

INFORMATION PACK



Palm Tree Universal

GREAT GETAWAY

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Defeated usurper who refuses to give up

GREAT GETAWAY

Defeated usurper on the run is hidden for five months by his loyal supporters who refuse to give him up

Charles Edward Stuart, grandson of deposed James II, faces crushing defeat in the Scottish Highlands at the Battle of Culloden and flees to the Isles. Passed on from supporter to supporter he spends a month hiding with his Irish commanders as the British troops scour the land. A reward of £30,000 is posted for his capture, a sum that fires the imagination of all Europe.

When his Irish companions abandon him and escape by ship, Charles dresses up as a serving girl and is smuggled by Flora MacDonald back to the mainland where he is re-united with some of his loyal Scottish commanders. While evading capture time and time again as his supporters, one by one, fall into the hands of the troops, Charles, at first seen as a weak and forlorn figure, turns into a man of character and fortitude who revives the Highlanders sense of worth and dignity in the face of the hangings and transportation's enacted by the British troops in the aftermath of his defeat. Everyone has lost a loved one, but none blame Charles for their loss as his survival is their only hope that all their grief and suffering has been to some avail.

After five months of hardship and constant danger, a French ship arrives off the coast and takes him away forever. Hailed in Versailles by Louis XIV as a great hero, Charles is left to reflect that he found the greatest loyalty and the finest moments in his life, not at the head of his army, but in his time amongst ordinary people who risked and lost their lives for him.



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THE PRODUCERS

Executive Producer Robbie Moffat, and Producer Mairi Sutherland have teamed up again to work together, capitalising on the success of their track record of twenty eight Independent feature films in the last fifteen years. Their brand name with it's Palm Tree logo has become synonymous with a bold irreverent style of film production that has seen the teams it has assembled succeed to complete a prolific body of work. Today the BFI blogger Stephen Fellows categorised Robbie Moffat as the second most employed writer and director in Britain in a statistical study based on the number of films he had produced recorded in the International Movie database. Likewise Mairi Sutherland is placed as the sixth most employed female producer in Britain according to the same study. The combined wealth of experience of Mairi Sutherland and Robbie Moffat speaks for itself.

Robbie Moffat - Film Director/ Executive Producer

Robbie has written and directed twenty four independent feature films over the last 15 years. He is also an accomplished film Producer. He started out as a writer with a degree in English Literature from Newcastle University. He went on to direct several acclaimed theatre plays before taking up screen writing and producing feature films. In his writing he is known for *The Celtic Warrior* Trilogy of films, and his film noir work on *Rain Dogs*, *Number Runner*, *Villains* as well as host of other dramatic works that have made it to the screen. In the sphere of film direction he is known for best seller *Red Rose*, a bio pic about the last years of the poet Robert Burns.

Mairi Sutherland - Producer

A graduate with a History and Politics degree, Mairi began as a BBC radio reporter. She has produced many of Robbie Moffat's screenplays, but has also written three screenplays and directed two feature films. She wrote *Red Rose*, which sold around the world and was translated into over twelve different languages including Mandarin for Chinese Television. She also wrote and directed the film *Photoshoot* a thriller about a news photographer. More recently she has written and directed a family film called *Going Green*. She has assisted Robbie in raising finance for films and her knowledge of the film industry is recognised by her peers, who often request her as a film consultant.

Imdb profiles

Mairi Sutherland <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0840137/>

Robbie Moffat <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0595586/>



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ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS

Seoras Wallace - Associate Producer

As an author, historical consultant and fight director with a successful career spanning three decades in the film, television and media industries, Seoras has worked alongside many of the most famous, talented and recognised people in the industry on award winning productions such as: *Braveheart*, *We Were Soldiers*, *Gladiator*, *Highlander* and *Saving Private Ryan*. Seoras is a Scottish martial arts champion sword-master, and began as a fight and weaponry stuntman in 1986 film *Highlander*. He quickly gathered an unrivalled reputation, becoming the first choice of movie makers and producers seeking reliable historical consultancy, training and choreography for their major fight scenes. Commissions worldwide led to work on scores of productions such as *Chasing the Deer*, *The Bruce*, *Macbeth*, *Merlin*, *King Arthur*, and *King Lear*, as well as for The History Channel, Discovery Network, NBC, BBC and more.

