

BAFTA winning director brings international film collaboration to Gateshead



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BAFTA-winning drama director Craig Lines from Wallsend will shoot a piece of a new international film collaboration in Gateshead next month.

An international group of filmmakers who have never met in person will connect dozens of short segments, each written and made by a different director for a film currently titled Train Station.

Lines wrote the two minute comedy scene with local author Alex Ferguson. The segment will feature actor Connor Byrne (London's Burning, Tracy Beaker Returns) and local actors Daymon Britton, Jim Kitson and Karen Traynor.

Train Station is a part of CollabFeature, a project initiated by American filmmakers Marty Shea and Ian Bonner. Nearly 40 filmmakers involved in the film used a special web application to discuss ideas, collectively write a screenplay and coordinate the details of their productions. The film follows a single main character who is faced with a series of dilemmas thanks to a delayed train.

The main character will be played by actors of different ethnic backgrounds, ages and genders and is multi lingual.

The location is played by dozens of different cities around the world including Munich, Nairobi, Dubai, Dublin, Athens, Oslo, Bangalore, Karachi, Bogota, Berlin, Barcelona, New York, Manila, Mumbai, Kuala Lumpur, Los Angeles, Dallas, Hong Kong, Lisbon, London, Kansas City, Chicago, Johannesburg, Tokyo, Rome, Shanghai, Milan, Michigan and Singapore.

"We are creating one story out of many pieces", says Shea.

"The film juxtaposes cultural and regional differences, but highlights what we all have in common."

Train Station will premiere in cinemas around the world in early 2012.