**NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED:**

**BRITISH ACADEMY GAMES AWARDS**

***EVERYBODY’S GONE TO THE RAPTURE* LEADS WITH 10 NOMINATIONS**

**FOLLOWED BY *HER STORY* AND *THE WITCHER 3: WILD HUNT* WITH SEVEN**

***BATMAN: ARKHAM KNIGHT, LIFE IS STRANGE* AND *ROCKET LEAGUE***

**ALL RECEIVE FIVE NOMINATIONS EACH**

**DARA O’BRIAIN TO RETURN AS HOST FOR THE AWARDS CEREMONY**

London, 10 March 2016: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) has today announced the nominations for the British Academy Games Awards in 2016. A total of 44 games have been recognised across 17 categories, showcasing the very best games of the past 12 months and highlighting an outstanding level of creative excellence from a broad range of UK and international development teams.

**Everybody’s Gone to the Rapture** leads the way with 10 nominations across *Artistic Achievement, Audio Achievement, Best Game, British Game, Game Innovation, Music, Original Property, Story* and two *Performer* nominees*.*

**Her Story** receives nominations in seven categories: *British Game, Debut Game, Game Design, Game Innovation, Mobile & Handheld, Original Property* and *Story.* **The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt**also receives seven nominations in *Artistic Achievement, Audio Achievement, Best Game, Game Design, Performer, Persistent Game* and *Story.*

Three games receive five nominations apiece: **Batman: Arkham Knight**is nominated for *Artistic Achievement, Audio Achievement, British Game, Music and Performer;* **Life is Strange** is nominated for *Best Game, Game Innovation, Performer, Original Property* and *Story; and* **Rocket League**is recognised in *Best Game, Family Game, Game Design, Multiplayer* and *Sports.*

**Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain, Ori and the Blind Forest** and **Until Dawn**all receive four nominations each, while **Assassin’s Creed: Syndicate, Lovers in a Dangerous Spacetime** and **Splatoon** have three nominations each. **Destiny: The Taken King**, **Fallout 4, FIFA 2016, Guitar Hero: LIVE, LEGO Dimensions,** **Prison Architect** and **Prune** receive two nominations each.

Nominated in the *Performer* category are **Ashly Burch** (Chloe Price) in Life is Strange, **Doug Cockle** (Geralt of Rivia, Witcher) in The Witcher 3: Wild Hunt, **Mark Hamill** (The Joker) in Batman: Arkham Knight, **Masasa Moyo** (Vella) in Broken Age: Act 2, **Merle Dandridge** (Kate Collins) and **Oliver Dimsdale** (Stephen Appleton) in Everybody’s Gone to the Rapture.

Other nominated games are**Alphabear, Bloodborne, DiRT Rally, Disney Infinity 3.0: Play Without Limits, Fallout Shelter, Final Fantasy XIV: A Realm Reborn, Football Manager 2016, Forza Motorsport 6, Grow Home, Halo 5: Guardians, Lara Croft GO, Keep Talking and Nobody Explodes, Mini Metro, PES 2016, The Room Three, Tom Clancy’s Rainbow Six Siege, Star Wars Battlefront, Super Mario Maker, Tearaway Unfolded, World of Warships** and **Undertale.**

Showcasing the very best in young games development and design talent, the *BAFTA Ones To Watch Award in association with Dare to be Digital* finalists are**Selfienation, Sundown and The Wall Shall Stand.**

The nominations for the *AMD eSports Audience Award* are **Call of Duty: Black Ops 3, Counter-Strike: Global Offensive, Dota 2, Hearthstone: Heroes of Warcraft, League of Legends** and **SMITE**. The winner of this award will be voted for by the public and presented at the ceremony.

Comedian and gamer Dara O’Briain will return as host of the British Academy Games Awards with the ceremony taking place on Thursday 7 April at Tobacco Dock, London. The awards will be preceded by a Champagne Taittinger reception and followed by a seated dinner and after-party for guests.

On the night, the ceremony will be streamed live at [Twitch.tv](http://www.twitch.tv). BAFTA’s website, [www.bafta.org](http://www.bafta.org/), will feature red carpet highlights, photography and winners’ interviews, as well as dedicated coverage on its social networks including Facebook ([/BAFTA](http://www.facebook.com/bafta)), Twitter [(@BAFTAGames](https://twitter.com/BAFTAGames) / [#BAFTAGames](https://twitter.com/search?q=%23BAFTAGames&src=typd)), and [Tumblr](http://bafta-games.tumblr.com/).

The British Academy Games Awards are supported by industry partners Electronic Arts and SEGA Europe Ltd. with ME London by ME Hotels the official hotel partner.

BAFTA curates a year-round global programme of events and initiatives that support the games industry. This includes developer talks, showcases, debates, scholarships and networking, as well as the flagship Games Lecture by an inspirational practitioner. BAFTA Young Game Designers (YGD) gives young people and educators unique insights into the games industry and access to the creative minds behind some of their favourite games.

Guests attending BAFTA’s awards ceremonies support the organisation’s charitable work, including scholarships and mentoring schemes, the flagship BAFTA Young Game Designers initiative and other learning programmes that identify, support and nurture new talent in this thriving sector.

- A FULL LIST OF THE NOMINATIONS ACCOMPANIES THIS RELEASE -

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**About BAFTA**

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts is an independent charity that supports, develops and promotes the art forms of the moving image by identifying and rewarding excellence, inspiring practitioners and benefiting the public. In addition to its Awards ceremonies, BAFTA has a year-round programme of learning events and initiatives – featuring workshops, masterclasses, scholarships, lectures and mentoring schemes – in the UK, USA and Asia; it offers unique access to the world’s most inspiring talent and connects with a global audience of all ages and backgrounds. BAFTA relies on income from membership subscriptions, individual donations, trusts, foundations and corporate partnerships to support its ongoing outreach work. To access the best creative minds in film, television and games production, visit [www.bafta.org/guru](http://www.bafta.org/guru) For more, visit [www.bafta.org](http://www.bafta.org)