

DAMIAN FARRELL

Director

Damian Farrell is a director, puppeteer and animator in television and film with over 20 years experience. Damo has directed puppetry, animation, scripted-comedy, hidden-camera, and documentary. He also directs commercials for many leading agencies and brands.

A former animation artist at Emerald City Productions and the Don Bluth Studio in Ireland, and a Jim Henson-trained puppeteer, Damo's breadth of experience across many different media has led him to work on projects with LucasFilm, Bad Robot, Disney, Sesame Workshop, The Muppets, BBC, CBBC, The Jim Henson Company, ITV and Double Z Enterprises.

Most recently he has been a puppeteer and creature performer for Star Wars on LucasFilm's 'The Force Awakens', 'Rogue One', 'The Last Jedi' and 'Solo' performing numerous characters under the direction of JJ Abrams, Gareth Edwards, Rian Johnson and Ron Howard. Damo helped give life to the Porgs of Ahch-To and was chosen by Frank Oz as part of the team to help him bring Yoda back to the big screen.

Damo was a director on the BAFTA-winning preschool sketch series 'Gigglebiz' for CBeebies (Children's Comedy BAFTA 2015) and the first series of CBBC's 'Class Dismissed'. He has worked extensively with Irish impressionist Mario Rosenstock creating and producing over 150 episodes of the satirical puppet series 'Special 1 Tv', the original 'Gift Grub Live' and 'The Mario Rosenstock Show' for RTÉ. He also directed the Arts Lives documentary for RTÉ on the life and work of Irish puppeteer Eugene Lambert called 'Pulling Strings'.

In 2016 he produced Vincent Gallagher's multi-award winning stop-motion film 'Second To None'. The short won the IFTA for Best Animation and enjoyed a hugely successful run on the festival circuit picking up 'Best Animated Short' Savannah Film Festival, 'Audience Award' San Sebastian Horror and Fantasy Festival, 'Best Animation' Kinsale Shark Award, 'James Horgan Award' for Best Animated Short & 'Don Quijote Award' for Best Animation (IFSS/FICC) Galway Film Fleadh 2016. It was also chosen by Whoopi Goldberg for screening at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2017.

In January 2019, it was announced that Damian Farrell will be appearing as one of the lead puppeteers on the upcoming Netflix series 'Dark Crystal: Age Of Resistance' for the Jim Henson Company, directed by Louis Leterrier.

Damian is the founder and creative director of Caboom and a former chair of Animation Ireland.

CREDITS (including directing, puppetry and animation).

‘Dark Crystal: Age Of Resistance’ (2019)

Jim Henson Company / Netflix

Principal Puppeteer

Puppet Series

‘Star Wars’ Episode VII / Rogue One / Episode VIII / Solo / (2014-2019)

The Walt Disney Company / Bad Robot / Lucasfilm

Principal Creature & Droid puppeteer

Feature film

‘Second To None’ (2016)

Irish Film Board / RTÉ

Producer

Stop-motion animated short film

Audience Choice Award for Best Short Film San Sebastian Film Festival (Nov 2016)

Irish Film And Television Award (April 2017)

Irish Animation Award (March 2017)

Best Animated Short Savannah Film Festival (Nov 2016)

James Horgan Award for Best Animation (July 2016)

Don Quijote Award for Best Animated Short Film (July 2016) ... and more!

‘Class Dismissed’ (2015) CBBC RTS Best Comedy Nomination 2016

Series Director

Comedy/drama series

‘Spitting Image’ NHS Unstitched (2015)

Puppet performer

One-off Special

‘Gigglebiz’ 22 x 15 mins (2014) CBeebies BAFTA win Best Children’s Comedy Series

Director

‘The Mario Rosenstock Show’ Series 1, 2 & 3 (2012-2015) RTÉ / Caboom

Producer / Director

Live-action comedy sketch show

‘Elmo Loves You’ (2014) Sesame Workshop / StoryToys Entertainment.

Character voice performer.

‘Hacker Time’ Series 4 (2014) CBBC

Puppet performer

Children’s TV comedy series

‘The Furchester Hotel’ (2014) Sesame Workshop / CBeebies
Muppet performer
Preschool Tv series

‘The Willies’ (2014) Jim Henson Company / Caboom
Creator / Producer / Director
Live-action adult puppet comedy pilot

‘Muppets Most Wanted’ (2013) The Walt Disney Company / Muppet Studios
UK Muppet performer
Feature film

‘Monster High’ (2013) Mattel
Animation producer
Animation series (10 eps)

‘Toad Rules’ 1 x 2min (2011) Telescreen / Caboom
Producer / Director
CGI animation short

‘Special 1 TV’ 150 x 5mins (2007 - 2013) BBC / YouTube.
Co-creator / Producer / Director
Topical puppetry series (over 150 episodes)

‘Stay Tooned’ 1 x 22min (2010) Icebox / Caboom for TBS
Producer / Director
Animation Special

‘Guy White’ 12 x 1min (2009) Icebox / Caboom for FOX
Producer / Director
Topical animation inserts

‘Mind, Myths And Magic’ 1 x 52min (2007) RTÉ / Caboom
Director
Live-action magic special

‘Anonymous’ 12 x 30min (2006) RTÉ / Kite Entertainment
Director
Live-action hidden camera comedy

‘Frozen Heart’ (2002)
Producer
Stopmotion / CGI Short Film

And an honourable mention for ...

Double Z Enterprises (1989 – 1997)

Worked extensively with DZE on various 'Zig & Zag', 'Dustin the Turkey', 'Podge & Rodge' projects including Tv shows in Ireland and the UK, commercials and music videos.

Awards received include:

BAFTA Best Children's Comedy

O2 Digital Media Award

International Gold Advertising Award

Institute Of Creative Advertising Design Awards

Audience Choice Award Best Short Film San Sebastian (Nov 2016)

Best Animated Short Savannah Film Festival (Nov 2016)

Don Quijote Award for Best Animated Short Film (July 2016)

James Horgan Award for Best Animation (July 2016)

IFTA (April 2017)

International Davey Award

ITLG Hollywood 50 Award

For more details contact:

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