

## **Atlantic Short Synopsis**

Narrated by Emmy Award-winning actor Brendan Gleeson, Atlantic follows the fortunes of three small fishing communities - in Ireland, Norway and Newfoundland - as they struggle to maintain their way of life in the face of mounting economic and ecological challenges.

As the oil majors drive deeper into their fragile seas, and the world's largest fishing companies push fish stocks to the brink, coastal communities and the resources they rely on are fast approaching a point of no return.

Filmed in some of the most remote and breathtaking locations in the North Atlantic, and at close quarters with some of the sea's most captivating characters, Atlantic brings to the fore three very intimate stories from the global resource debate. It explores how modern day communities must learn from the past, in order to secure a brighter future.

Atlantic has just debuted at the Dublin International Film Festival 2016, winning ***Best Irish Documentary***.

## **Atlantic Long Synopsis**

Narrated by Emmy Award-winning actor Brendan Gleeson, **Atlantic** follows the fortunes of three small fishing communities united and divided by the Atlantic Ocean - Ireland, Norway and Newfoundland - as they struggle to maintain their way of life in the face of mounting economic and ecological challenges. As the oil majors drive deeper into their fragile seas, and the world's largest fishing companies push fish stocks to the brink, coastal communities and the resources they rely on are fast approaching a point of no return.

In **Norway**, fishermen and their resource have historically been aggressively protected by national authorities. But as oil fields dwindle and the country now looks to add to its reserves, Arctic cod fisherman Bjørnar Nicolaisen is campaigning against seismic testing by the oil explorers criss-crossing his fishing grounds. On the outer edges of Norway's five-star economy, seismic blasting is threatening to blow Bjørnar's livelihood out of the water.

Across the ocean in **Newfoundland**, where an oil boom has hit, fisherman Charlie Kane will likely be the last of his generation to work the sea, after a cod fishing ban in the 1990s brought a world-renowned industry to a halt overnight. Yet Charlie is thankful his sons can now make a good living on the oil rigs, and won't need to toil in small boats on Newfoundland's perilous Grand Banks. But now, as oil prices plummet, their village is once again taking on water, as the the quick money of the black gold rush begins to run dry.

Meanwhile just off the west coast of **Ireland**, fisherman Jerry Early has seen the heart ripped out of his small island community after a ban on drift netting for wild salmon was put in place. As he fights to regain his fishing rights, he's up against a government which takes its orders from the European Union. As foreign super-trawlers operate with impunity just offshore, Jerry feels like a criminal on his own boat. The circumstances could be dire if he defies the new order of the ocean, but as the unofficial "mayor" of a dying island, Jerry feels he must stand up to these powerful interests before it's too late.

Filmed in some of the most remote and breathtaking locations in the North Atlantic, and at close quarters with some of the sea's most captivating characters, **Atlantic** brings to the fore three very personal stories in the global resource debate and explores how modern day communities must learn from the past, in order to secure a brighter future.

**End**