

# Press Release



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## **Awards success for EM Media-backed film and television**

**EM Media today celebrates two investments, a feature film and a television series, picking up prizes at prestigious awards ceremonies. At the South By Southwest (SXSW) Film festival in Austin, Texas Andrew Haigh's *Weekend* wins the Emerging Visions Audience Award, and at the Royal Television Society awards Shane Meadows' *This Is England '86* is winner of two gongs; best Actor (Female) and best Writer (Drama).**

*Weekend* is winner of the Emerging Visions Audience Award at SXSW Film festival, which recognises innovation and creativity from new and emerging feature filmmakers. *Weekend* is directed by Andrew Haigh and produced by Tristan Goligher through Nottingham-based Glendale Picture Company. The film shot entirely on location in Nottingham and was financed by EM Media with support from East Midlands Development Agency (emda).

*This Is England '86* picked up two prizes at last night's Royal Television Society (RTS) Awards. Vicky McClure took the award for best Actor (Female) for her visceral portrayal of Lol, with the RTS judges describing her performance as "totally compelling, brilliant and supercharged". McClure trained at Nottingham's renowned Television Workshop, also supported by EM Media, which counts Samantha Morton and Toby Kebbell amongst its alumni.

Co-writers of the series, Jack Thorne and Shane Meadows, took home the prize for best Writer (Drama) with the RTS judges commenting, "the jury felt this powerful and gripping drama took us unflinchingly into the lives of these compelling characters to tell believable and haunting stories."

*This Is England '86* was co-financed by EM Media with support from the East Midlands Development Agency. Pre-production and post production took place in Nottingham at Spool Post and the Antenna Media Centre.

### **EM Media Chief Executive, Debbie Williams comments:**

"The latest awards for EM Media-backed film and television investments are a ringing endorsement of the East Midlands' vibrant talent pool, both in front and behind the camera, which continues to impress on the world stage. Both *Weekend* and *This Is England '86* received investment through our emda-backed EMMI fund and were made locally, creating jobs and inward investment. These awards demonstrate

once again that public finance invested wisely, at the right time and the right level can develop creative talent whilst also boosting the local economy.”

For more information and high resolution images please contact Emma Hewitt, PR and Marketing Executive on 07967 217 994 or via email at [emma.hewitt@em-media.org.uk](mailto:emma.hewitt@em-media.org.uk).

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## Notes to editors

### ***Weekend***

*Weekend*, directed by Andrew Haigh and produced by Tristan Goligher through Nottingham-based Glendale Picture Company, tells the story of Russell, who embarks on a life-changing brief encounter with a stranger over the course of a weekend. It's a one-night stand that becomes something more - a (sort of) love story between two guys trying to take control of their lives.

Visit: [www.weekend-film.com](http://www.weekend-film.com)

### ***This Is England '86***

*This Is England '86*, Shane Meadows' television debut, revisits the characters from Meadows's multi award-winning hit film, *This Is England* – also co-financed by EM Media – three years on, as Chris de Burgh is at number one, the World Cup is raging in Mexico and over 3.4 million Brits are unemployed. Watched by 10 million viewers and selling well on DVD, the series has proved to be such a success Meadows is currently shooting the follow-up for Channel 4, a Christmas special titled *This Is England '88*.

Visit: <http://www.channel4.com/programmes/this-is-england-86>

## **EM Media**

EM Media is the Screen Agency for the East Midlands region of England.

In less than a decade the profile, reputation and impact of East Midlands' filmmaking has transformed through EM Media's interventions, which have driven creative excellence and economic growth:

- **£179m** economic benefit has been generated for the region's economy
- **42 feature films** have been co-financed by EM Media, from *Control* and *This Is England* to the forthcoming *Tyrannosaur* and *Oranges and Sunshine*, many achieving international acclaim winning 8 BAFTAs, 10 BIFAs and 3 Michael Powell awards
- **9 video games** have been co-financed and released to the global market
- **45 film projects** in development
- **82 high quality short films** have been completed launching the careers of the region's brightest new filmmaking talent

Visit [www.em-media.org.uk](http://www.em-media.org.uk)

