

PALM TREE ENTERTAINMENT

VILLAINS



A ROBBIE MOFFAT FILM

Press Pack

Running Time: 90mins
Language: English
Genre: Drama/ Tragedy

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Filmmakers Bio's

Robbie Moffat - Director, Writer, Producer



Robbie Moffat has made over twenty feature films. His first feature film was made in 1999 called 'Love The One Your With' which was nominated for best Scottish film at the Bowmore Scottish Screen Awards in 2000 . Robbie went on make many other films wanting to use the Scottish landscape as much as possible, a great example of this is in his films 'Winter Warrior', 'The Bone Hunter' and 'Axe Raiders' a trilogy set in the 575 A.D. In 2004 'Red Rose' a film based on the life of Robert Burns won the best actress award at the Monaco International Film Festival. This year Robbie was nominated for 'The Johnny Walker Great Scot Award 2011' for outstanding contribution to Scottish culture.

Razaka Firmager- Director of Photography



Razaka is a self-operating Director of Photography making documentaries, music videos, dance films, corporate's and, more recently, feature length dramas. This has lead him to shoot in diverse environments around the globe including the UK, India, South Korea, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Japan, China, South Africa to name a few. Razaka works with a wide range of cameras from 1/3inch to 35mm sensors using Prime lens. Razaka integrates the latest technology, combined with his creativity to produce beautiful, dynamic and subtle images.

Brian Howell - Sound



Brian is a well known and highly sought after sound recordist based in Scotland. He mainly known for his work, with the BBC Documentaries such as 'Coast', 'Rivers and Tides: Andy Goldsworthy working with Time' and most recently 'A History of Ancient Britain'. As well his work on documentaries Brian has also been involved with many feature films including Irvine Welsh's 'The Acid House'. 'Villains' was Brian's Eighth feature film with Palm Tree Entertainment.

Simon Harris - Editor



Simon is a veteran of the editing world. He has worked on over one hundred feature films. Over the last thirty years his work has contributed to some of the cinemas blockbusters, such as 'Troy', 'Batman', 'The Bone Collector', 'Little Voice' and many more. He has had a long-standing association with Director/Producer Peter Yates, with whom he worked for over four years. Simon is an expert in every aspect of editing with his some of his finest work being presented in 'A Circle of Friends' and 'Aliens'.

Pascal Isnard- Music



Pascal is a French composer, musician and performer based in Cap d' Antibes. His first contribution to Palm Tree was on 'Dark Side of Heaven' He also composed the Jazz score for 'Got to Run', which was recently released in the UK. Pascal is renowned in France for his saxophone and flute compositions..

Cast and Crew

Cast

Chris Bearne.....Jackie Shields
Suzanne Kendall.....Kitty Shields
Jon Paul Gates.....Lenny Robson
Stephen McLeod.....Sebastian Eton
Joanna Kate Rodgers.....Nora Briggs
Darren Enright.....Rupert
Felix Pring.....Max

James Sutherland.....Stinker
Victoria Pritchard.....Lucile
Maike Billitis.....Mary Ellen
Paul Cassidy.....Aldo

Jamie Cox.....Boxer
David Hill.....Boxing Coach
June Hudson.....Mourner
Jill Bennett.....Mourner
Lyndsey Gilliard.....Hotel Receptionist
Keith Francis.....Pallbearer
Gavin Hugh.....Young Jackie
Chris Bearne.....Kevin Shields
Francesca Simpson....Waitress
Mark Dawson.....Security Guard

Crew

Director/Writer/Producer.....Robbie Moffat
Executive Producer.....Mairi Sutherland
Director of Photography..... Razaka Firmager
Editor.....Simon Harris
Sound.....Brian Howell
Camera Operator.....Razaka Firmager
Boom Operator.....Keith 'Asteriks' Francis
Camera Assistant.....Gavin Hugh
Costume Designer.....June Hudson
WardrobeJill Bennett
Make Up Artist.....Joanna Sim
Make Up Assistant.....Ashleigh Reid
Production Manager.....Joanna Rodgers
Production Assistant.....Lyndsey Gillard

Special Thanks to

Maureen Stone at the Lunchbox, Alnwick
Sandra at the Hope and Anchor, Alnmouth
Alistair Turner Funeral Directors, Amble
The Schooner Hotel, Alnmouth
The Dunstanburgh Castle Hotel, Alnmouth

Production Notes



Pre Production

The North East was chosen for filming because of its beautiful landscapes. The director wanted to use a remote and rural location and the North East came to mind as Robbie had lived and studied in Newcastle in the 1980's. When the production team went to vet the areas surrounding Newcastle it quickly came apparent that it would be the perfect location for 'Villains'.

Production

The shooting of 'Villains' started the day the team left London, with many shots taken on the road driving to our main location. Once the team had reached Alnmouth spirits were high as we were practically in the middle of nowhere. The main areas we filmed in apart from Newcastle itself were, Alnmouth (where we were all based), Amble, Alnwick and many of the small towns and villages surrounding. The people were extremely supportive and interested in the project and by the time we left we were already on the front page of the monthly Alnmouth Village Newsletter.

