The best new and classic cinema from GAZE, Ireland’s national LGBTQ+ film festival, screening at the Pálás Cinema in Galway for the first time.

November 5th-7th 2021

Pálás Cinema - 15 Merchants Rd Lower, Galway, H91 F6DF
About GAZE West:
GAZE West is an addition to the GAZE International LGBTQ+ Film Festival. Funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, working to improve the lives of LGBTI people across Ireland. Our annual festival is funded by Accenture and the Arts Council of Ireland.

BUT I’M A CHEERLEADER
Dir. Jamie Babbit / USA / 1999. 1hr 32m

Friday November 5
18:30
Pálás Cinema

There are few things 17-year-old Megan Bloomfield enjoys more than spending her time with high-flying pretty girls in short skirts. She couldn’t possibly be gay though, right? She’s a cheerleader for crying out loud! In a desperate attempt to guide Megan along the right path, her parents ship her away to a conversion therapy camp where gender roles are reinforced and her lesbianism should be cured.

Starring icons such as Natasha Lyonne, Clea DuVall and RuPaul, this film is an essential piece of queer cinema. The 1999 high-camp comedy was well ahead of its time, and over twenty years on, every viewing remains as enjoyable as the last.

RURANGI
Dir. Max Currie / New Zealand / 2020. 1hr 27m

Saturday November 6
15:45
Pálás Cinema

Caz Davis is returning to his rural hometown of Rūrangi for the first time in over a decade. He’s found a new life in the city of Auckland, surrounded by queer and trans people who cherish him as an outspoken activist. But when a personal crisis shatters his confidence, Caz is compelled to go home and re-introduce himself as the man he’s always been, even if Rūrangi never saw it.

Intimate and engaging, Rūrangi brings a fresh perspective to the queer homecoming story, recasting the small-minded hometown with empathy and depth as the queer and trans Māori residents balance their families, their culture, and their future.
**NO HARD FEELINGS**
*Dir. Faraz Shariat / Germany / 2020. 1hr 32 mins*

**Sunday November 7**
**18:00**
**Pálás Cinema**

Parvis is certain of himself: out, proud, stylish and sexual. At a community centre, he meets two Iranian refugees, the brooding Amon and his assertive sister Banafshe. The three connect, but though Parvis speaks Farsi, his future is profoundly different to the others. Matters get more complicated when an intense attraction builds between the two boys.

No Hard Feelings is a unique story of 21st-century immigration and the obstacles that impede so many from the fundamental rights they deserve. But at its centre is a tale of queer joy, friendship, community, love and desire.

**SKIN, AT GAZE WEST**

**Saturday November 6**
**16:00**
**Palás Exhibition Space**

Curated by Margaret Nolan, and in association with GAZE West, SKIN is a collective, multimedia exhibition featuring painting, photography, film and music by leading artists from Ireland and the US—artists Caoimhe Lavelle, Finbar McHugh and Margaret Nolan; photographer Tony Carragher, composer Benjamin Dwyer and film director Jonathan C. Creasy.

The exhibition is inspired by themes that emerge from the iconic stone carvings known as Sheela-na-gigs, which are found in Ireland and parts of Britain, and will feature HAG, a short film by Jonathan C. Creasy with music composed by Benjamin Dwyer. HAG situates the Sheela as an activist that rejects the male Gaze. Throughout the centuries, their exposed vulvas and abject ‘skins’ have invited hugely conflicting responses and reactions from church, state and socio-political movements such as feminism. The event reaches beyond these themes to release the gaze from its traditional binary formulations to simply celebrate the body as both abject and sensuous.

*Photo: Tony Carragher*
THE NIGHT BELONGS TO LOVERS
Saturday November 6
18:00
Pálás Cinema

Denied the night for as long as we have, this atmospheric and electric selection of shorts contains all the thrills, delights and dangers that come once night falls.

**Mother** / dirs. Jas Pitt, Kate Stonehill / UK / 2019. 21’
**Girls Shouldn’t Walk Alone at Night** / dir. Katerine Martineau / Canada / 2020. 17’
**Liminal** / dir. Dan Abramovici / Canada / 2020. 12’
**Eden** / dir. Sven Spur / Belgium / 2020.16’
**Dustin** / dir. Náila Guiguet / France / 2020. 20’
**Young Diego** / dirs. Osama Chami, Enrique Gimeno Pedrós / Spain / 2021. 7’
**Cartagena Boy** / dirs. Jose Andre Sibaja, Ibai Vigil-Escalera / USA / 2021. 17’

Total running time: 1h 34m

QUEER ÉIRE: NEW IRISH SHORTS
Sunday November 7
16:00
Pálás Cinema

Presenting the best of new Irish LGBTQ+ cinema. Local heroes, irrational fears, complex family dynamics and the cure for a deadly illness: we promise most of these are works of fiction!

**Sparking** / dir. Beta Bajgart / Ireland / 2021. 6’
**Pogonophobia** / dir. Thomas Ryan / Ireland / 2020. 15’
**Measuring Stick** / dir. Rachel Walshe / Ireland / 2021. 4’
**Hidden Collision** / dir. Emma Zukovic / Ireland / 2021. 12’
**DO I KNOW YOU?** / dir. Ríoghnach Ní Ghrioghair / Ireland / 2021. 13’
**Boxed In** / dirs. Caleb Roberts, Peter Young / Ireland / 2021. 10’
**RYDER: Queen of F**king Everything** / dir. Nishaant Singh Bhinder / Ireland / 2021. 8’
**The Cure** / dir. Gordon Hickey / Ireland / 2021. 14’

Total running time: 1h 25m