

Paladin: The Eternal Battle — Press Release 5 January 2010

For immediate release

A ground-breaking Welsh short film has just been released which deals with the key themes of our time.

The nine-minute film features an exorcist battling a nature spirit in a derelict church. The film deals elegantly with many themes including political conflict, war and the cycle of violence, as well as mankind's conflict with nature, mankind's conflict with womankind, tolerance, faith, attraction, good, evil and redemption.

The supernatural thriller, made by up-and-coming production company Headrock, was written, filmed and produced in South Wales, UK.

It features emerging actor Christopher Dickson, who plays an exorcist. He meets his match in a Dryad, or female nature spirit, played by another up-and-coming performer Deborah Corton. They battle in English, Latin and Medieval Welsh before realizing they have more in common than they first thought.

“The unusual ending to the film is key” says actor/writer Christopher Dickson. “Almost every film ever made has a good guy and a bad guy. And almost every time the good guy wins. This time we wanted to do something different.

“You start by thinking the exorcist is the good guy. But in fact he's a bully, and the Dryad has as much right to be there as him. There's also huge chemistry between them, and they have to choose – do they keep fighting to the death or do they give in to their attraction?”

“We see many parallels in the news today, and we wanted to reflect the realities out there. This is one of the many things that make our film so unique.”

The film is now complete and is being entered into competitions and festivals worldwide.

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Notes

1. **Star editor.** The film's editing was completed by **Richard Jon Micklewright**, whose previous role was editing the world famous "Texting while driving" publicity film, called "Cow", commissioned by Gwent Police, UK. This film was an international news sensation in October 2009, appearing on the front cover of the New York Times and given high-profile coverage by news media across the world. It has so far had [over seven million hits on youtube](#). "One of the most powerful public information films ever made." - American advertising guru Donny Deutsch. "Sends a chill down the spine... The film has now sparked a huge debate in America..." The Sun [\[read more...\]](#)
2. **Location.** The film was shot in a unique location, the "Boys Village", just outside St Athan in South Wales. The village was built in the 1920s to give the boys of South Wales somewhere to have a holiday by the sea. However, the village is now disused and derelict, and forms a stark backdrop for the film.
3. **Medieval Welsh Language.** The nature spirit, or Dryad, character in the film defends herself using Medieval Welsh, a language which has not been in current use for over 600 years. The translation was provided by world expert Professor Sioned Davies, Head of Welsh at Cardiff University, Wales, UK.
4. **Latin Exorcism Rite.** The Paladin character uses a Latin exorcism rite provided by an expert in medieval religion, who has asked that his real name remains confidential. This exorcism rite has not been used in over 1000 years!
5. **Paladin.** The word Paladin originates from the time of Charlemagne and the Crusades, in the 9th century. The Paladins were Charlemagne's inner circle of elite holy warriors – the equivalent of his 'Knights of the Round Table'.
6. **Director.** The film was directed by Jason King, recently named as one of the top 500 up-and-coming directors in the world. He is also in post production for his first feature length film, Bad Company. See www.jasonking.org.uk.
7. **Writer/Star.** The film was written by, and stars, Christopher Dickson, who is originally from Glasgow in Scotland, but now living in Cardiff, Wales, UK. It is the first film he has written and produced, although he has starred in previous award-winning and award-nominated short films produced recently in South Wales. See www.christopherdickson.com.
8. **Music.** The haunting soundtrack was provided by up-and-coming band Fallen Painting, already receiving rave reviews in their native South Wales. "Superlative singer, by turns sexy, sombre and soulful...If you only listen to one thing this month, make it this!" – Cardiff Meltdown
9. **Film Title.** The full title of the film, "Paladin: The Eternal Battle" indicates the key theme of unending human conflict and the cycle of violence, which the enemies in the film try to break.
10. **Budget.** The film was made for a total budget of £500.

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