



The WALL of BELFAST

An **EVE HARDING** Film

LOGLINE

The Northern Ireland Riots of 1969 separate friends Catholic Conall and Protestant George. They both fight to live normal lives amongst the tension and conflict brought about by differing ideologies during the height of 'The Troubles'.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: The Wall of Belfast

Genre: Social Realistic Drama

Format: Short Film, 12 minutes

Themes: The power of tribalism and generational hate.



SYNOPSIS

Beginning in 1965 and ending in 2025, 'The Wall of Belfast' is a social realistic drama that looks at the past and present tensions in West Belfast. Through the eyes of Catholic Republican Conall and Protestant Loyalist George, although their religions and ideologies may differ, their grief, hate and ultimate wish for a happy life, is very much the same.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

This January I spent a few days in Belfast, Northern Ireland. I had always been fascinated by how historical wars shape who we are as a society and as individuals, however what interested me specifically about 'The Troubles' was how two groups of people living as neighbours, who may appear to outsiders as racially, religiously and culturally the same, actually had vastly different political views and gave themselves completely separate identities. This human irony captivated me.

When I arrived in Belfast, what astounded me most was to find out that the 'Peace Wall' was not just a stark reminder of complicated events of the past, but actually was still acting as barrier, keeping apart the two parts of West Belfast - the Catholic Republicans and the Protestant Loyalists.



To learn more about factual events and personal perspectives, I took part in a 3 hour Political Tour. The first half was lead by an ex-IRA member and the second half by an ex-British Soldier. Their stories were traumatic and yet so eerily similar. Neither had met and would never cross over to the other side of the wall.

Our tribalistic natures, egos and unprocessed pain, forsake our ability to keep peace, no matter how much we all really want it in our hearts. This is why I want to make this film, to call attention to such a painful, yet universal plight.

With 'The Wall of Belfast', despite the visual segregation shown by the split screen, I want to highlight just how much Conall and George, and in turn all of humanity, are the same.



MAIN CHARACTERS

CONALL O'NEIL

Identifies as Catholic Republican Irish. He is an individualist, who knows his own mind. Comes from a large family and has a working class and under-privileged background. He is a hard-worker.



GEORGE WILSON

Identifies as Protestant Loyalist British. He is quite easily influenced, leaning on the thoughts and ideas of others. He is also working class, but as a protestant is naturally offered better opportunities.



Both have absent fathers (they work all hours to support their families), are close to their mothers and both stand strongly to their beliefs and principles. They are protective of those around them and are very family-orientated.

CONALL'S MUM



Bernadette (Bernie) identifies as Catholic Irish. She has 5 children.

GEORGE'S MUM



Rose identifies as Protestant British. She was only able to have one child so is rather protective of George.

Both mothers are extremely loving and act as the backbones of their families. Especially as their husbands spend time out of the house working hard to support their families.

NIAHM



She is Conall's sister and is 4 years younger.

She identifies as Catholic Irish, but has a rebellious streak. She gets in trouble for flirting with the British soldiers.

RORY



He is Conall's brother and is 6 years younger. He identifies as Catholic Irish.

He dislikes the conflict and remind Conall of his friendship with George.

SEAN



He is Conall's older cousin and 3 years older. He identifies as Catholic Republican Irish. His hate is strong and very quickly signs up as a radical member of the IRA.

MARTIN



He becomes George's best friend and is the same age. Identifies as Protestant Loyalist British. Out of the close pair, Martin always takes the lead.

CHRISTINE



She is Conall's wife. She identifies as Catholic Irish. She is a smart and headstrong woman.

SALLY



She is George's wife. She identifies as Protestant British. She is a talented singer and kind.

VISUAL STYLE AND TONE



The film will utilise a split screen format, to emphasise not only the divisive nature of conflict, but symbolise the physical barrier which separates the two halves of West Belfast even today.

