

To whom it will concern,

My name is Ian Fallon. I'm a filmmaker from Ireland with a passion for the perverse, the questionable, and the troublesome. By nature and nurture, I'm quite reserved, but all of the noise comes out in my films. I don't like to pull punches. I don't enjoy playing it safe. And I sincerely don't want to miss out on this opportunity.

As a filmmaker, I'm driven by the electricity I feel when I'm crafting a story. It's an addictive chaos and my one and only north star. Nothing else makes me feel this rush, so I never doubt that this isn't what I want to do.

However, when I was 14 at the Gaeltacht (an Irish language summer camp), I decided I would become an actuary because an older kid told me they make millions before they turn 30. Fortunately, at 16, I realised I could make a career out of my obsession with film and narrative storytelling, and also that I didn't really care about making millions. Had I gone on to become an actuary, I think I would have killed myself by now.

In 2023, I made *AMŒBA* as my graduate project in college. It's a personal exorcism of some demons born out of unrequited infatuations throughout my life. It's messy, raw, and excruciatingly vulnerable. It taught me more about myself and my filmmaking passions than I could have ever imagined.

After graduating, I shifted my focus to gaining life experience and improving my writing, developing my voice and building up a back catalogue of scripts and story ideas. I moved from my home in Rathmore, a village of a few hundred, to New York, a city of millions. I lived there for a year and a half and it was the greatest experience of my life so far. Upon moving home, I was selected for the Greenlight Screenwriting lab led by Phillip Shelley to develop a TV pilot. I've applied for as many short film funds as possible and begun work on feature concepts and treatments so that they're ripe and ready for when the opportunity finally raises its beautiful head.

I'm at a stage in my career where I have to seize any and all learning opportunities with both hands and dig my nails in deep. Everything I've learned about Square Peg Social, through online research and speaking with past attendees, has left me feeling invigorated, inspired, and envious I didn't apply earlier. The idea of spending a week with like-minded filmmakers learning from both industry professionals and each other, sounds nothing less than truly delightful. The experience would expand my horizons beyond recognition and I can guarantee I will give it my all.

I want to continue honing my voice, make lifelong connections, and glean all I can from those more seasoned. More than anything, I want to continue being a filmmaker that stands out, I want to keep pushing bigger boundaries, and I want to shape the future of cinema. All I can hope is that you'll help open the door for me.

Thank you for your time and consideration.