

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

14 December, 2007

- **Ciaran Carty honoured by the 2008 RAAM Awards which are presented annually to recognise individual contribution to the film industry and Ireland and the UK.**

The recipient of the 2008 RAAM Support and Service to the Film Industry Award was announced in London today, December 14, 2007.

The 2008 RAAM Award will honour Ciaran Carty, film correspondent of The Sunday Tribune, Dublin, at a gala awards dinner in London on February 6, in recognition of his outstanding editorial contributions in support of the Irish film industry. (Please refer to Note to Editors for brief biog information)

Tony Meehan, Chairman of RAAM commented; "The award to Ciaran is in recognition of his long and distinguished career as a journalist and author. His film reports for The Sunday Tribune and The Sunday Independent are legend.

"Throughout his career Ciaran has written informed and intelligent reviews, never being afraid to express his honest opinion, irrespective of whom he pleases or upsets. In Ireland he is a media legend, at 70 he continues to writes his film column for the Sunday Tribune. A highly respected journalist who as one distributor described him, "Ciaran has a wonderful ability to engage with his readers in a way that leaves them in no doubt as to the quality of a film, but he does so with wit, humour and honesty.

"His books include Confessions of a Sewer Rat, which is his personal account of his fight against censorship and the subsequent development of the Irish film industry. Other books include Robert Ballagh, Robert Ballagh's Dublin, The Hennessey Books of Irish Fiction and The Space Between.

"In the opinion of the RAAM Advisory Board Ciaran is a worthy recipient of the award in light of his important role in the development of Irish Cinema."

In response to being informed of his award he said; "Movies have opened my eyes to other worlds, other ideas and other lives at a time when the other has too often been treated as suspect. To receive this award for writing about what I love, enhances the pleasure I have experienced over nearly fifty years writing about cinema, and I thank you."

The awards are decided by the 11 members RAAM Advisory Board; Andrew Cripps, Paramount Pictures International; Robert Mitchell, The Walt Disney Company Ltd; Trevor Green, Entertainment Films; Tim Richards, Vue; Neil Marshall, Warner Bros; Steve Perrin, Rentrak; Trish Long, The Walt Disney Company Ltd Ireland; Clare Binns, City Screen; David Hancock, Screen Digest; Rob Arthur and Tony Meehan, RAAM Management.

The RAAM Awards are presented annually to recognise and reward achievement in the UK and Irish cinema exhibition and distribution in the following categories;

- Movie of the Year (UK & Ireland)
- Cinema of the Year – Ireland
- Cinema of the Year – UK
- Independent Movie of the Year
- Foreign Language Movie of the Year
- Cinema Circuit of the Year
- Distributor of the Year
- Film / Cinema Marketing Campaign of the Year
- Cinema Advertisement of the Year
- Independent Cinema of the Year – Ireland *
- Independent Cinema of the Year – UK *
- Best New Cinema – Ireland *
- Best New Cinema – UK *

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Note to Editors

Biography: Ciaran Carty

Ever since incurring the wrath of his first editor in 1960 by making Hitchcock's Psycho his film of the year, Ciaran Carty has been a consistently independent and passionate commentator on film and literature, both as a reviewer and broadcaster and through his interviews with Irish and international artists, first as deputy editor of The Sunday Independent and later as arts editor and chief critic of The Sunday Tribune where he still works.

His first book, Robert Ballagh, a study of the multimedia artist who subsequently designed the internationally acclaimed Riverdance show, appeared in 1986 and Confessions of a Sewer Rat, a personal account of his fight against censorship and the subsequent development of the Irish film industry, was published in 1995. His other books include Robert Ballagh's Dublin and The Space Between. He has been editor of New Irish Writing since 1988 and director of the Hennessy Literary awards, which have proved a vital launch pad for successive generation of Irish writers - notably Colum McCann and Joseph O'Connor - who have gone on to reshape the face of Irish fiction.

He is co-editor with Dermot Bolger of The Hennessy Book of Irish Fiction and The New Hennessy Book of Irish Fiction.

RAAM Management is the UK's leading specialist cinema consultancy working in the U.K. and International markets. For further information please visit the RAAM website at; www.raammanagement.com

Further information

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