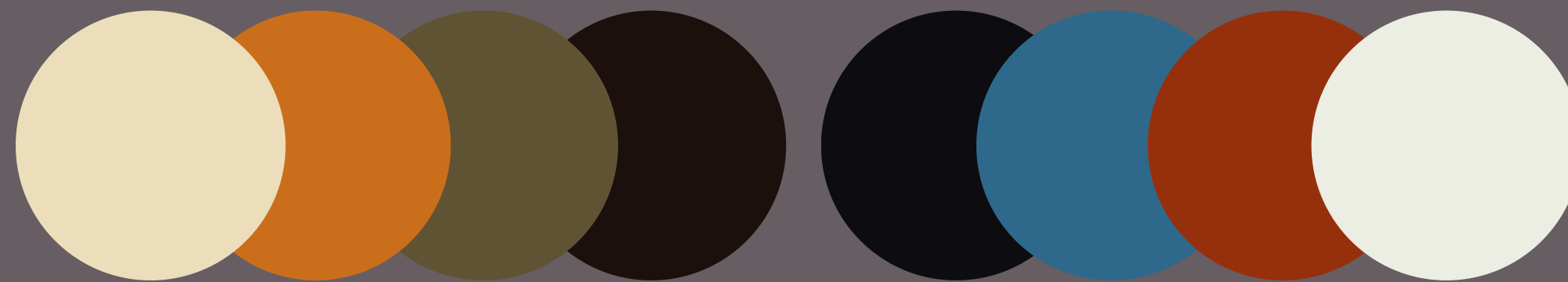
The screens will at times act as almost a mirror image of each other, in order to demonstrate the similarities in lives of those who have such opposing beliefs.



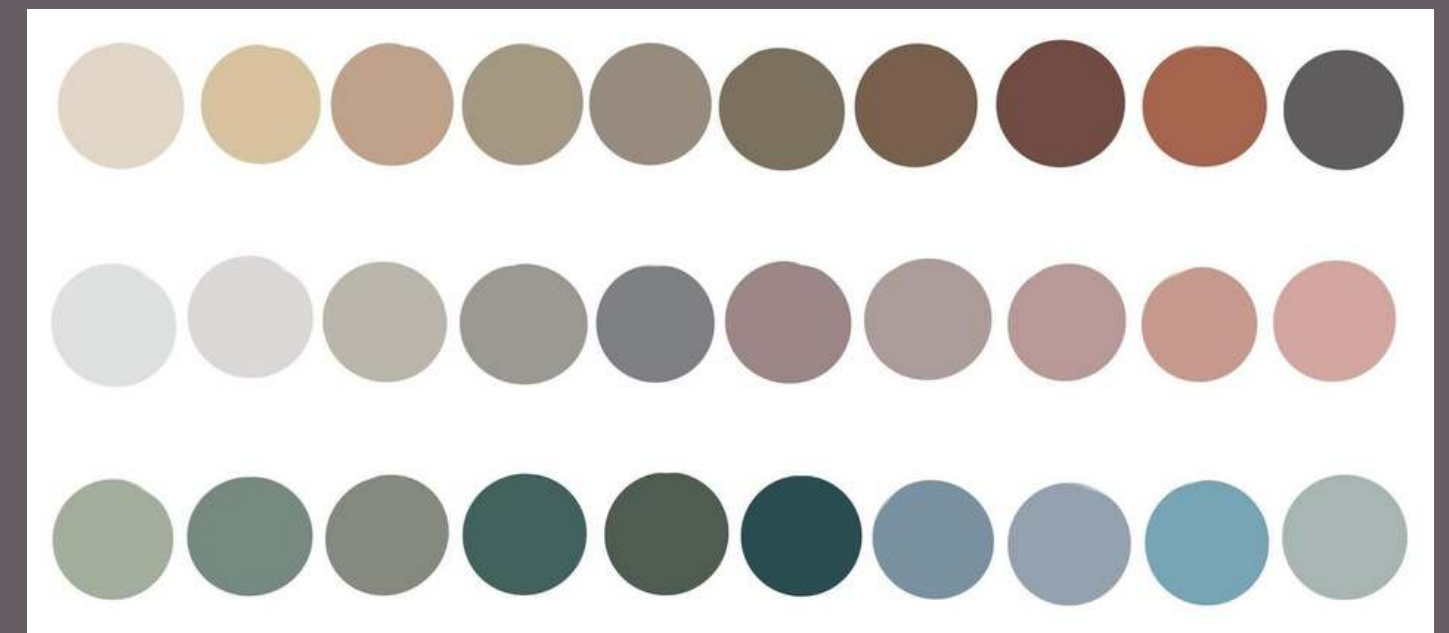
VISUAL STYLE AND TONE

Each screen will have it's own unique colour palette. The left side's colours will reflect those of the Republic of Ireland flag (oranges and greens) and the right side's colours will reflect those of the British Union Jack flag (reds and blues).

Instead of relying just on filters, the sets, costumes and props will be selected to reflect these colours too.



The colours will be muted to give a sense of realism and authenticity. An abundance of very dark colour tones should be avoided, where possible, as it is the subject matter which should convey the dark tones of the film. Nothing should be hidden in the shadow, but clearly seen. This is to reflect how a majority of the killings, bombings and attacks took place in broad daylight.





