

# Young filmmaker wins at BAFTA Britannia in LA

Gavin Laing, an award winning Scottish writer, producer and director was honoured at the BAFTA Britannia Awards ceremony in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles last week.

The Britannia Awards are BAFTA's biggest event outside of the UK. The event is hosted to honour and celebrate the careers of exceptional members of the entertainment industry. This year the honourees were Emilia Clarke, Cate Blanchett, Jim Carrey, Kevin Feige, Damian Lewis and Steve McQueen.

The ceremony was hosted by comedian Jack Whitehall.

During the ceremony, BAFTA recognised emerging talent by celebrating the recently announced BAFTA US Scholars. Gavin is one of those scholars as he was awarded the Tom Hunter Foundation Scholarship in recognition of his extraordinary talents as a writer and producer.



Gavin Laing at the British Academy Britannia Awards in LA

Gavin said: "It was such a privilege to be recognised by BAFTA LA at an event celebrating so many awe-inspiring and talented people! Walking the same red carpet as Jim Carrey, Emilia Clarke and Cate Blanchett was incredible, and I am so thankful to BAFTA for the opportunity and all of their support."

Gavin is originally from Edinburgh and studied Digital Film and Television at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. His graduation short film *My First Spellbook* has won many awards and was premiered at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival in 2012. It won Best of the Fest at the ICFilmFest earlier this year.

The success has taken Gavin to study in Southern California and working in Creative Development at Sony Pictures. He now

has a position at The Gotham Group, a management and production company that works primarily in the family and animation space.