



LONDON CRITICS' CIRCLE FILM AWARDS ANNOUNCES 2015 DATE

**MAJOR EVENT IN THE FILM AWARDS CALENDAR WILL BE HOSTED BY
THE MAY FAIR HOTEL FOR THE THIRD YEAR RUNNING**

London – Wednesday 24 September 2014

Britain's leading film critics today announced that their 35th annual awards ceremony will be presented on **Sunday 18th January 2015 at The May Fair Hotel**, with the event expected to attract a host of well-known British and international film talent. The awards are presented by the Film Section of The Critics' Circle, the UK's longest-standing and most prestigious critical organisation, which boasts 140 film critics who, between them, see every one of the hundreds of films released in the UK each year.

Since the first edition in 1980, the London Critics' Circle Film Awards have become an anticipated and respected fixture in the annual film calendar. In recent years guests and award winners have included Cate Blanchett, Michael Fassbender, Judi Dench, Daniel Craig, Quentin Tarantino, Joaquin Phoenix, Olivia Colman, Steve McQueen, Emma Thompson and Kate Winslet.

The 2014 ceremony attracted a star-studded red carpet with guests including Steve Coogan, Andy Serkis, George MacKay, Naomie Harris, Lindsay Duncan, Paul Greengrass, Barkhad Abdi and iconic actor Gary Oldman, who was presented with the Dilys Powell Award by John Hurt. The winning Film of the Year was *12 Years a Slave*, which went on to receive further acclaim at the Bafta and Academy Awards. British films were also strongly represented with other award-winners including *The Selfish Giant*, *Philomena* and *Filth*. The UK-produced *Gravity* won awards for director Alfonso Cuarón and its groundbreaking effects.

Chair of the Critics' Circle Film Awards, Rich Cline, comments: "The London Critics' Circle Film Awards stand out from the crowd – they are an integral part of the awards calendar and conversation and they have consistently highlighted film achievements that may be overlooked by other awards events."

I am also delighted that our event will be staged in the intimate, five-star glamour of The May Fair Hotel for a third year. The team there has been integral to our event, and we look forward to working with them to put on another great evening."

Keith Iddins, The May Fair Hotel's Head of Entertainment, says: "We're excited to welcome back our friends from the Critics' Circle Film Awards for the third year running. The Critics' Circle Film Awards kick off the awards season and are often seen as a notable precursor to the other major awards that follow. They are the perfect match for the dynamic style of The May Fair Hotel and we can't wait to welcome the best of the worldwide film industry's talent to the hotel in January."

Films are eligible for the 35th London Critics' Circle Film Awards if they are released in the UK between 15 February 2014 and 6 February 2015 and screened for the press.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

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About The Critics' Circle:

Established in 1913, The Critics' Circle is the oldest organisation of its kind in the world, with more than 400 members who work in the UK media as critics of drama, art and architecture, music, film and dance. Chaired by Jason Solomons, the Film Section membership is made up of more than 140 UK film critics, broadcasters and writers, including Guardian critic Peter Bradshaw, the BBC's Mark Kermode and Sight & Sound Editor Nick James, and has presented its awards annually since 1980. www.criticcircle.org.uk

About The May Fair Hotel:

The May Fair is an icon of expressive contemporary design, bringing together boutique attention to detail with the best in hotel service. A legendary luxury hotel with a glamorous past, The May Fair was first opened by King George V in 1927 and offers over 400 luxury hotel bedrooms, including 12 of the capital's most memorable hotel suites; the discreet May Fair Spa; May Fair Kitchen, a delicious top quality restaurant; a 201-seat private screening room and the Palm Beach Casino. The spirit of surrounding Mayfair is captured beautifully, especially in our destination May Fair Bar, breathtaking Crystal Room and opulent Danziger Suite, which between them have played host to some of London's most extravagant society events.
www.themayfairhotel.co.uk

About the 35th London Critics' Circle Film Awards:

Britain's top film critics vote annually for the Critics' Circle Film Awards. This year, nominations ballots are due on 13th December, with the nominees announced on Tuesday 16th December. Final-round votes will be due on 4th January. Members of the Film Section of The Critics' Circle will vote in the following categories:

- Film of the Year
- Foreign Language Film of the Year
- Documentary of the Year
- Director of the Year
- Actor of the Year
- Actress of the Year

- Supporting Actor of the Year
- Supporting Actress of the Year
- Screenwriter of the Year
- British Film of the Year: The Attenborough Award
- British Actor of the Year
- British Actress of the Year
- Young British Performer of the Year
- Breakthrough British Film-Maker
- Technical Achievement Award

In addition, the Dilys Powell Award for Excellence in Film will be presented at the ceremony on 18th January.

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