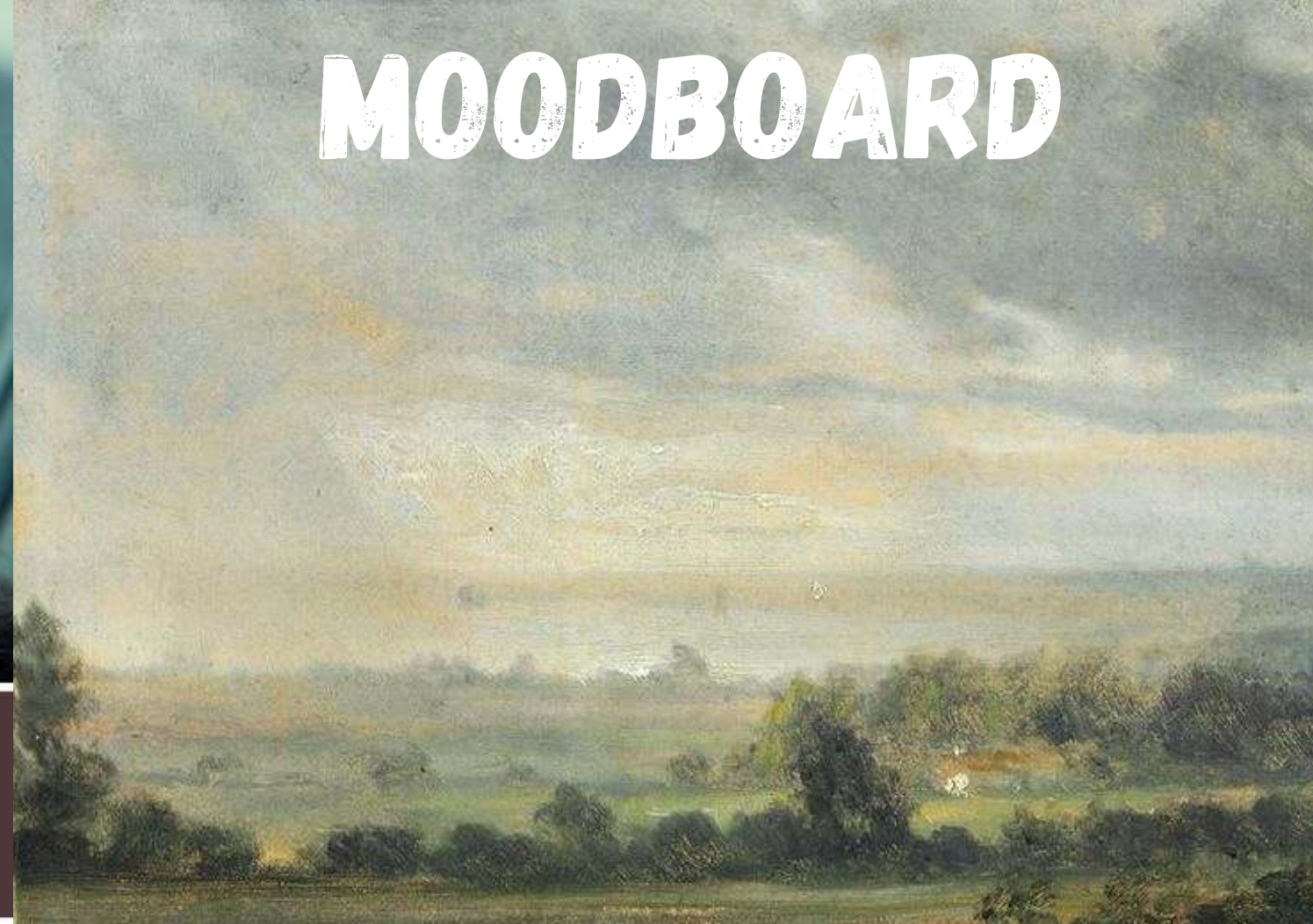
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MOODBOARD



COMPARABLE FILMS

BELFAST (2021)

1960s



BLOODY SUNDAY (2002)

1970s



HUNGER (2008)

1980s



'71 (2002)

1970s



ELEPHANT (1989)

1980s





RESEARCH

Seeing as this film is set during very specific times in history (1965-2025) and in a very specific place (Belfast), research to ensure realistic representations is absolutely key.

EVE HARDING – WRITER/DIRECTOR

Eve Harding is a passion-fuelled creative, who strives to depict thought-provoking untold stories from unheard perspectives, with sensitivity, intelligence, and cinematic depth. She likes to go against the grain, by experimenting with new ideas and techniques.

With over 10 years experience and a BA (Hons) Film Production Degree, she has completed 5 short films, as well as her first professional short film 'Drown The Silence' this year. She aims to continue to grow her craft and progress from shorts to features within 2025.

TEAM



CONTACT

For more information and to show interest in being involved with this project, please contact:

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