

WEEKLY ENGLISH PRACTICE

The Making of a Basque, Bosnian, Geordie Filmmaker

How did a Basque, Bosnian, Geordie girl end up in Glasgow?

I **ended up** in Glasgow six years ago as I wanted to study Computer Animation. I checked all my possibilities of where I could study and my best option was to go to Scotland. At the same time, I had always wanted to study abroad as I thought it was a great opportunity for me.

What do I do for my living?

I am currently studying my Masters in Film Making in UWS, University of the West of Scotland. But at the same time I am also working as a barista maestro in Costa Coffee.

What projects am I working (on) at the moment?

I am currently working on the pre-production of my four films for my Master's project. I have just finalised shooting two films. One of them called 'Goths and Stuff', which is part of a 48 hour film festival, which we had to produce in 48 hours. And 'Feeding Squirrels', which is a film that I have co-directed and I am going to edit with my friend Andrea Cano.

How do I fund my projects?

This is a very interesting question. As student filmmakers, we need to source money from places, that, like, we cannot even describe! We need to ask for favours from other people, we also need to ask our families if they could help us out. But mainly, we use Go Fund Me or Indy Go Go. They are sources which you can just put what the project is about and that's where people will go and donate money for us. It's always a good way because you can get a little bit amount of money and with, for example, five hundred pounds, you can actually get a film done! Which is amazing! I think it's a really good way to learn how to, like, fund a film on a really small budget and get the best as you can.

All the big films that are happening at the moment, they obviously have millions and millions, but it's amazing how we can do it with less than a thousand pounds.

(Who are your main cinematic influences)

One of our main cinematic influences is Edgar Wright and Wes Anderson, as I find them really creatively amusing. They always find ways to, like, film films with stories that are unique, with different types of styles, the **framing** work, the camera work.

It's always the story that they tell that is out of the conventional and it always works really well. *Turn to page 2* 📄 📄

17/06/21 / Keyword: **filmmaker**

In this special interview, Gasteiz born, Glasgow-based filmmaker Yulene Hird talks about her projects, her life in Scotland, independence and deep fried Mars Bars!



Useful vocabulary

to end up: to become eventually; turn out to be

framing: A frame is a single image of film or video. Framing (a shot) involves composing the visual content of a series of frames as seen from a single point of view, person or thing into a framed shot.

banter: an exchange of light, playful and jokey remarks

catch-phrases: a well-known frequently used phrase

slang: informal words and idioms, normally not used in formal situations

wee: Scottish and Northern English for, small, tiny, minute

Let's chat about that!

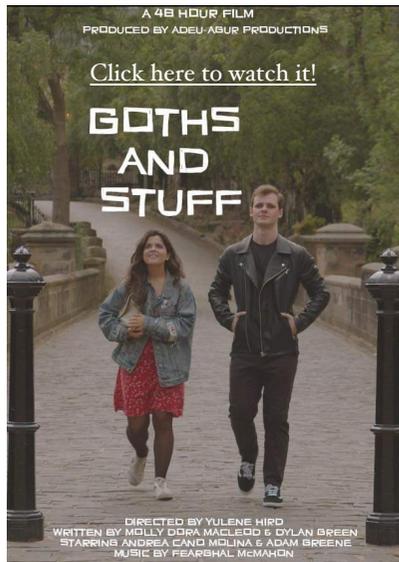
1. **Have you ever moved to another country to live and work? Would you like to?**
2. **What problems did Yulene have with the Scottish accent at first? What do you think of her accent?**
3. **How does Yulene fund her film projects?**
4. **Would you like to try a deep fried Mars Bar?**
5. **What movies and series would you recommend?**
6. **Are you following your dreams like Yulene?**

Cinema Nights

Last film evening of the 2020-21 course!

Friday 25th June at 18:15

Send a WhatsApp to John on 657731354



Directed by Yulene Hird



Click on the link below to help fund the next project that Yulene is working on with other young and creative people!

<https://gofund.me/fc3f657e>



Can I recommend any new movies or Netflix series to the WEP listeners?

I would say, one of the main ones that helped me get into film making is actually a TV show called Hollywood. It's on Netflix and it's about Ryan Murphy. And it's about the process of being a filmmaker and how a project goes from the pre-production into the production side and how, like, the hard work showcases how important it is to work on your dreams and in what you believe in, and the end the outcome is always the best.

Is the Scottish accent easy to understand?

I would say yes now. But, six years ago, when I first came here, I couldn't understand people at all. I couldn't understand their **banter**. I couldn't understand the humour. I couldn't understand the **catch-phrases** that they had, but now I feel I am actually becoming a bit of a Scottish person because I get the humour now. And also apparently, I have been told that I sound more Scottish everyday. I also have a few **slang** words that I use most of the time(s).

What is my favourite Scottish phrase(s)?

My favourite one out of all of them is the saying 'wee' all the time. 'Just a wee second' or 'That's a wee one'. 'That's a wee tee-shirt.' Like, it's such a **cute** word to use and everyone understands it as well.

Are deep fried Mars Bars really a thing?

Unfortunately, they are! And they are absolutely disgusting. I would not recommend... If you wanna go on a night out and have one afterwards, get ready to feel sick for a few days. As a vegan myself, I don't have any, but I have seen a few of my friends eat them and absolutely... do not recommend.

Scottish Independence. Yes or No?

Absolutely yes! Absolutely yes, erm... not to get too political but Scotland is its own country which has an amazing culture, which has an amazing society as well and I think Scotland should definitely be independent.

Thank you so much for having me this week! And I hope that you like my episode. Film making has been my passion since I was very young, em.... I have just started realising that I have always liked this kind of industry and now that I am in it, em... it's magical, and if you want to go and be a filmmaker, take a camera, take your iPhone, take a microphone and start recording, just anything that you want. Even if you are a writer, start writing scripts, because any story counts.

And I hope you have a very, very, very nice week!

Julene Hird