'Villains in Village! (but this time not for real)'

***Terry Collinson -The Alnmouth Village Newsletter-* www.alnmouth.info**

Post Production

There was such a great team of professionals working on Villains that when it came to editing process it was such an absolute joy. The film is now completed and will be having it's first screening in Alnmouth, will all the proceeds going to a local charity.

Synopsis



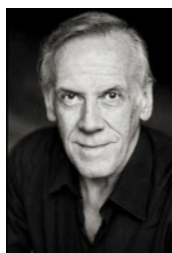
Jackie Shields, crook and villain, almost seventy, is at the end of this 'working' career. In and out of prison for most of his adult years, he is a poor father to his daughter Kitty, and violent short-tempered with his girlfriend Nora.

Kitty, mixed up and selfish, is a product of foster homes during her father's times in prison. Despite her university education, she has not broken free of her father's villainous underground world. She has become amoral, scheming, and duplicitous- the only way she knows how to survive. In flashback, we discover that she has a secret child by her father's rival Sebastian Eton, but passes it off as Nora's baby.

Sebastian, well educated but still a crook, has been to prison for fraud and deception. Younger, fitter and 'in' with Kitty, he wants Jackie out of the way so he can take over his patch. When a factory heist the two mobs commit together comes off well, they get away and rendezvous to spilt the takings. Kitty tips Sebastian off that Jackie, and his ex-boxer henchman Lenny, plans to deceive Eton and his boys Rupert, Max and Stinker, and cut them out of their share.

Kitty and Sebastian hatch a plan so they can keep the money for themselves, and as the story plays out in a chase through Newcastle and the wilds of Northumberland, Kitty's duplicity multiples to the extent that everyone else pays a price for her double-dealing.

Cast Bio's



Chris Bearne - (Jackie Shields)

Chris Bearne studied at Queen's College Oxford; He started off his career by doing stage work and then moved on to filmmaking. Some of the films he's starred in are: "The Pillow Book," "An American Werewolf in Paris," "Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister," "Diggity At Home at Last," "Rag Tale," and many more. This is Chris' second leading role in a Palm Tree film with his first being Crab Island.



Suzanne Kendall - (Kitty)

Suzie is a graduate of the Bridge Theatre Training Company. An accomplished actress, she has worked with a variety of theatre companies including The Cockpit, The Bridge and MOPA youth theatre. She has appeared in a number of notable films including 'Sisters Grimm', 'Deep Lies', 'Got to Run', *Beast in the Basement* and *Nudes in Tartan*.



Jon Paul Gates - (Lenny Robson)

Jon has starred in 32 feature films predominantly playing the antagonist. His first break starring as Allan Hindle in the BBC's soap, "Eldorado". After various short films and a Channel 4, TV series, "Focus North", he starred in his first feature film "Coldfish" in 1999, playing the lead role of Alex. In 2001, he secured lead roles in Palm Tree's "The Hawk & the Dove" and played the antagonist 'Ida' in "Winter Warrior". Jon now divides his time working between the USA and the UK. "Villains" is his 10th production with Palm Tree Entertainment.



Stephen McLeod - (Sebastian)

He learned his trade at the Mountview Academy of Theatre. Currently he is preparing for a role in the National Theatre's *Emperor and Galilean* by Jonathon Kents. In his early career, he was a member of the Young Shakespeare Company. Last year he was at the Edinburgh Festival in Chekov's *Ivanvo*. This is Stephen's third Palm Tree film. He has also appeared in Crab Island and played a leading role in *Nudes in Tartan*.



Darren Sean Enright - (Rupert)

Darren has come late to film but is now in great demand as a character British actor.



Felix Pring - (Max)

Felix is a well known face on the London theatre scene. This is his first feature film role.

Director Robbie Moffat's Q & A's

How did you come up with the story for Villains?

I was on holiday in the Canaries reading a book about Ava Gardner . I was intrigued to find out she had been in a film called 'Killers' in 1946. I decided I would like to make a British/ modern version with a similar style.

How did the music contribute to the film?

The music created the ambiance I wanted for the film. I have worked with Pascal many times before. He always has a great understanding for what I am looking for and once again he delivered.

Was there any part of the filmmaking which you found a major challenge?

Yes, the baby was our biggest challenge. Although we had a real baby to film some scenes in London we had to get a hand-made real life baby doll for the rest of the shoot.

What were your fondest moments when making Villains?

The fact that we were filming in the North East. I know the area there very well as I lived there for many years. It was great to be back.

What keeps you motivated and inspired?

I enjoy making films and coming up with new stories, the whole film process keep me motivated and alive!

How is your favourite director and why?

David Lean, Alfred Hitchcock, Woody Allen and Clint Eastwood. They are all independently minded with a strong vision of what they want to achieve.

Production Stills



Jackie, Kitty and Lenny



Kitty Shields



Kitty, Lenny and Jackie



Sebastian and Mary-Ellen



Stinker, Lenny, Jackie and Rupert



Nora Briggs



Jackie, Nora, Kitty and Lenny



Mary-Ellen, Max and Rupert