

THE DEVIL'S DOORWAY



SOME
DOORS
SHOULD
NEVER
BE
OPENED

NORTHERN IRELAND SCREEN PRESENTS A 23TEN PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH YELLOWMOON AND KEW MEDIA GROUP "THE DEVIL'S DOORWAY" LALOR RODDY CIARAN FLYNN
HELENA BEREEN LAUREN COE CASTING BY CARLA STRONGE (C.S.A) MIKE HOOLEY COSTUME DESIGNER SUSAN SCOTT MUSIC BY ANDREW SIMON McCALLISTER EDITOR BRIAN PHILIP DAVIS
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JOHN LESLIE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RYAN KERNAGHAN PRODUCED BY MARTIN BRENNAN MICHAEL B. JACKSON KATY JACKSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JEREMY BOLT MARK HUFFAM AIDAN ELLIOTT SCREENPLAY BY MARTIN BRENNAN MICHAEL B. JACKSON AISLINN CLARKE DIRECTED BY AISLINN CLARKE

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23TEN

KEW
MEDIA GROUP

NORTHERN IRELAND
screen

yellowmoon ●



Presents

A NORTHERN IRELAND SCREEN and 23TEN Production

In association with YELLOWMOON

THE DEVIL'S DOORWAY

A film

by

Aislinn Clark

Duration: 77-minutes



INTERNATIONAL SALES

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Synopsis

In the fall of 1960, Father Thomas Riley and Father John Thornton were sent by the Vatican to investigate a miraculous event in an Irish home for 'fallen women', only to uncover something much more horrific.

Director's Statement

When I was approached to make a found-footage film set in a Magdalene Laundry, I had to accept, because I couldn't let anyone else do it: the laundries, the mother and baby homes, the Borstals, and homes for the disabled are the blackest marks on Irish history, because self-inflicted. My mother's best friend was dragged from home at 13 and thrown into one of these institutions. Ostensibly she was to atone for her sins by washing sheets, a metaphorical punishment that also happened to be a rather lucrative sideline for the church. Her only 'sin' was being unwanted at home when her father remarried after her mother died. My father, a breadman, delivered bread to the laundries every day, describing it, when he came home, as delivering straight to Hell.

A white-hot Hell. His descriptions of red-faced girls furiously scrubbing sheets with water running down the walls and steam raging everywhere always stuck with me as a vision of Hell. And I, as a teenage mother, had my son in the year after the last laundry closed in 1996; I was not far off from being one of those girls myself. Thus, it was important to me that the first horror feature made by a woman in Ireland confront the horrors of being a woman in Ireland, rather than exploiting that real horror. And I am proud that it is released this year. Its World Premiere took place on the night of the historical referendum result that overturned Ireland's constitutional ban on abortion.

The European Premiere will take place in Galway, close to a mass grave of 400 babies and children discovered at a mother and baby home in Tuam, which influenced the story. Even now, more stories come out about forced and illegal adoption from these homes, most recently in Newry; survivors continue to fight for justice after being the victims of unnecessary surgical procedures; and women in the north are still denied access to reproductive health-care. A Supreme Court ruling today calls Northern Irish abortion law incompatible with human rights and yet there is no mechanism to change it.

While some of these issues are present, the film is not a polemic, it is a refreshing take on the found footage subgenre. *The Devil's Doorway* is a period piece, largely shot on 16mm, that gives it a unique and human aesthetic. I wanted to show horror through empathy and characterisation, taking as inspiration the films of the Maysles Brothers and footage of Soviet mental health facilities, rather than *The Blair Witch Project* and *Paranormal Activity*.

It is for this reason that I worked especially hard on performances. I wanted my actors to feel authentic and human in a deeper way than one usually sees in a found footage film. It is a film full of close-ups, making you look in the eyes of the girls who suffer and the men and women of the church who are broken or deformed by the machinery of the Irish Church-State apparatus. There are monsters in this film, but the true horror is the inability of any individual to change it.