Seoras is most closely associated with *Braveheart*, working on it from the project's inception to completion. He has been mentioned on three occasions publicly at the Oscar ceremonies - for his contributions to *Braveheart*; *We were Soldiers*, and *Gladiator*. As well as being an associate producer on *Great Getaway*, Seoras is the Fight Arranger and brings the great respect he has within the international film community for his knowledge of action pictures.

Neil Mockler - Associate Producer

Neil has worked for 32 years in the film industry after starting his career at Rank Film Laboratories in 1978. Prior to several promotions in technical and sales positions he took on the role of Senior Sales Manager of Deluxe London in 1996. His first Managing Director appointment was in 2002 when he took the step to co-run Arion Communication for many successful years. Neil's achievement was rewarded with the offer to run Soho Film Labs as Managing Director for Ascent Media. Neil has represented the industry globally and has dealt with all Majors such as Paramount, Warner Bros, Universal and Disney along with the independent market within Europe on films such as *Sahara*, *Atonement*, *Shakespeare in Love*, and many more. Dealing with very high end Producers and Directors but has also been very supportive of young and up and coming students and has very strong links with National and London film schools. Along with this he is a friend member of the British Society of Cinematographers.



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PRODUCTION TEAM

Darren Tubby - Production Designer

After spending a number of years in the bespoke furniture industry, where he built up a respected business, he has successfully establishing himself in films, television and theatre. Working as a draughtsman and art director, he has designed sets and props for feature films such as *Children of Men*, *Cinderella*, *Nanny McPhee*. He is currently working on Guy Richie's *King Arthur*. Darren has also created sets and props for national and West End theatre productions and other large scale promotional and exhibition projects. Using traditional drawing board skills and programmes like Vectorworks, Darren can deliver 3D visuals to demonstrate how completed projects will look.

June Hudson - Costume Designer

June Hudson trained in theatre design at the Royal College of Art and has had a varied and extensive career as a costume designer in film, television and theatre. She first worked as assistant to Oliver Messel and then went on to design costumes for some of the most acclaimed television productions of the 1970s and 1980s, her most notable work featured in the classic series of Doctor Who and Blake's 7. She left the BBC in 1990 to diversify her portfolio still further; as well as acting, role play and modelling (for David Bailey, among others), she also teaches and has by invitation worked as a portraitist and illustrator. She remains, first and foremost, an active designer and costume-design consultant.

Design drawings by June have been exhibited at the National Theatre and Chichester Theatre and her work is included in the RSC's permanent exhibition at Stratford. Her designs also hang in the private collections of the BBC and the House of Commons. For the last twenty years, June has frequently lectured and co-taught on character creation through costume for television, focusing especially on the use of colour in dramatic realisation. June is also a professor at the University of Redlands in California. Venues for talks and workshops included the National Film Theatre, the University of Manchester, and the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television. Between 2006 and 2010 she has four times been invited to serve as a Lossett Visiting Scholar at the University of Redlands in Southern California, teaching intensive courses on design for science fiction television. June has also been the costume designer on eight Palm Tree branded films.



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PRODUCTION TEAM (contd)

Craig Armstrong - Composer

Craig Armstrong, OBE is a Scottish composer of modern orchestral music, electronica and film scores. He graduated from the Royal Academy of Music in 1981, and has since written music for the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Armstrong's score for William Shakespeare's *Romeo + Juliet* earned him a BAFTA for Achievement in Film Music and an Ivor Novello. His composition for Baz Luhrmann's musical *Moulin Rouge* earned him the 2001 American Film Institute's composer of the Year award, a Golden Globe Award for Best Original Score and a BAFTA Award. Armstrong was awarded a Grammy Award for Best Original Score in 2004 for the biopic *Ray*. His other feature film scoring credits include *Love Actually*, Oliver Stone's *World Trade Center*, *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, *The Incredible Hulk*, and *The Great Gatsby*.

