

# Troy Kotsur Acceptance Speech

Thank you so much, everyone. I'm truly honored to be standing here tonight.

I want to start by thanking the Academy for recognizing the power of deaf storytelling. As a deaf actor, it's not often that we get the opportunity to tell our own stories on the big screen, and I'm grateful for the chance to share this film with the world.

I also want to thank the incredible cast and crew of "Silent Symphony," especially my co-star, the amazing Millicent Simmonds. Working with her was an unforgettable experience, and I'm so proud of what we were able to create together.

But most of all, I want to thank my family and the deaf community for their unwavering support. Your encouragement and belief in me has been my driving force throughout my career, and I dedicate this award to all of you.

I hope this award brings more attention to the incredible talent within the deaf community and opens doors for more opportunities for deaf actors and filmmakers.

Thank you again, Academy, for this incredible honor. This is truly a moment I will never forget.