

## **This Is My Home – Synopses (Short & Long)**

### ***Shortest –***

***60 Shows. 50 States. 40 Days. What could go wrong?***

### **OR**

***Road Trips, World Records and the American Dream – What could go wrong?***

### ***Short –***

*Two Irish Immigrant musicians, The Black Donnellys, embark on a quest to set a Guinness World Record playing 60 shows in ALL 50 states in just 35 days! Racing against the clock, they examine the pursuit of the American Dream from an immigrant's perspective and how music connects us all. Will they make it?*

### ***Long –***

THIS IS MY HOME - A documentary feature film about two Irish immigrant musicians (The Black Donnellys) who embark on an adventure to set a Guinness World Record, playing 60 shows in all 50 US states in just 35 days.

Along the way we focused our conversations with people from all of America on the pursuit of the 'American Dream' from an immigrants perspective, how music connects all people and travel across America.

Get ready for an emotional ride that tours America in record time. Laughter, original music and heart fill this film from start to finish. Take a dive into Irish history and how immigrants today are making America a better place. It will leave you wanting more!

## **This Is My Home Links**

### **Sizzle (Not Trailer):**

<https://vimeo.com/357411325>

### Official Website URL

[www.thisismyhomemovie.com](http://www.thisismyhomemovie.com)

### Key Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/theblackdonnellys/>

### **Stills/Photos**

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1AsLeXdcA7k10sIxT7uyQhY9gbxRN\\_tvE](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1AsLeXdcA7k10sIxT7uyQhY9gbxRN_tvE)

## NEWS

Las Vegas's Black Donnellys document 50 states in 35 days

The Las Vegas Review Journal

<https://www.reviewjournal.com/entertainment/music/las-vegass-black-donnellys-document-50-states-in-35-days-1664211/>

Documentary On Ambitious Local Band Centers Around Immigration

Nevada Public Radio – On Air Interview

[https://knpr.org/knpr/2019-05/documentary-ambitious-local-band-centers-around-immigration?fbclid=IwAR3zTSvTxjH9dBZc8\\_M3rthActFPjvzmdI43lbBbk0r6m2EJg4BxIvD9DQ](https://knpr.org/knpr/2019-05/documentary-ambitious-local-band-centers-around-immigration?fbclid=IwAR3zTSvTxjH9dBZc8_M3rthActFPjvzmdI43lbBbk0r6m2EJg4BxIvD9DQ)

The Black Donnellys, Vegas filmmaker explore American dream

The Las Vegas Sun

<https://lasvegassun.com/news/2019/may/04/the-black-donnellys-vegas-filmmaker-explore-america/>

Home Is Where The Band Is

Patreon

<https://www.patreon.com/posts/27082480?fbclid=IwAR07-TjtwfIcJWGjHtvHv5raBw9541pOdmqeTUh4pzjvqAdNlFCaEHgzDq8>

Road trips, world records and the American Dream

The Irish Echo

<https://www.irishecho.com/2019/07/road-trips-world-records-and-the-american-dream/>

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Karl Nickoley

When the *Black Donnelly's*, a Las Vegas—based Irish duo, approached me at Frequency Pictures about their plan to play 60 shows in all 50 states in 40 days, it was instantly clear that this could be more than a great American road trip film (albeit with expatriate Irishmen).

Band members Dave Rooney and Dave Browne aren't just performers, after all. They're immigrants, too, setting off on an adventure to discover America. Along the journey, they explore the country's deep Irish heritage, and their wider relationship to recent immigrants from across the world. In our time of introspection and reflection as a nation defined by immigrants, these two musicians offered the perfect opportunity to discover our collective national character. Does the American dream still exist?

Are new immigrants, and those descended from immigrants still drawn together by a common bond?

"This is My Home" is also about music, and how it can connect us all, despite our differences. With their music, Rooney and Browne form an intimate bond with audiences at every venue they visit.

The beauty of "This is My Home" is the fact that it's apolitical in a time when the very word *immigration* can barely be uttered without risking conflict. Two musicians travel the country to share their own Irish heritage, and are welcomed with open arms by Americans of diverse backgrounds.

The true potential of the film emerged at a critical turning point just ten days into the trip: The Black Donnellys ran out of money. That's when an ambitious goal to get into the Guinness Book of World Records (they eventually did) became symbolic of the American dream.

They made a decision to fight—to overcome whatever obstacles were placed in their way— and claim their own version of what early immigrants believed they would find in America: streets paved with gold.

## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Karl Nickoley, director of “This is My Home,” is far from a newcomer to the documentary and filmmaking worlds. For over a decade, he’s produced dozens of commercials, music videos, short films, feature films and immersive video and film. With deep experience in producing and financing, his company, Frequency Pictures, been able to build up an impressive client list in a short time, while at the same time, initiating and funding Nickoley’s independent directorial projects.

