

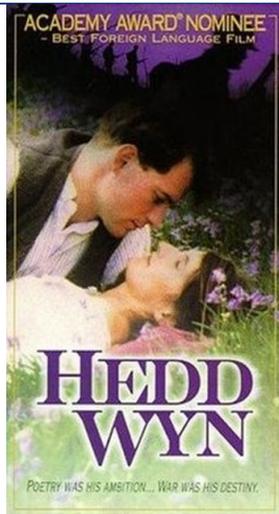
# 2019 Welsh Film Festival - ByTowne Cinema, Ottawa, March 5/12/19/26, 2019

The ByTowne Cinema, in a collaboration with the Ottawa Welsh Society, presents what is believed to be Canada's first ever Welsh Film Festival!

The four carefully-selected films show -case Welsh film creativity, reflecting the language, culture and history of Wales.

\*Show times will be announced in the March/April issue of the *ByTowne Guide*, available February 22nd.

March 5\* ..... March 12\* ..... March 19\* ..... March 26\*



## Hedd Wyn

**Director:** Paul Turner  
**Writer:** Alan Llwyd  
**Stars:** Huw Garmon, Judith Humphreys, Catrin Fychan,

A young poet (Huw Garmon) living in the North Wales countryside competes under his bardic name of Hedd Wyn for the Chair, the most coveted prize of all in the National Eisteddfod, but before the winner is announced he is sent to fight in the trenches of the First World War.

The wonderful cinematography that starkly contrasts the beauty of his home in Gwynedd with the horrors of Passchendaele demonstrates the futility of war in this, the first film from Wales to be nominated as Best Foreign Language film at the American Academy Awards. (110 min. Wales 1992. in Welsh with English subtitles Rated 14A)

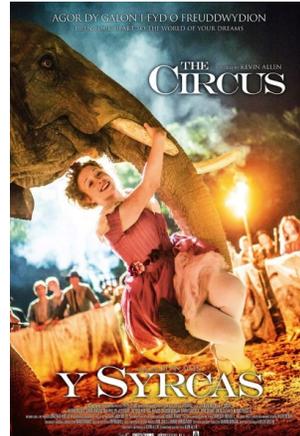


## Y Streic a Fi ("The Strike and Me")

**Director:** Ashley Way  
**Screen Writer:** Gwyneth Lewis  
**Based on a novel** *The Gritties* by Philippa Davies.  
**Stars:** Catherine Ayers, Ioan Hefin, Siwan Morris

The film portrays a turbulent time in Welsh history—the miners' strike of 1984/85. Carys (Ella Peel) is the main character and we follow the strike through her experiences and family life. She is a lively 17-year-old who can't wait to embrace the world outside the confines of her valley. Her father Dai is a miner, and a fervent union member who believes wholeheartedly that the miners will win the strike. His brother, Deiniol senses that this strike will change the industry forever.

*"The strike is one of the most important political events to have taken place in South Wales in the last decades. "It has left its mark on us all, even if we don't live in the old mining communities. It was a traumatic experience, a traumatic period."* Gwyneth Lewis, screenwriter (97 min. Wales 2013. In Welsh with English subtitles. Rated PG)

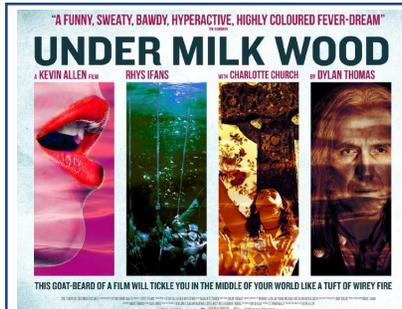


## Y Syrcas ("The Circus")

**Director:** Kevin Allen  
**Writer:** Helen Griffin  
**Shot in Wales:** Ceredigion  
**Stars:** Damola Adelaja, Saran Morgan, Aneirin Hughes, Llyr Ifans

When a Victorian travelling circus visits Tregaron in Ceredigion, they offer much more than entertainment for Sara (Saran Morgan) a young girl who is trapped by her grieving father's strict rules and religion in a village steeped in superstition.

Director Kevin Allen (*Twin Town*) tells this heart-warming and often funny tale about the town's relationship with the troupe and Jwm-bi, an elephant, who died and was reputedly laid to rest behind the town's Talbot Hotel in 1848. (92 min. Wales 2013 In Welsh with English subtitles. rated PG)



## Under Milk Wood

**Director:** Kevin Allen  
**Screenplay:** Murray Lachlan Young, Michael Breen  
**Book:** Dylan Thomas

A new cinematic adaptation of legendary Welsh poet Dylan Thomas' classic radio play. This radically surreal and erotic film reunites director Kevin Allen with Rhys Ifans over 15 years after the release of their cult classic *Twin Town*. An ensemble cast of familiar Welsh faces is led by Ifans as First Voice and Captain Cat, alongside Charlotte Church as Polly Garter.

Allen's film comes across as a kind of fast-moving fever-dream – appropriately enough, given the swelling tide of fantasy that Thomas instils in the drama: everyone, and everything, is operating through a sweaty film of lust or delusion.

Allen notes of his visceral and visual interpretation "I was determined to craft a cinematic rendition that challenged the common perception; that poetry should remain in the domain of the reader."  
*"Kevin Allen's bold new adaptation shows tremendous visual imagination in places and has plenty of ghoulishness, scabrous humour and eroticism along the way, too."* - *The Independent* (87 min. Wales 2015 in English Rated 15)