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Money for nothing

Filmmaker's £10k grant to stand beside loch



Silent movie ... artist Sam

By TOBY McDONALD

Published: 06 Feb 2012

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AN artist is raking in £160-an-hour of taxpayers' cash to film herself standing silently beside a loch.

Sam Firth got £10,000 to shoot ten minutes of footage every day for a year.

The bizarre project — called Stay The Same — landed the cash from publicly-funded Creative Scotland and the British Film Institute.

But critics have blasted the outlay on the film, which is being shot on the remote Knoydart Peninsula in Inverness-shire.

Last night Eben Wilson, of TaxpayerScotland, said: "We have to ask why the state is allowed to fund these things."

Former teacher Sam, 37, revealed: "It is about an attempt to catch a year's experience on film. An emotional journey."

She will have 61 hours of footage when the project is finished, which she will boil down to 20 minutes.

A spokesman for Creative Scotland said: "Sam Firth's work is rooted in identity, Scotland and its landscape."

The BFI said it was helping her development in film.

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**Hedgehog92**

0 likes

Just for the record, Sam is not jobless. As well as her film work - and there is far more to it than just standing in front of a camera - she has done various jobs to help fund her film making. These have included gardening, cleaning and working as a waitress. She makes films with local school children and organises film shows on Knoydart. I don't think anyone could describe her as jobless.

4 DAYS AGO

**Deepdish**

0 likes

Complete waste of money. why do these jobless ppl not sign on the dhss like the rest of us. oh wait she can't because she doesn't want to live on 260 pounds a month.

5 DAYS AGO

**screen_name1**

0 likes

Gimp. Get a real job and stop calling yourself an "Artist". Artists are creative. They stimulate the mind with their work. Who honestly wants to stare at this for 10 minutes each day for a year? You can't even fast forward to the good bits!!!

5 DAYS AGO

**vet**

0 likes

You could not make this up...

5 DAYS AGO

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