A Las Vegas-based creator, Nickoley has worked with clients across the country, taking on challenging projects and newer technologies, such as the 360 video experience he directed for the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority. He’s worked with top clients, including AT&T, Ford, AMC, Geico, AMC Network and Dr. Pepper, and has been recognized at numerous film festival awards around the world, where his productions have received several “audience choice” awards. One client remarked, *If you are a marketer looking for someone to deliver a product that will impress—Karl is your guy.* Another lauded his *quality and engaging content.*

It’s Nickoley’s breadth of experience, he believes, that makes him a “producer’s director,” able to balance the requirements to craft an effective story with the pragmatism required under many circumstances. He works to create exceptional work, even under physical or budgetary limitations. He’s managed everything from small intimate productions to multi-million dollar productions and brought them in on time and on budget. He was clearly prepared for his next, and perhaps greatest challenge.

“This is My Home” is Nickoley’s most ambitious film to date, with a myriad of challenges that would give any filmmaker pause. The documentary required shooting in all fifty states, interviewing over eighty subjects, and coordinating a production that demanded the director and his crew to cover thousands of miles in less than two months. Once again, Nickoley saw the project through to a successful finish.

Karl graduated with honors from the Los Angeles Film School, and received a certification from Pepperdine University. He’s been producing and directing for eleven years.

## POSTIVE REVIEWS / QUOTES

Finally got to see the movie THIS IS MY HOME What an amazing Achievement by the boys

one love Christy x

CHRISTY DIGNAM ASLAN

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Really, really enjoyed watching The THIS IS MY HOME movie  
It took me 55 years to do what the Black Donnelly's did in 35 days!!

DEREK WARFIELD

WOLFE TONES /young WOLFE TONES

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THIS IS MY HOME

Great movie!

what a

Tremendous effort boys, you obviously have more stamina than I ever had!!!

Gary Pallister

(Manchester Utd & England)

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Been in studio all day just got a chance to watch a great movie THIS IS MY HOME I wish the boys well with it. Hopefully it will help them on their quest for a green card in the US. They certainly deserve it on the amount of work they have put in!!!

The best of luck with it

Janick Gers

IRON MAIDEN

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The Black Donnelley's are quintessentially Irish and American - their quest to achieve a dream is wrapped up in a blanket of joy and Irish luck which can be as bad as it is good - but always makes for a fast, furious and fun journey - just like Irish American life itself. No matter where in the world your roots are, don't miss "This Is My Home." You'll laugh, cry, and remember who you really are." Terry Murphy, Honorary Consul of Ireland for Nevada.

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GLEN HANSARD (The Frames /Once)

this film is a hoot

Fair play to them two mad men!!

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JEREMY HOLM (House of cards /Mr Robot /The Ranger)

WOW!!! So inspiring and Beautiful.

I had no idea how close you guys were to not making it! It was so fun to watch, and very moving! I cannot imagine how grueling that was!! Again so inspirational so proud of you guys!!

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Dirk Vermin (a review from one jaded old Punk rocker)

-This movie has become my favorite "road film" of all time! A hilarious and often touching 40 day journey into achieving an obsessive goal that's unlikely to ever be challenged?! These 2 Irish \$#!s showed me more about the true American experience in 90 minutes than 100 hours of a Ken Burns doc?! If you turn the News? This country is doomed. If you watch this movie? ...We're doing just fine. Sláinte is understatement. See this movie damn it!

Dirk vermin owner of the famous PUSSYCAT tattoo parlor in Las Vegas and star of Netflix show BAD INK

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I've been a fan of Dave Browne since I marvelled at his musical skills on songs like 'Wish You Well' and 'I'm So Happy' when reviewing a Little Sister Sage gig for Hot Press magazine back in 1994. Now with the Black Donnellys he's still bringing the same energy, commitment, creativity and more than a little bit of madness to his musical adventures. Perhaps more important, as this movie proves, the band are making music seem like fun again. That madcap humour, their sheer hard work and boundless talent are all brilliantly captured in the film, and you get a geography lesson as well, thanks to some clever and superbly done graphics. These guys are inspirational. They don't know when to give up, and I doubt if they ever will. This Is My Home deserves to be seen by anyone who gets real pleasure out of music and who needs an antidote to the celebrity tosh we face daily. Rock on!

Jackie Hayden (Hot Pres magazine, Ireland)

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This is my Home

Beautifully shot movie and of course you guys THE BLACK DONNELLYS sound great! Very timely piece, thank you!

Benny Riteveld

Bass player SANTANA/MILES DAVIS /SHEILA E

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Loved this movie

Never underestimate the will of the Irish ... Eruptions, Storms, Breakdowns and they said...

