, storyboarding, scheduling, casting, directing, lighting, camera work, sound recording and digital editing.

At the end of this course you will have the necessary skills to make a short film for your business or for pleasure and will have made a short film to take away for your showreel or portfolio.



John Boorman



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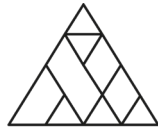
Tutor's Biography

A highly acclaimed British director, John Boorman is also known as one of the commercial mainstream's most independently-minded filmmakers. He has been quoted as saying "filmmaking is the process of turning money into light and then back into money again," an epigram whose simplicity has in many ways defined the trajectory of his career. Boorman has also produced most of his own films and is regarded by film bonders as a highly responsible producer who always brings a film in on - or more usually under - budget with very high production values.

Film Career

Boorman's Hollywood directing debut was with cult classic *Point Blank* (1967), which *The Sunday Times* has named as one of the ten best thrillers of all time. His first prize at the Cannes International Film Festival was for Best Direction on *Leo the Last* (1970) starring Marcello Mastroianni. Boorman's *Deliverance* (1972), nominated for three Oscars, quickly became a classic. Other well-known works by John Boorman include *Zardoz* (1973; starring Sean Connery), *Exorcist II: The Heretic* (1977), the acclaimed *Excalibur* (1981) and *The Emerald Forest* (1985).

With *Hope and Glory* (1987), Boorman's incredible narrative strength was at the forefront. A surprisingly gentle, semi-autobiographical account of a boy's experiences during the London Blitz, it was hailed for its unforced exuberance. The film was nominated for five Academy Awards, with Boorman being nominated as a producer, director and writer. *The General* (1998) – which told the story of legendary, real-life Irish crime lord Martin Cahill – won the Best Direction award at Cannes. In 2004, John directed *In My Country* starring Samuel Jackson and Juliette Binoche, which won the peace award at the 2004 Berlin Film Festival.



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Queen and Country (2014)

Boorman's most recent picture, *Queen & Country (2014)*, premiered at Directors' Fortnight at the Cannes International Film Festival and was released as a success across the US and Europe in 2015.

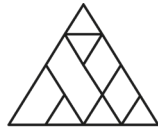
Fellowships

In 2004, Boorman was awarded the BAFTA Fellowship, a lifetime achievement award presented by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts "in recognition of outstanding achievement in the art forms of the moving image".

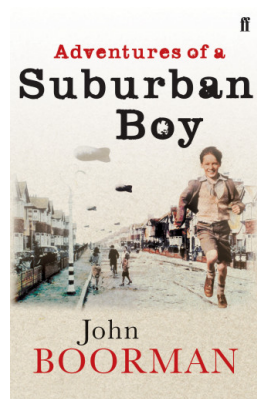
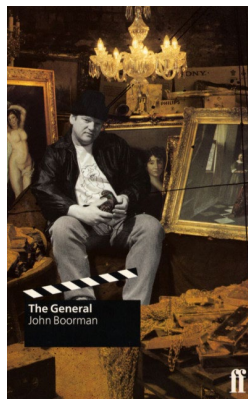
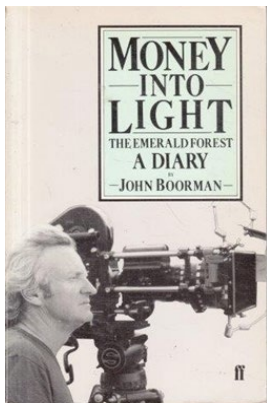
In 2013, the British Film Institute (BFI) bestowed its highest honour to John Boorman with a presentation of a BFI fellowship.

Author

Boorman is also a published author and has been a contributor and co-editor to thirteen annual editions of *Projections*, a series of books published by Faber & Faber (UK), in which filmmakers write about their craft. Boorman is also the author of 'Money into Light: The Emerald Forest Diary', which chronicles the three year journey Boorman took to make the film, and his autobiography 'Adventures of a Suburban Boy'. Faber & Faber will publish a second autobiographical book, "Conclusions", in September 2019.



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Industry Influence

Boorman mentored and gave a start to the careers of many young actors such as Helen Mirren, Liam Neeson, Brendan Gleeson and Gabriel Byrne.

Boorman also mentored several young filmmakers, including Neil Jordan and Jim Sheridan.