The Devil's Doorway is not an attempt to fool audiences into believing the footage is real; it's a gothic fantasy, a metaphor for the contradictions of the church and state in Ireland, the Byzantine workings of that conspiracy of silence, a visible conspiracy, that nobody was able to confront. It was only the ghost, the demons, and skeletons of that trauma that gave voice to the tragedy. And even today, Ireland would try to silence them.

The Filmmakers

Aislinn Clarke (Director / Co-Writer)

Aislinn Clarke is a filmmaker and writer/director. She has an academic background in film and scriptwriting and has worked in film, TV, theatre, and radio for fifteen years. She is also a lecturer in scriptwriting at Queen's University Belfast. Her debut feature film, *The Devil's Doorway* has secured international distribution and will be in cinemas and VOD from July 2018. Aislinn is currently under contract to write and/or direct feature films for several BAFTA and Oscar-winning companies. Her original TV series *Black North* was picked up by BBC Drama and is currently in development. Her work has been broadcast on the main platforms nationally, as well as in the USA, Canada, and Germany. She has been profiled as a theatre director in *The Stage* magazine, and her theatre work has toured extensively across the UK and Ireland. She is the first woman in Ireland to write and direct a horror film.

Martin Brennan (Producer / Co-Writer)

Martin's debut produced feature film *The Devil's Doorway* directed by Aislinn Clarke had its world premiere at the 2018 Seattle International Film Festival, and was picked up for US theatrical release by IFC films, with worldwide sales by Kew Media Group.

Martin is currently developing and leading into production a slate of film and television projects with acclaimed directors, such as; Terry George, Michael Lennox, and Michael Apted, working alongside companies such as Anonymous Content, and Scott Free. 2018 will see Martin produce Andrew Baird's *Zone 414*, written by Bryan Edward-Hill, and starring Harvey Keitel, Jason Patric and Antonia Campbell-Hughes.

Katy Jackson (Producer)

Since 2014 Katy has produced, co-produced or line produced a number of successful feature films including *Bad Day for the Cut* (Dir. Chris Baugh), *A Patch of Fog* (Dir. BAFTA award-winning Michael Lennox), *The Survivalist*, (Dir. Stephen Fingleton) and *Viking Destiny* (Dir. David L G Hughes).

Katy has just completed producing the feature film *Zoo*, filmed in Belfast and Canada, starring Penelope Wilton, Toby Jones, five children and an elephant called Nellie!

Jeremy Bolt (Exec. Producer)

In 1992, Jeremy co-founded Impact Pictures with director Paul W. S. Anderson. After producing 1994's *Shopping* starring Jude Law, Jeremy attracted interest from Hollywood, and has since produced big budget films such as *Event Horizon*, *Soldier*, *The Three Musketeers*, and the *Resident Evil* franchise, which has totaled over \$1billion at the worldwide box office.

Mark Huffam (Exec. Producer)

Since 2008, Mark has produced or exec. produced a string of Hollywood hits, including *Saving Private Ryan*, *Mamma Mia!*, and *Your Highness*. In 2011, Mark produced the first season of *Game of Thrones*, before producing a number of Ridley Scott's movies, including *Prometheus*, *The Counselor*, *Alien Covenant*, and *All the Money in the World*. In 2015 Mark produced *The Martian*, for which he received an Academy award-nomination for Best Picture.

