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FOR THE RECORD
 THURSDAY 2 APRIL 8PM
 QFT

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Ireland / 2009 / 56mins Director: Mairéad McClean



Mairéad McClean's first documentary deals with personal issues of memory, memorabilia and testimony in a complex political landscape. In addition it brings into focus the wider political issue of detention without trial and questions its use in times of political unrest.

Northern Ireland, December 1956: The IRA launch a border campaign (Operation Harvest) from the south with the aim of overthrowing the Northern State and creating a United Ireland. PJ McClean, is one of the first 32 men arrested in an attempt to curtail insurgent activity. He is not a member of the IRA nor is he accused of being one. However, the Northern Irish Government detain him for almost 4 years in Crumlin Road Prison, Belfast. Some 50yrs later through this Father / Daughter dialogue on film he shares his story.

Born in 1933, PJ McClean, a retired school teacher, was chairperson of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1970's and was interned both in the 50's and in Long Kesh in 1971.

The film-maker and PJ McClean will attend the screening.

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