

# DAVID LYNCH FOUNDATION

For Consciousness-Based  
Education and World Peace

*Interviews Available*

## **“CATCHING THE BIG FISH” COMES TO IRELAND AND THE UK 20-27 OCTOBER**

*Extraordinary presentations and concerts with  
Award-winning iconic filmmaker*

**David Lynch**

**Legendary troubadour songwriter/poet**

**Donovan**



**David Lynch and Donovan at the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles on 21 January 2007. The two iconic artists are coming to London 23 and 24 October.**

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David Lynch (*Elephant Man, Blue Velvet, Twin Peaks, Mulholland Drive, INLAND EMPIRE*), and songwriter/poet Donovan Leitch (*Sunshine Superman, Mellow Yellow, Jennifer Juniper, Hurdy Gurdy Man*), are visiting Dublin, Belfast, London, Glasgow, and Edinburgh from 20 to 27 October, following a highly successful tour of several other European countries.

Lynch will speak on the topic of his US best seller, *Catching the Big Fish: Meditation, Consciousness, and Creativity* (Tarcher/Penguin). He will answer questions on his films, his creative processes, and his new Foundation, which is bringing stress-reducing, creativity-enhancing Transcendental Meditation to school children. Donovan will celebrate his collaboration with David's Foundation with a 30-minute live concert showcasing his greatest songs from the 1960s and '70s. Rising star Astrella Celeste, Donovan's daughter, will join him for part of the performance.

Highlights of the five city UK-Ireland tour include: A prominent slot at The Times BFI 51st London Film Festival; presentation of this year's David Lean lecture at BAFTA (traditionally given by one of the world's top directors); the launch of this year's Belfast Festival at Queen's, and a special event at London University's Institute of Education (see schedule below).

The London *Guardian's* panel of film critics have collectively concluded that David Lynch "is the most important film-maker of the current era" and have voted him to be the world's best director. In the USA the presentations and concerts of David Lynch and Donovan in January 2007 drew packed auditoriums. There is a similar response for the UK-Ireland tour: Wherever tickets go on sale, the event sells out virtually overnight. This includes the Belfast Festival at Queen's, Glasgow Film Theatre, and the BFI National Film Theatre.

On 1 October in Paris, President Nicolas Sarkozy presented David Lynch with France's highest civic honour, the *Légion d'Honneur*, praising his eclectic 'genius'. (See pages 4, 5: "AFP – France honours David Lynch 'genius'".)

Lynch's visit to the UK is part of a European tour to highlight the successes of the David Lynch Foundation in providing in-school Transcendental Meditation programmes to tens of thousands of students in the US, Latin America, and Africa. Since its founding two years ago, the David Lynch Foundation has provided \$5 million in grants for these in-school programmes and to fund research on the benefits of the programme for reducing stress, anxiety, and learning disorders, and improving creativity, learning, and grades. (See pages 6, 7: "Statement by David Lynch on the work of his Foundation".)

Donovan heads up the musical wing of the Foundation. He is travelling with David Lynch to support efforts to establish in the UK and Ireland schools with a consciousness-based programme. (See pages 8-10: "WeinerWorld Press Release: Legendary troubadour Donovan to release first-ever concert DVD".)

**David and Donovan are available for interview by appointment.**

Copies of recent articles from the USA and UK featuring interviews with David Lynch and Donovan are available on request.

### **Schedule of events:**

**Dublin** 20 Oct 19:00: Trinity College, Edmund Burke Theatre

**Belfast** 21 Oct 14:00: Belfast Festival at Queen's, Sir William Whitla Hall

**London** 23 Oct 21:00: The Times BFI 51<sup>st</sup> London Film Festival, BFI Southbank

**London** 24 Oct 19:30: Event hosted by Institute of Education, University of London (Logan Hall)

**Glasgow** 25 Oct 20:00: Event hosted by Glasgow Film Theatre

**Edinburgh** 26 Oct 20:00: The Queens Hall, sponsored by Edinburgh Film House

**London** 27 Oct 19:00: David Lynch will present this year's David Lean Lecture at BAFTA

### **Detailed schedule and bookings:**

<http://www.consciousnessbasededucation.org.uk/LynchDonovan.shtml>

### **Principal sponsors:**

- The Times BFI 51st London Film Festival
- British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)
- Institute of Education, University of London
- David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace (non-profit 501 3c organisation)
- Maharishi Foundation, registered UK educational charity, promoting Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace
- Belfast Festival at Queen's
- Trinity College, Dublin
- Glasgow Film Theatre
- The Edinburgh Film House

### **Helpful links:**

- Biography of Dr David Lynch: [www.lynchbigfish.org/david\\_lynch.html](http://www.lynchbigfish.org/david_lynch.html)
- Biography of Dr Donovan Leitch: [www.lynchbigfish.org/donovan.html](http://www.lynchbigfish.org/donovan.html)
- David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace: [www.DavidLynchFoundation.org](http://www.DavidLynchFoundation.org)
- TM in Education: [www.StressFreeSchools.org](http://www.StressFreeSchools.org)
- American University, Washington, D.C.: Consciousness-Based Education research programme: [www.au-tm-study.org](http://www.au-tm-study.org)
- Consciousness-Based Education in the UK: [www.consciousnessbasededucation.org.uk](http://www.consciousnessbasededucation.org.uk)