'Fuck it....Let's play'

Jimmy Denning

TENORS OF ROCK

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THIS MY HOME

"What an amazing and feel good record breaking journey of two incredibly talented immigrants from Ireland, that wanted to share their gift of music with everyone across America"

"Great feel-good journey about Love, People, and how music is one language that can connect us All no matter where you are from"

Eddie "El Brujo" Caipo

Mixing Engineer for:

Enrique Iglesias

Gwen Stefani

Christina Aguilera

Tears for Fears

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Just finished watching THE BLACK DONNELLYS movie THIS IS MY HOME Wow. So inspirational and heartfelt! Life affirming. Truly an amazing accomplishment.

John Sands drummer for

Aimee Mann

Lori McKenna

Merrie Amsterburg

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Roy Buckley ( Irish singer songwriter /song collector sessions)

This is the real deal! Any musician who has ever picked up an instrument and went on the road singing and performing can relate to this movie. Life on the road brings ups and downs, unexpected twists and turns both positive and negative and as an Irish musician who has toured America this movie is an inspiration and everybody should see it.

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Watched the Movie last night! Great viewing indeed, I think I would have caved after the first week! 50 states of passion persistence and plain aul rock n roll... as a seasoned musician who has toured the world over many decades I take my hat off to you guys! The challenge may have finished after 35days but long may your musical journey continue.

TONY McGUINNESS

Bass player/songwriter

ASLAN/The Script

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Having seen the Black Donnelly's documentary, 'This is my Home', as a fellow Irishman living in Las Vegas, I have to say what a great story for any immigrant looking for the American Dream. Showing their journey through all fifty states. Setbacks of every description, showing the bond between Ireland and the USA. Fantastic soundtrack. A must see for all. Congratulations to you both and all involved.

Jimmy Conway. Irish musician Las Vegas

Brendan Bowyer and the big 8

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50 states, 60 gigs loin 40 Days.

"This Is My Home" is the high flyin', hard drivin', hard drinkin' tale

Two Irish Musicians (Dave Rooney and Dave Browne known as The Black Donnellys)

striving to set a New Guinness World Performance Record.

This engaging documentary, written in Sweat, Tears and Burning RV tires,

is a moving and musical look at how the American Dream is alive and well,



in the hearts of Two Immigrant Musicians who, with the love of their families and support team, celebrate the opportunity their adopted country has extended to them.

A living, breathing example of how hard work and tenacity can over-come any obstacle.

But, in the end, it's not about setting records, tangled schedules, lost sleep, or missed connections,

It's about the magic of two honest voices connecting with every heart in the crowd,

no matter how big or how small.

"This is My Home", in the words of one Irish Musician and soon to be American Citizen, "I'm loving 'dis"!

ED Bell (Actor Ballad of Buster Scruggs /married with children)

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I just finished watching the movie Just outstanding! To be honest, I didn't know what to expect and frankly, probably expected to "flick-through" some bits to get the end quicker. Not a chance! You had me from the first couple of minutes and enthralled to the end. Great job!! Just brilliant!

Sincerely

Terry Davies

CEO

TAD MANAGEMENT

Phoenix Arizona

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Matt Barnett (CEO onstage talent agency)

You Bastards had me crying at the end of your documentary. Great job mates! If I knew you were sharing underwear and eating moldy toast I would've put forth more! Congrats to you two and your families and friends who are all able to share in this journey.

Here is your quote: "What an incredible journey, and not just the logistics or the music - what incredible stories! I particularly loved the way that the music, helped tell the story and made the feelings three dimensional, drawing in the audiences!"

Tony Becker Ameirceltic Magazine

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"This Movie and More importantly, The Black Donnelly's are Insane. Insanely Great, Insanely Hard Working and Insanely Talented.

This movie showcases the best of America and what it means to be an "American"- Work ethic, a Dream and a sense of humor.

This IS....The American Dream coming true in front of us. This is MY Home and I'm proud to call these boys my friends"

- Jeremy McComb

Nashville Songwriter

(Written songs on projects selling Over 6 Million Units

along with Grammy Nominated movie Soundtracks)

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"Holy crap that was amazing!!! We laughed a lot, teared up a few times, this movie is awesome!!

-Kimes Ranchwear, Scottsdale, AZ.

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Two hilarious singing Irish misfits making their way across the US This movie is something everyone's gotta see!!

Lawrence Isara (Jamison whiskey rep Nevada)

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This movie is for every musician who has ever spent years traveling all over the USA trying to earn a living and chase the American Dream. It's also for all those who didn't.

'I laughed and cried and felt every mile of this extraordinary adventure. It's a heart tugging, heartbreaking, history lesson and an insight into how spontaneous a musicians life can be.

It's impossible to not be moved and I dare you to not jump up and cheer for the two Dave's.  
The Black Donnelly's.  
Irish legends.

Darren Holden.  
The High Kings.

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watched the movie THIS IS MY Home  
THIS MOVIE IS JUST FANTASTIC!!  
Daragh Keany  
Sunday World