The Cast



Lalor Roddy (Fr. Thomas Riley)



Ciaran Flynn (Fr. John Thornton)



Helena Bereen (Mother Superior)



Lauren Coe (Kathleen O'Brien)

Credits

Directed by	Aislinn Clarke
Screenplay by	Martin Brennan Michael B. Jackson Aislinn Clarke
Produced by	Martin Brennan Michael B. Jackson Katy Jackson
Executive Producers	Jeremy Bolt Mark Huffam Aidan Elliott
Associate Producer	Kevin Jackson
Director of Photography	Ryan Kernaghan
Editor	Brian Philip Davis
Production Designer	John Leslie
Costume Designer	Susan Scott
Composer	Andrew Simon McAllister
Casting Directors	Carla Stronge (C.S.A) Mike Hooley
First Assistant Director	Darren Fee
Production Sound Mixer	Chris Woodcock
Hair Designer	Cat Coogan
Makeup Designer	Liz Boston

CAST

Father Thomas Riley	Lalor Roddy
Father John Thornton	Ciaran Flynn
Mother Superior	Helena Bereen
Kathleen O'Brien	Lauren Coe
Sister Maria Louise	Carleen Melaugh
Eileen	Dearbhail Carr
Doctor Cleary	Charlie Bonner

AST (Cont.)

Sister Maria Agnes	Cathy Brennan Bradley
Ghost Boy 1	Isaac Heslip
Ghost Girl	Iona Clarke
Ghost Boy 2	Maddox Gulliver
Eileen Body Double	Daragh Merrit

EXTRAS

Felicity McKee	Zara Jackson	Mechele Kelly
Cathy Quinn	Jenny Edgar	Elaine Irvine
Karin Jeffrey	Catherine Cox	Treasa Lavery
Lucy Jackson	Alexandaria Lavery	Joan McCleary
Sarah Myles	Rachecla Kelly	Dayna Jost
Laura Callan	Kathryn Hegarty	Dawn Moorehead
Christine Harris	Stacey Empey	Kristy Robinson
Rosina Davis	Rachel Gadd	Jolene O'Hara
Kathryn Gaw	Kathleen Keane	Jean McCreery
Sarah Ruffell	Nicola Maskey	Shiela Ferguson
Katheen Keane	Chrissie Harris	Sonia Abercrombie
Andrea Linton	Saoirse Callanan	Catherine Barter
Grainne McGee	Emma Gorman	Sara Davidson
Evelyn Calderwood	Annemarie Mullan	Henri McCullough
Caitlyn Kearns	Saoirse Callanan	Dawn Moorhead
Victoria Armstrong	Sarah MacKeever	

EPK	Eoin Cleland
Optician	Geoff McConville
Musicians	Sian Hetherington (Violoncello)
	Danny McCann Williams (Violin)
Vocalists	Susan Davey
	Alana Henderson
	Mary Jordan
	Rachael McCabe
	Elizabeth McGeown
Legal Services	Millar McCall Wylie
Accounting Services	JH. McShane & Co.
Insurers	Media Insurance Brokers
Camera Facilities	Acorn Film and Video
Additional Camera Hire	Procam
Costume Rentals	Bristol Costume Services
	Angels
Facility vehicles	G&H Film & Television Services
Car and Van Hire	Enterprise
Taxis	Valuecabs
Catering	Slims Healthy Kitchen
Additional Catering	Posh Nosh

ON BEHALF OF YELLOW MOON POST PRODUCTION FACILITIES

Managing Director	Greg Darby
Facility Manager	Clare Campbell
Post Prod. Co-ordinator	Sophia McKeever
Dailies Manager	Rob Wright
Dailies Co-ordinator	Rory Caldwell
Online Editor	Edward Quinn
Colourist	Scott Ferguson
Effects Editor	Stuart Pearson
Dialogue Editor	Aaron O'Neill
Dubbing Mixer	Paul Maynes
VFX Supervisor	Darren R. Nash
Compositors	Ryan Yates
	Paul Barrett

ON BEHALF OF NORTHERN IRELAND SCREEN

Chief Executive	Richard Williams
Head of Production	Andrew Reid
Director of Finance and Corporate Services	Linda Martin
Head of Marketing	Moyra Lock
Production Manager	Nicola Lyons
Funding Manager	Suzanne Harrion
Development Executive	Ursula Devine
Script Consultant	Steve Brooks
Legal Services on behalf of Millar McCall Wylie	Abbie Long

SPECIAL THANKS

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