



**AWARD-WINNING FEATURE DOCUMENTARY ABOUT THE FAROE ISLANDS – *THE ISLANDS AND THE WHALES* TO BE RELEASED IN CINEMAS 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH**



**UK, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Intrepid Cinema, Cosmic Cat and Dartmouth Films** are thrilled to announce the release of the critically acclaimed, award winning feature documentary **THE ISLANDS AND THE WHALES** in UK cinemas from **29<sup>th</sup> March**. Its UK Film Premiere will take place on Thursday 29 March, 7pm at **Picturehouse Central** followed by a Q&A with **Jon Snow** and **Director Mike Day** and guest which will be streamed live to UK wide cinemas.

**THE ISLANDS AND THE WHALES** is directed and produced by Scottish director and cinematographer **Mike Day** (*Aleppo's Fall, The Guga Hunters of Ness*) and co-produced by **Henrik Underbjerg** and **Stefan Frost**. Nominated for **BAFTA Scotland's** Best Single Documentary and Best Documentary at the **Edinburgh International Film Festival** the film has gone on to win numerous awards including: **Hotdocs** Emerging International Filmmaker Award, **DOC NYC** Grand Jury Prize, Best Documentary **Phoenix International Film Festival** and the **Princeton Environmental Film Festival**.

The pilot whale hunters of the Faroe Islands believe that hunting is vital to their way of life, but when a local professor makes a grim discovery about the effects of marine pollution, and the seabirds populations collapse, environmental changes threaten to change the community and their way of life forever.

The Faroese are among the first to feel the effects of our ever more polluted oceans. They have discovered that their beloved whales are toxic, contaminated by the outside world. What once secured their survival now endangers their children and the Faroe Islanders must make a choice between health and tradition.

**Director Mike Day** said *"This film took five years to make and I'm very excited to now bring this film to UK audiences on the big screen. The majestic landscapes and sounds of the Faroe Islands deserve the full cinema experience, and the story the islanders and the*

*whales have to tell us is strikingly relevant and vital. I look forward to holding Q&As around the country and discussing the film."*

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"An enveloping look at a community whose centuries-old way of life may be ending." —  
**John DeFore, Hollywood Reporter**

"A film that is jaw-dropping in its visual splendour." —**Matthew Anderson, Cinevue**

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More information:

Running Time: 80mins

Cert: 12A

Website [www.theislandsandthewhales.com](http://www.theislandsandthewhales.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/theislandsandthewhales](https://www.facebook.com/theislandsandthewhales)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/IATWfilm>

Trailer: [www.vimeo.com/112625935](http://www.vimeo.com/112625935)

**PRESS:**

For further information, screenings, interviews and assets please contact:

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STILLS: <http://bit.ly/2nHH5vN>

**NOTE - Press Screening:**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30pm

RSVP to: [alex.rowley@ar-pr.co.uk](mailto:alex.rowley@ar-pr.co.uk) / [rebecca@ar-pr.co.uk](mailto:rebecca@ar-pr.co.uk)

NOTES TO EDITORS:

**DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY – MIKE DAY**

Mike Day is a Scottish director and cinematographer. Formerly a lawyer, his debut 59minute documentary, *The Guga Hunters of Ness*, screened on the BBC in 2011 and at festivals internationally. Mike founded Intrepid Cinema in 2009 before heading out into the North Atlantic to document the last ten seabird hunters permitted to continue a traditional gannet hunt in the Scottish Outer Hebrides. This was the first time since 1959 that the hunters had allowed this once secretive tradition to be filmed. After two weeks at sea they returned home with a rare glimpse into this vanishing world.

His current work is in many ways a continuation of this previous film and has seen him spending four years filming the community and natural world of the Faroe Islands.

Mike was listed as one the '10 Filmmakers to Watch in 2012' by Filmmaker Magazine, he was one of EDN's 12 for the Future 2012, the first Scot on the Nordic programme, he is a Sundance Documentary Film Program Fellow, and is supported by the Scottish Documentary Institute's Docscene programme and is BAFTA Scotland nominated for Best Documentary 2016.

Title	The Islands and the Whales
Genre	Feature Documentary
Production	2016
Country of Origin	United Kingdom / Scotland
Language Spoken	Faroese / English / Danish

Duration	81 minutes
Cameras	Sony F3, Black Magic Pocket Camera, Nikon D800
	Prores HQ 422 10 bit HD
Screen Ratio	16:9 container 1:1.94
Format	DCP, ProResHQ, Blu-ray
Sound format	Dolby Atmos, 7.1, 5.1
Director	Mike Day
Production Company	Intrepid Cinema
Producer	Mike Day
Co-producer	Henrik Underbjerg & Stefan Frost
Executive Producers	Minette Nelson
	David Eckles
	George Day
	Karen Day
	John Atkinson
	Phil Noran
	Matt Day
	Niall Christie
	Rachel Wexler
	Jez Lewis
	Mike Day
	Mary Lampson
	Nicole Hállová
	Mike Day
	Claire Ferguson
	David Charap
	Chris Barnett
	Antony Partos
Sound Designer	
Composer	
Mike Sheridan	
Partners and funders	Sundance Documentary Institute
	San Fransisco Film Society
	The Filmmaker Fund
	Wellcome Trust
	Creative Scotland
	The Scottish Documentary Institute
	The Danish Documentary Institute
	Influence Film Foundation
	Creative Europe
	GoodPitch
	Factum Arte
	DR