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## WELSH DIRECTOR TAKES #METOO DRAMA "FATHER OF THE BRIDE" TO SXSW



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ----LONDON--- 24 FEBRUARY, 2020**

NYU Tisch Alum and BBC/BFI iFeatures Scheme Mentee and Cannes Film Festival - Cinéfondation Resident, Screenwriter/Director **Rhys Marc Jones** brings the social dilemmas of sexual abuse, toxic masculinity and white privilege into focus and onto the major festival screen, as his latest short-film *Father of the Bride* will have its World Premiere at South by Southwest Festival in Austin, Texas March 13 - 21, 2020.

The North American festival will showcase "A selection of original, well-crafted films that take advantage of the short form and exemplify distinctive and genuine storytelling." - SXSW

*Father of the Bride* tells the story of best man Christain, as he attempts to keep face and deliver his speech at his brother's wedding, following an unwanted encounter in the hotel bathroom with the father of the bride, Martin.

Inspired by a night in 2017 at the BAFTA Britannia Awards in Los Angeles CA, in which Jones sat in the audience of the Hilton Ballroom, like many around him, under the thrall of the charismatic and widely loved Kevin Spacey, as Spacey presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Dick Van Dyke with a buoyant and colourful speech. This being just hours before the first story broke of sexual assault allegations against the now shadowed actor.

*Father of the Bride*, starring Dominic Mafham and Jay Lycurgo, will have its first screening in-competition as an Official Selection of the Narrative Shorts Program 3 on 14th March, 2020 at the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Ritz 1 in Austin TX at 5:30pm -7:05pm

Jones' *Father of the Bride*, not to be confused with the 1980's Steve Martin Romantic-Comedy of the same name, explores power and duality of character: how the most damaging of perpetrators are often described as charming, larger than life or even a father figure and how that power affects the victim and the nature of the encounter. Jones offers his audience such a truthful scenario using race, gender and wealth as key components.

*Father of the Bride* was Executive produced by Alice Whitmore and Produced by Alex Polunin. Following the SXSW World Premiere in March 2020, *Father of the Bride* will be available for streaming Summer 2020 on BBC iPlayer.



Run Time: 15mins / Camera: Arri Alexa SXT / Country of Origin: United Kingdom

Principle Cast includes Dominic Mafham, Jay Lycurgo, Marcus Rutherford, Isabelle Connolly, David Broughton Davies and Dom Francis.

*Father of the Bride* - SXSW Full screening details:

Date: 14 March, 2020 - Shorts Program 3

Venue: Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Ritz 1

Time: 5:30pm-7:05pm

Date: 16 March, 2020 - Shorts Program 3

Venue: Alamo Drafthouse Cinema South Lamar B

Time: 12:00pm-1:35pm

Date: 19 March, 2020 - Shorts Program 3

Venue: Alamo Drafthouse Cinema South Lamar A

Time: 3:00pm-4:35pm

[OFFICIAL FATHER OF THE BRIDE SXSW PAGE](#)

[DIRECTOR'S WEBSITE](#)

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Director's Previous Festival Selections:

***Burn Bridge***: BFI Flare London LGBT Film Festival, Leeds Intl. Film Festival, Inside Out Toronto Film Festival, Los Angeles Film Festival, BIFA: Longlisted - Best Short Film

***Pale Saint***: Galway Film Fleadh, Encounters Film Festival, Leeds Intl. Film Festival,

***Boundaries***: Inside Out Toronto Film Festival, Outfest Fusion Film Festival, Palm Springs Intl Film Festival

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