Soren Kloch - Technical Advisor

Kloch has worked in the film business for more than thirty years as a director of photography, producer and director. When digital filmmaking was in its embryonic stage, he took up digital image enhancement and transfer to film. Over the years he specialised in visual effects and digital workflow and became involved in creating the digital chapter sequences for Lars von Trier's *Breaking the Waves*. Søren also did the digital-to-film on the early Dogme films such as *The Idiots*, *The King is Alive*, *Italian for Beginners*, *Jalla Jalla* and *Dancer in the Dark*. He has also worked on the *The Kings Speech* and *Moon* as a consultant. He now has his own London-based company, Hokus Bogus, where he is involved in numerous productions as a producer, a consultant or as a post production coordinator, and on numerous European and US independent films.



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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The movie starts the battle of Culloden. It is a historic moment – it is to be the last battle on British soil up to the present day. Whilst the appearance of Bonnie Prince Charlie (The Prince) in Britain divided the one nation state of the United Kingdom back into its constituent parts, his flight and departure re-united the country forever and set the course for the emergence of the British Empire.

The movie looks into the heart and soul of the Prince – what drove him to turn up with seven men to conquer the entire country; what sent him into despair when his followers lost heart; what did he experience as he hid out for five months as the most wanted man on the planet?

As a period piece (this is my sixth costume film) the location is the Scottish Highlands and Islands, a breathtaking backdrop as the Prince is hunted and forced to flee on foot or by boat from the shelter of huts, caves, rocky clefts and the firesides of loyal supporters who would rather die than turn him over for the thirty thousand pound reward for his capture. (That's equivalent to £15 million today).

Despite the barbaric consequences of harbouring him, the Prince represents the Highland spirit that refuses to give up its clan system and embrace modernisation and the new British order less than thirty years old. The Prince and his two Irish companions are foreigners, yet the Highlanders with a moral code of behaviour stretching back to the Dark Ages, feed, clothe and protect them at great personal cost to themselves. His pursuers are burning, slaughtering, raping and pillaging the Highlands and Islands, but still they will not turn him over.

The movie is a chase. The scenes are colourful – the men with their clan tartans, blue bonnets, muskets and broadswords hiding in the heather – the women in their floral gowns astride ponies carrying messages between the great houses. Every now and then there is the glimpse of redcoats or militia men with their red and white bonnets not far ahead or behind. And always, there is the Prince, disguised as servant, a maid, a boatman, or a lowly Highlander, on the run, in despair, full of hope of being able to right the wrongs of the British army pursuing him.

Robbie Moffat



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Director: Robbie Moffat

Cast: Tommy Flanagan, Marc Boone, Brendan Gleeson, Peter Mullan,
Robert Carlyle TBC

Location: Scotland

Pre-production: Spring 2015

Principal Photography: Summer 2015

Delivery: February 2016

Logline: Defeated usurper who refuses to give up

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Robbie and Mairi have an extensive film catalogue of successful features that include:

**LOVE THE ONE YOU'RE WITH
THE HAWK AND THE DOVE
FINDING FORTUNE
WINTER WARRIOR
THE BONE HUNTER
RED ROSE
RAIN DOGS
THE DARK SIDE OF HEAVEN
AXE RAIDERS
CYCLE
SEVEN CROSSES
SISTERS GRIMM**

**PHOTOSHOOT
DEEP LIES
GOT TO RUN
CRAB ISLAND
FINGERS IN THE WATER
BEAST IN THE BASEMENT
NUDES IN TARTAN
GOING GREEN
VILLAINS
I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING
THIRD FALCON
HECKLE**

Download the catalogue at www.palmtreefilm.com



Robbie Moffat



Mairi Sutherland



Seoras Wallace

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Palm Tree

bringing outstanding productions
to the big screen

