

James

James is a short film, written and directed by Connor Clements, that focuses on a young boy isolated by his sexuality and alienated from his family who, in his desperation, turns to his teacher for support. The short,



which has picked up fifteen awards to date, was shot on JVC's GY-HD200 camera.

The film's director, Connor Clements who studied BA (Hons) Film Degree and MA in Film and Visual Studies at Queen's University Belfast used JVC's GY-HD200 camera to shoot his debut short, James.

The story behind the film is really quite remarkable, Director of Photography and Film Studies tutor at Queen's University, Declan Keeney, reveals. In Film Studies at Queen's, we have a fantastically strong practice programme that is integrated into the BA Hons degree in Film Studies. The practical side of the programme is taught by people who have substantial industry experience in fact, all are still filmmakers themselves. The JVC GY-HD200 cameras, purchased from Broadcast & Electronic Solutions Ltd. in Omagh, allow us firstly to have cameras that have everything a heightened Betacam-style camera offers, but at a fraction of the cost. This gave us the best of both worlds a professional quality camera at sensible money.

It is really down to Connor's sheer determination and the great support he got from the Film Department at Queen's University that made this film happen, Declan continues. With virtually no budget, he has produced a film that compares with films on production budgets running into tens of thousands. Certainly at film festivals, James has already beaten many films funded like this.

Connor Clements, who wrote and directed, James as part of his final submission for his Masters, has received critical acclaim both nationally and internationally and has been praised for the stunning visuals captured onscreen.

With JVC's GY-HD200 we can even film in 24p when we are doing film work and 720p/25 works brilliantly for documentaries. Most people who saw the work were stunned it wasn't shot on 16mm. You can create a very distinctive look with this camera.

Among the film's fifteen awards, James has picked up Best Northern Irish Short at Belfast Film Festival 2008, Bronze Palm Award Mexico International Film Festival 2008, best drama Grand Jury award at the UK National Student Film Festival and has been entered into The Sundance Film Festival. Apart from winning an Oscar, being shown at Cannes is one of the highest accolades available for a short film, Connor reveals. It's a real honour for any aspiring filmmaker to be part of this high-profile event, and I hope it won't be the last time one of my films is shown on such a prestigious stage.

For more information about *James*, [click here](#).