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### **About the David Lynch Foundation**

The David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace was established in the USA on 21 July 2005, to provide funding for stress-reducing, creativity-enhancing Transcendental Meditation programmes in state and private schools throughout the US and around the world. Since its launch over two years ago, the Foundation has raised more than \$5 million and tens of thousands of students have

learned to meditate as a result. Transcendental Meditation is a simple, easily learned technique, practised for 10 to 20 minutes twice a day, which provides the mind and body with profound rest and rejuvenation. Introduced more than 50 years ago by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, the technique is now practised by nearly six million people worldwide of all ages, religions, and cultures. Extensive scientific research, published in leading medical journals, has documented the benefits of Transcendental Meditation for reducing stress and stress-related disorders, including hypertension, diabetes, and obesity; improving brain functioning; increasing creativity and intelligence; and reducing drug and alcohol abuse. In the US, the National Institutes of Health has provided nearly \$25 million over the past 18 years to study the benefits of Transcendental Meditation on brain functioning and cardiovascular disease among teens and adults.

## **France honours David Lynch 'genius'**

PARIS ( 2007-10-01 21:37:43 ) : Cult US filmmaker David Lynch was awarded France's top honour on Monday by President Nicolas Sarkozy, who praised his eclectic 'genius' before a room packed with film stars.

"My French is poor, but my heart is rich today thanks to you," Lynch told the president in halting French after receiving the Legion of Honour.

"It's no secret that I love France, the art-making, art-loving and art-supporting people of France," Lynch continued in English, flanked by his partner Emily Stofle, film director Roman Polanski, and actresses Fanny Ardant and Charlotte Rampling.

"I wish the very best for this great country and for you Mr president I wish you maximum success."

Sarkozy told Lynch that seeing "Elephant Man" as a teenager had "definitively convinced" him that "cinema was a highly important matter."

"I love your way of testing reality to discover the truth behind it," he told the man behind "Sailor and Lula", "Mulholland Drive" and the television series "Twin Peaks".

"I love your way of touching on everything: film, art, photography, even furniture. When I think people here call me the cannibal president, at last I meet a guy who wants to do more than I do!" he quipped.

Sarkozy said he appreciated Lynch's "honesty" and jokingly thanked him for his support despite the fact he was "not sure that you and your friends are one-hundred percent right-wing."

Lynch, who practices transcendental meditation in search of "peace and invincibility", ended the meeting by asking Sarkozy to build a tower of invincibility in Paris.

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See also:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/entertainment/7022158.stm>



# DAVID LYNCH FOUNDATION

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Education and World Peace

## **Statement by David Lynch on the work of his Foundation**

**“In today’s world of fear and uncertainty,** every child should have one class period a day to dive within himself and experience the field of silence – bliss – the enormous reservoir of energy and intelligence that is deep within all of us. This is the way to save the coming generation.

“I have been ‘diving within’ through the Transcendental Meditation technique for over 30 years. It has changed my life, my world. I am not alone. Millions of other people of all ages, religions, and walks of life practice the technique and enjoy incredible benefits.

“Someday, hopefully very soon, ‘diving within’ as a preparation for learning and as a tool for developing the creative potential of the mind will be a standard part of every school’s curriculum. The stresses of today’s world are taking an enormous toll on our children right now. There are hundreds of schools, with thousands of students, who are eager to relieve this stress and bring out the full potential of every student by providing this Consciousness-Based Education today.

“Our Foundation was established to ensure that any child in the world who wants to learn and practice the Transcendental Meditation program can do so. The TM program is the most thoroughly researched and widely practiced program in the world for developing the full creative potential of the brain and mind, improving health, reducing stress, and improving academic outcomes. We provide scholarships for students to learn the technique and to receive the complete follow-up program of instruction throughout their student years to ensure they receive the maximum benefits. We also provide scholarships for students who want to attend the growing number of highly successful schools, colleges, and universities founded on this Consciousness-Based approach to education.

“I have had the pleasure of meeting many students who are ‘diving within’ and experiencing Consciousness-Based Education. These students are all unique individuals, very much themselves. They are amazing, self-sufficient, wide-awake, energetic, blissful, creative, powerfully intelligent and peaceful human beings. Meeting these students, for me, was the proof that Consciousness-Based education is a profoundly good thing for our schools and for our world.

“Research and experience document the profound benefits to society as a whole when our children dive within. Individual peace is the unit of world peace. By offering Consciousness-Based Education to the coming generation, we can promote a strong foundation for a healthy, harmonious, and peaceful world. For this, the

Foundation also supports the establishment of Universities of World Peace that will train the coming generation in a new profession: that of professional peacemaker.

