



## **Celebrate the Best of British Film at The May Fair Hotel**

*As part of this year's London Film Festival*

*The May Fair Hotel Gala will premiere 'A Monster Calls'*

**London, UK – 2016:** For the eighth consecutive year, The May Fair Hotel will be the Official Hotel of the 60<sup>th</sup> BFI London Film Festival, in partnership with American Express. To celebrate the best of British film, the five star hotel in the heart of Mayfair will be rolling out the red carpet and offering guests and visitors bespoke, cinematic experiences throughout the two week festival.

During this year's Festival, The May Fair's annual Gala event on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October will be the UK premiere of *A Monster Calls*. Starring Sigourney Weaver, Felicity Jones, Toby Kebbell, Lewis MacDougall and the voice of Liam Neeson, directed by JA Bayona (*The Impossible*, *The Orphanage*). Producer Belén Atienza and Screenwriter Patrick Ness.

Shooting from the spectacular heights of fantasy, straight to the beating heart of reality, *A Monster Calls* is a genuinely moving film of great wonder and beauty, based on the hugely popular book by Patrick Ness. 12-year-old Conor is bullied by his classmates because he sees the world differently. His mother, with whom he has a very special bond, is suffering from a terminal illness. His bossy grandmother has become increasingly controlling. And his unreliable father is perpetually absent. Suddenly, a wizened and mysterious yew tree materialises to provide Conor with some much-needed guidance (Liam Neeson's voice is the perfect combination of melodic and imposing). Bayona's visually inventive filmmaking gives glorious form to this deeply moving story about a boy who draws on his expansive imagination to come to terms with impending loss. He brings together members of the award-winning creative team that worked on *Pan's Labyrinth* and the film's level of technical creativity is a sight to behold. The film is abundant with cinematic references, such as the scene where mother and son watch the original *King Kong*, a model precedent for the animatronics and performance capture that bring to life this film's profoundly human monster.

The May Fair's reputation as venue of choice for London's private screenings makes it the natural choice as the BFI London Film Festival's Official Hotel. Lavish without being showy, dramatic without compromising on comfort and with service that's attentive yet low-key, the May Fair is the place to be seen during the Festival. Pop down to May Fair Bar for a drink or sample the Spanish and Italian tapas in May Fair Kitchen.

Inderneel Singh, General Manager at The May Fair, says, *"The May Fair Hotel has a long history of supporting film, making us a natural choice as the Official Hotel of the BFI London Film Festival. For the eighth year running, we will be welcoming back our friends within the film industry. There is always a high level of energy as directors, producers and a-list talent descend on the hotel, and the extras that we're putting on will help add some Hollywood magic to the May Fair experience."*

Boasting [an unrivalled collection](#) of London's most stylish suites, bars, restaurants and meeting spaces, The May Fair is the perfect venue for business and pleasure throughout the BFI London Film Festival. Visit <http://www.themayfairhotel.co.uk/bfi-london-film-festival> for more information.

**ENDS**

Please contact [EHLMedia@edelman.com](mailto:EHLMedia@edelman.com) if you require further information.

### **About Edwardian Hotels London**

Edwardian Hotels London is a privately-owned hotel group, which has been owning, operating, and developing an upscale and luxury hotel and hospitality portfolio since Jasminder Singh OBE began his career within the hospitality industry in 1977 – forming the beginnings of what would become Edwardian Hotels London. Today, Edwardian Hotels London owns and operates eleven Radisson Blu Edwardian London hotels in London and central Manchester, The May Fair Hotel and a collection of restaurant and bar brands including the [May Fair Kitchen](#), [Monmouth Kitchen](#) and [May Fair Bar](#), and is currently engaged in a major development in Leicester Square incorporating a luxury lifestyle hotel, restaurants, bars, spa and cinemas.

For more information visit our website at [www.edwardian.com](http://www.edwardian.com).

### **About The May Fair Hotel London**

The luxury [May Fair Hotel](#) is located in the heart of London's most stylish district. The hotel, which was opened by King George V in 1927, boasts more than 400 luxury bedrooms, including 40 suites; set

alongside the relaxing [May Fair Spa](#); the chic, Mediterranean tapas restaurant, [May Fair Kitchen](#); a 201-seat private screening room, [The May Fair Theatre](#) and the exclusive [Palm Beach Casino](#). The residence encapsulates its Mayfair locality throughout, with the intimate Terrace and Private Dining Room; [The May Fair Bar](#) offering an array of signature cocktails; the breathtaking Crystal Room; and the decadent Danziger Suite.

The May Fair Hotel is owned and managed by independent hospitality group Edwardian Hotels London, one of the UK's largest, privately-owned companies which has been developing luxury hotel and hospitality brands since 1977.

For more information, visit our main hotel website at [www.themayfairhotel.co.uk](http://www.themayfairhotel.co.uk), and [www.themayfairsuites.com](http://www.themayfairsuites.com) to explore the suites collection.

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**For film information please contact Victoria Cox at Entertainment One – [vcox@entonegroup.com](mailto:vcox@entonegroup.com)**

**A MONSTER CALLS IS RELEASED IN THE UK AND IRELAND ON JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2017**