

TITLE: ALASDAIR GRAY, A LIFE IN PROGRESS, 94'

DIRECTOR: Kevin Cameron

PRODUCER: John Archer

OVERVIEW: Alasdair Gray is one of the giants of Scottish Arts, gaining a reputation as a great writer, artist, notorious drunkard, irascible interviewee and controversial essayist. In this intimate portrait, filmed over the course of 15 years, he has allowed himself to be filmed creating work that has become part of the living heritage of Scotland. This feature length documentary gets behind the hype, revealing a character who is by turns incisive, chaotic and laugh out loud funny.

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY: I am a BAFTA Scotland nominated filmmaker and a graduate of the Universities of Bristol and Glasgow. I produce work across broadcast, education, art and corporate. I have completed several distinctive short dramas and documentaries that have gone onto be screened at festivals such as the Edinburgh International. As well as directing and producing my own films, I am also a freelance lighting/camera and editor. I have realised numerous high profile collaborative arts projects in film and animation with which have been recognised nationally and internationally - most recently with a project for the Director's Programme of Glasgow International Festival of Visual Arts. As a filmmaker I have produced work for local authorities throughout Scotland as well as charities and independent production companies. My broadcast work has been screened on BBC, STV and Canal Plus in France.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT: Alasdair Gray, A Life in Progress is the culmination of 15 years of working with the artist. There have been several "staging points" along the way - a Bafta Scotland nominated film for Scottish Television, and a half hour doc for the BBC. After these commissions I continued filming, and a more complete picture of the artist began to appear. On the journey to finish the film the project was picked up for the prestigious "Meet Market" at Sheffield film festival, who eventually went on to premiere the film, after a work in progress screening at Glasgow Film Festival. The film was positively reviewed in Sight and Sound, with the critic tweeting that the film contained the "funniest scene of the year in film". An hour long cut of the film was broadcast on BBC 2 Scotland and garnered widespread praise on social media.

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