“Thank you very much for your interest. And please remember that Consciousness-Based Education is not a luxury. For our children who are growing up in a stressful, often frightening, crisis-ridden world, it is a necessity.”

– David Lynch

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David Lynch, founder and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace, is an award-winning director, writer, and producer. His work includes *Eraserhead*, *Elephant Man*, *Wild at Heart*, *Twin Peaks*, *Blue Velvet*, *Lost Highway*, *Straight Story*, *Mulholland Drive*, and *INLAND EMPIRE*.

# WIENERWORLD PRESS RELEASE



## **Legendary troubadour Donovan to release first-ever concert DVD on October 8**

*Donovan Live in LA!* captures the essence of one of the most influential and renowned singer/songwriters of the '60s – and beyond

Dr. Donovan Leitch to celebrate with a rare five-city tour with iconic filmmaker David Lynch

The legendary troubadour Dr. Donovan Leitch who first ascended the pop charts in 1965 with *Catch the Wind*, will release his first-ever concert DVD, *Donovan Live in LA!* (Weinerworld), on October 8, and will celebrate the release with a rare five-city tour of the UK and Ireland with award-winning filmmaker David Lynch from October 19 to 28 ([www.donovan.ie](http://www.donovan.ie)).

Dr. Donovan Leitch's new DVD was filmed live before 3,500 fans during a sold-out concert at the famed Kodak Theatre, home to the Academy Awards, on January 21, 2007. Donovan's one-hour performance, which was broadcast in America on PBS national television, features his greatest hit songs over the past 40 years, including *Sunshine Superman*, *Catch the Wind*, *Mellow Yellow*, *Season of the Witch*, and *Hurdy Gurdy Man*.

The concert was the final event of an SRO three-concert tour with Lynch at Lincoln Center in New York, Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles. The events were held in support of the David Lynch Foundation for

Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace, which is funding in-school programs and scientific research on the benefits of stress-reducing meditation for at-risk youth.

Dr. Donovan Leitch's US concerts garnered widespread critical acclaim. The *Washington Post* wrote: "If there ever were such hushed respect for another artist, this critic hasn't seen it. Donovan's words are something to lap up, full of rhythm and repetition and sensual purrs."

**The concert DVD begins with an introduction by David Lynch. Special guests include Dr. Donovan Leitch's daughter and rising recording star, Astrella Celeste, and legendary singer Mike Love of the Beach Boys. Dr. Donovan Leitch is backed by Tom Mansi on concert bass and Stewart Lawrence on percussion.**

"I am thrilled to release my first concert DVD. I feel the concert at the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles, and the wonderful quality of the digital recording, captures the essence of my music—and my life," Donovan said.

"And now, David Lynch and I bring the tour to my home country where I will perform and David will take Q & A. We will present the David Lynch Foundation programme of Consciousness-Based Education to UK schools and universities".

**For further information, please contact**

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**ABOUT DR. DONOVAN LEITCH**

The legendary troubadour Dr. Donovan Leitch began his career as an itinerant folk musician, creating acoustic hits in 1965 with the gentle *Catch The Wind* and *Colours* and his version of Buffy Sainte Marie's protest anthem *Universal Soldier* before transforming the pop music landscape with a series of enigmatic and wondrous pop masterpieces that continue to be played on radio and television.

From 1966 through 1969, Dr. Donovan Leitch scored a string of eleven Top 40 hits in a row, including *Mellow Yellow*, *Sunshine Superman*, *Epistle To Dippy*, *There Is A Mountain*, *Wear Your Love Like Heaven*, *Hurdy Gurdy Man*, *Jennifer Juniper*, *Lalena*, *Atlantis*, and *Riki Tiki Tavi*.

Dr. Donovan Leitch was one of the few artists to collaborate on songs with the Beatles, contributing lyrics to the song *Yellow Submarine*. Dr. Donovan Leitch was also invited by the Beatles to join them at Abbey Road Studios for the final orchestral overdub session for the Lennon-McCartney collaboration *A Day in the Life*, the grand finale of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. Dr. Donovan Leitch influenced John Lennon and Paul McCartney in their guitar styles during the famous trip to India

in 1968 where Dr. Donovan Leitch and the Beatles first learned Transcendental Meditation and brought it back to the West in a huge way.

During his career, Dr. Donovan Leitch has played with folk music greats Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, and Bob Dylan, as well as rock musicians Jimmy Page of Led Zeppelin and Jeff Beck.

In the past five years, Dr. Donovan Leitch has completed the successful album *Beat Café*; a new box set, *Try for the Sun: The Journey of Donovan*; and a book, *The Autobiography of Donovan: The Hurdy Gurdy Man* (Arrow Books). Dr. Donovan Leitch is also fulfilling his 40-year interest in Transcendental Meditation by heading up the musical wing of the David Lynch Foundation for Consciousness-Based Education and World Peace.

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