

Climax of the BFI's Genius of Hitchcock project in BFI London Film Festival Archive gala



**BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL ARCHIVE GALA: WORLD  
PREMIERE SCREENING OF  
BFI NATIONAL ARCHIVE RESTORATION OF  
HITCHCOCK'S *THE MANXMAN* (1929)  
CLIMAX OF BFI'S 'GENIUS OF HITCHCOCK' PROJECT**



**Carl Brisson and Anny Ondra in *The Manxman* (1929) dir. Alfred Hitchcock**

The BFI is pleased to announce that the grand finale of The Genius of Hitchcock project (June – October 2012) will be the BFI London Film Festival's Archive Gala screening, presented in association with The Krasner Fund for the BFI, of the world premiere of the BFI National

Archive's new restoration of Hitchcock's *The Manxman* (1929). This powerful love triangle set among the fishing community on the Isle of Man will be shown at The Empire, Leicester Square with a new score by Stephen Horne on 19 October 2012.

The BFI London Film Festival runs from 10 -21 October 2012.

Clare Stewart, BFI Head of Exhibition & Artistic Director, BFI LFF said, "*The Manxman* as the BFI London Film Festival Archive Gala will be a fitting culmination to the BFI's extraordinary series of screenings of Hitchcock's newly restored silent films this summer. Critics and audiences alike have thrilled to see these films afresh, transformed by great new music and exciting settings. We are delighted to be showing *The Manxman* at The Empire, a cinema which Hitchcock knew, with an accompaniment from Stephen Horne, a hugely talented composer who is guaranteed to produce something worthy of the LFF's prestigious archive presentation.

This screening marks the start of a valuable partnership with Ella Krasner, whose significant donation launches The Krasner Fund for the BFI: supporting film treasures in the BFI Collections. The Krasner Fund for the BFI will underpin a series of events throughout the year which, in turn, will leverage additional support for the unparalleled collections held in the BFI National Archive.

Amanda Nevill, BFI CEO said, "We are delighted to welcome Ella Krasner to the BFI. Her donation will support the work of the BFI collections and the fund we are launching with her at the Archive Gala will act as a meaningful catalyst to leverage additional significant funds for the same cause. We are very grateful to her for initiating a new concept of support for our Archive in a sustainable way."

*The Manxman* is Alfred Hitchcock's last wholly silent film and one of the best and most mature works of his early career. Adapted from the novel (originally published in 1894) by Sir Hall Caine, a bestselling author who specialised in stories set on the Isle of Man, the location work was actually done in Cornwall. Set in a small fishing community, two boyhood friends take markedly different paths in adulthood, one a humble fisherman, the other a lawyer destined to become 'Deemster', the local chief justice. Both fall in love with the same woman, forcing them to deal not only with their own moral code but also that of the strict Manx society. Although an untypical Hitchcock work, *The Manxman* succeeds brilliantly on its own terms and features superlative performances from Hitchcock favourites, Malcom Keen, Carl Brisson and the luminescent Anny Ondra.

Stephen Horne has been associated with the BFI for over 20 years and is an internationally renowned accompanist to silent films and a composer in his own right. His involvement with The Genius of Hitchcock began when he performed a partially improvised score at the world premiere screening of the BFI's new restoration of *The Ring* at the Cannes Film Festival in May to great acclaim, playing piano, flute, accordion and percussion. He will also play a musical accompaniment to Hitchcock's *Easy Virtue* in the autumn for screenings at BFI Southbank.

The Genius of Hitchcock is the biggest ever project undertaken by the BFI. *The Manxman* is the last of nine new restorations of Alfred Hitchcock's surviving silent films to be presented with new music, part of a series of spectacular events, launched as part of the Cultural Olympiad. The project continues through August into October with a complete retrospective at BFI Southbank,

many international guests and a nationwide release of *The Lodger* in cinemas. Now in the final stage of the campaign, there is still a chance for anyone who would like to help ensure all nine of Hitchcock's surviving silent films can be restored to make a donation by visiting [www.bfi.org.uk/saveafilm](http://www.bfi.org.uk/saveafilm). The BFI has also published a new book *39 Steps to The Genius of Hitchcock* and there is a supporting exhibition at BFI Southbank alongside a series of new resources on the BFI website.

### **The Manxman credits**

Cast :

Carl BRISSON	Pete Quilliam
Malcolm KEEN	Philip Christian
Randle AYRTON	Caesar Cregeen
Anny ONDRA	Kate Gregeen
Kim PEACOCK	Ross Christian (uncredited)
Clare GREET	Mrs Cregeen

Director: Alfred HITCHCOCK  
Production Company: British International Pictures  
Photography: Jack COX  
Scenario: Eliot STANNARD  
Adapted from the famous story by: Hall CAINE  
Studio: ELSTREE STUDIOS  
Assistant Director: Frank MILLS  
Art Director: Wilfrd ARNOLD, Emile DE RUELLE

The restoration and presentation of *The Manxman* has been generously supported by Daniel & Joanna Friel, Ronald T Shedlo, and an anonymous donor. Additional funding provided by Deluxe 142.