Course Outline

DAY ONE: The “Unturndownable” Script

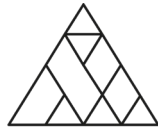
Intensive study in:

- Genres
- Structure
- Final draft
- Working alone
- Working with a writer
- How to attract a lead actor
- Group discussion on a scene selected by John Boorman for the shoot
- Social Programme: group welcome dinner in city centre (optional)

DAY TWO: Visual Storytelling

Intensive study in:

- Storyboarding
- Number of set ups
- Film: The art of the possible
- The creative solutions arising from limitations
- Group discussion on scenes from *The Making of Zardoz* and *Deliverance*



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DAY 3: Film Producing Fundamentals

In the morning of this day Trisha Flood an experienced line producer and production manager, will deliver an intensive study in:

Nuts and Bolts. Defining and Exploring the Roles and Responsibilities of the:

- Production Team
- AD Department
- Locations Team
- Art Department

Scheduling and Budgeting

- Creating a Shooting Schedule
- Working with an AD
- Number of Shooting Days
- Number of Set Ups per Day
- Budgeting Software
- Working with a Line Producer

In the afternoon [Kieran Corrigan](#), an experienced financier and Executive Producer, whose work includes *The General* (1998), *The Tailor of Panama* (2001), *Queen and Country* (2014) and *We Have Always Lived In The Castle* (2018), will guide you through best practice in film production. He will teach you the essential skills and insights into the issues and challenges that govern:

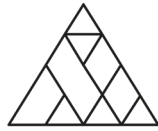
- Film and TV financing
- Key budgetary issues
- Talent management
- Co-productions
- Practical law and taxation for filmmakers

Social Programme: Irish Film School Networking Event

DAY 4: Your Light and The Shoot

Students will have the opportunity to try different filmmaking techniques with John Boorman and cinematographer [Seamus Deasy](#), whose work includes *Queen and Country* (2014) and *The Tiger's Tail* (2006), including:

- The camera
- Use of digital camera
- Breaking down a scene
- Set ups
- Movement
- Lighting
- Framing



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The Shoot will commence in the afternoon when actors will be brought into the studio and will be directed in the test scene by John Boorman. Students will get an opportunity to view John at work and there will be Q&A with him at the end of the demonstration.



Students and Actors on set during the October 2018 Filmmaking Course

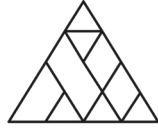
DAY 5: The Shoot Continued and Post

On the final day students will get the opportunity to step into the film industry and direct the actors in the test scene. Students will also work with John Boorman and an experienced editor on various elements of post- production with an intensive study in:

- Complete editing of the test scene
- ADR
- How a movie finds its shape
- Previews
- Connecting with the audience

These practical exercises will be followed by:

- Group discussion and review of the week
- Distribution of John Boorman's essay "The Film Process"
- Presentation of Certificates by John Boorman
- Social Programme: networking drinks



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Expert Tutors

This course caters for all skill levels, where participants will have the opportunity to get one on one feedback and critique with the highly experienced lead tutor, John Boorman, and his hand-picked team of leading film industry experts and professionals.

Networking

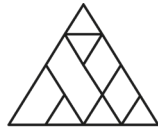
During the course you will have opportunities to network in an informal setting with fellow attendees, tutors and representatives from the film and TV industry.

Course Materials

At the end of this course attendees will be given a coursework folder with comprehensive notes and reference materials to take home.



Personalised Certificate Signed by John Boorman



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Certificate

On the successful completion of this course, you will be awarded a personalised Irish Film School Certificate of Completion and signed by John Boorman, in recognition of your achievement.

Alumni

You will also be invited to join the IFS community - an exclusive Alumni group where you can continue to exchange information, share tips and receive exclusive offers and invitations to events.

Who is this Filmmaking course for?

This course is for participants who want to “step into” the filmmaking industry as either a filmmaker, producer or director. Attendees may wish to use the knowledge gained as an additional skill within their employment, to support their clients and grow their business, or may see this as a stepping stone or a foundation course to take the next step into the film industry.

Confidentiality

All coursework and correspondence with the Irish Film School will be treated as strictly private and confidential.

TAKE ACTION NOW

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Take your first step by contacting us today!