Matt Porterfield's new movie accepted into Sundance Film Festival

'I Used to be Darker' to be shown as an example of 'innovative, forward-thinking' storytelling

By Chris Kaltenbach, The Baltimore Sun

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"I Used to be Darker," the latest movie from Baltimore's Matt Porterfield, will be shown at January's Sundance Film Festival, organizers announced Wednesday.

The movie, Porterfield's third feature as a writer-director, tells the story of a runaway from Northern Ireland who moves in with her aunt and uncle in Baltimore, and the family crises that ensue. It stars Deragh Campbell, Hannah Gross, Kim Taylor, Ned Oldham, Geoff Grace and Nick Petr.

"I Used to be Darker" will be shown as part of the festival's out-of-competition NEXT section, which spotlights "pure, bold works distinguished by an innovative, forward-thinking approach to storytelling." It is one of 10 movies being shown in the section.

Porterfield shot "I Used to be Darker" last year, in Baltimore and Ocean City. Part of the film's budget was raised through a campaign on Kickstarter.

The 35-year-old Baltimore native's previous films were "Hamilton" (2006) and "Putty Hill" (2010). In 2011, he won the $25,000 Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize. He teaches screenwriting, film theory and production at the Johns Hopkins University.

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