We also gratefully acknowledge the support and collaboration of STUDIOCANAL, rightsholders of *The Manxman*.

Special thanks must go to everyone who has supported the BFI's Hitchcock 9 campaign, including: The Eric Anker-Petersen Charity; Arts Council England; British Board of Film Classification; Deluxe 142; Shivendra Singh Dungarpur; The Mohamed S. Farsi Foundation; The Film Foundation; Pia Getty; The Headley Trust; Simon W Hessel; The Hollywood Foreign Press Association; Ian & Beth Mill; Col & Karen Needham; PRS for Music Foundation; Dr Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation; Martin Scorsese; and, Matt Spick.

### **PRESS CONTACTS**

**Judy Wells, Head of Press and PR, BFI**

Tel: 020 7957 8918 or email: [judy.wells@bfi.org.uk](mailto:judy.wells@bfi.org.uk)

**Brian Robinson, Communications Manager, Archive and Heritage, BFI**

Tel: 020 7957 8940 or email [brian.robinson@bfi.org.uk](mailto:brian.robinson@bfi.org.uk)

**Caroline Jones, Press Officer, BFI Southbank**

Tel: 020 7957 8986 or email [caroline.jones@bfi.org.uk](mailto:caroline.jones@bfi.org.uk)

**\*\*\* PICTURE DESK \*\*\***

A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting the screenings can be found at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI / BFI National Archive / The Genius of Hitchcock

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About the BFI**

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of filmmakers and audiences

### **The BFI London Film Festival**

BFI London Film Festival is an iconic international film festival that supports London's position as the world's leading creative city. It presents the best new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience. It provides career-enabling opportunities for British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes. Dates: 10<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2012

Full festival programme will be revealed at a press conference on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012.

### **Clare Stewart biography**

Clare Stewart's sixteen year programming career has encompassed leadership roles as Festival Director, Sydney Film Festival (2006-2011) and the inaugural Head of Film Programs at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne (2002-2006) as well as various roles at the Australian Film Institute (1996-2001), including Exhibition Manager, and programmer and Committee Member of the Melbourne Cinémathèque (1995-2002).

### **About American Express**

American Express Company is a diversified worldwide travel, financial and network services company founded in 1850. It is a leader in charge and credit cards, Travellers Cheques, travel and insurance products.

As part of the premium service delivered to Cardmembers, American Express handpicks the very best in London entertainment through its award winning Preferred Seating programme. From giving a sneak peek behind the scenes, offering money can't buy experiences at events, American Express goes that extra mile to deliver inspiring and memorable entertainment experiences. The company has multi - year partnerships with a range of entertainment institutions including AEG Live, Ticketmaster, Live Nation and the British Film Institute. For more information visit [www.amex.co.uk/access](http://www.amex.co.uk/access)

### **About Studio Canal**

STUDIOCANAL is a subsidiary of the CANAL+ Group. It is one of Europe's leading companies in the market for co-production, acquisition, distribution and sale of international feature films. STUDIOCANAL is the only studio operating simultaneously in three main territories across Europe: France, the United Kingdom and Germany. The company distributes a total of more than 50 films a year throughout Europe. Additionally, STUDIOCANAL owns one of the most important libraries in the world, with more than 5,000 international titles.

STUDIOCANAL's Production ambitions to date have included Rowan Joffe's debut feature BRIGHTON ROCK starring Sam Riley, Andrea Riseborough and Helen Mirren; Joe Cornish's critically acclaimed ATTACK THE BLOCK, the first project to emerge from a partnership with Big Talk, Nick Murphy's debut feature THE AWAKENING starring Rebecca Hall, Dominic West and Imelda Staunton and the company's highest grossing theatrical release ever - Tomas Alfredson's award winning cold war thriller TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY starring Gary Oldman as George Smiley with Colin Firth, John Hurt, Kathy Burke, Benedict Cumberbatch, Stephen Graham, Tom Hardy, Ciarán Hinds, Toby Jones, David Dencik, Konstantin Khabenskiy, Svetlana Khodchenkova, Roger Lloyd Pack, Simon McBurney, Christian McKay and Mark Strong rounding out a powerhouse cast. Future projects include Ben Wheatley's SIGHTSEERS recently selected for Cannes, Jeremy Lovering's IN FEAR, Michael Winterbottom's KING OF SOHO, the Coen's INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS, Susanne Bier's SERNEA and Dan Mazer's hotly anticipated comedy I GIVE IT A YEAR currently shooting at Ealing Studios