

TIMOTHY SPALL IS

A Stephen Cookson Film

"A STUNNING PIECE OF WORK"
At Venice, Cannes

STANLEY

MAN OF VARIETY

Timothy Spall
Celebrating Achievement
UK Film Festival
2016

Diamond Award
Narrative Feature
Cannes Film Awards
2016

Timothy Spall
Screening & Man Of Variety
London Film Festival
2017

Official Competition
Narrative Feature
London Film Festival
2017

Official Competition
Narrative Feature
Single Film Festival
2017



GEORGE FORMBY



JAMES FINLAYSON



MAX WALL



NOEL COWARD



OTHER



MARGARET RUTHERFORD



ALASTAIR SIM



"TIMOTHY SPALL IS OUTSTANDING"
America Gateway, Single Film Festival



TONY HANCOCK



IGOR



FRANK RANDALL



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STANLEY, MAN OF VARIETY



DIRECTORS VISION

Stephen Cookson had been writing the script for Stanley, a Man of Variety with Timothy Spall for ten months and in that time it has gone through many variations. As the story and characters developed it became apparent that the original idea of a man stuck in prison wanting to escape wasn't particularly original and didn't offer Tim much of an acting challenge.

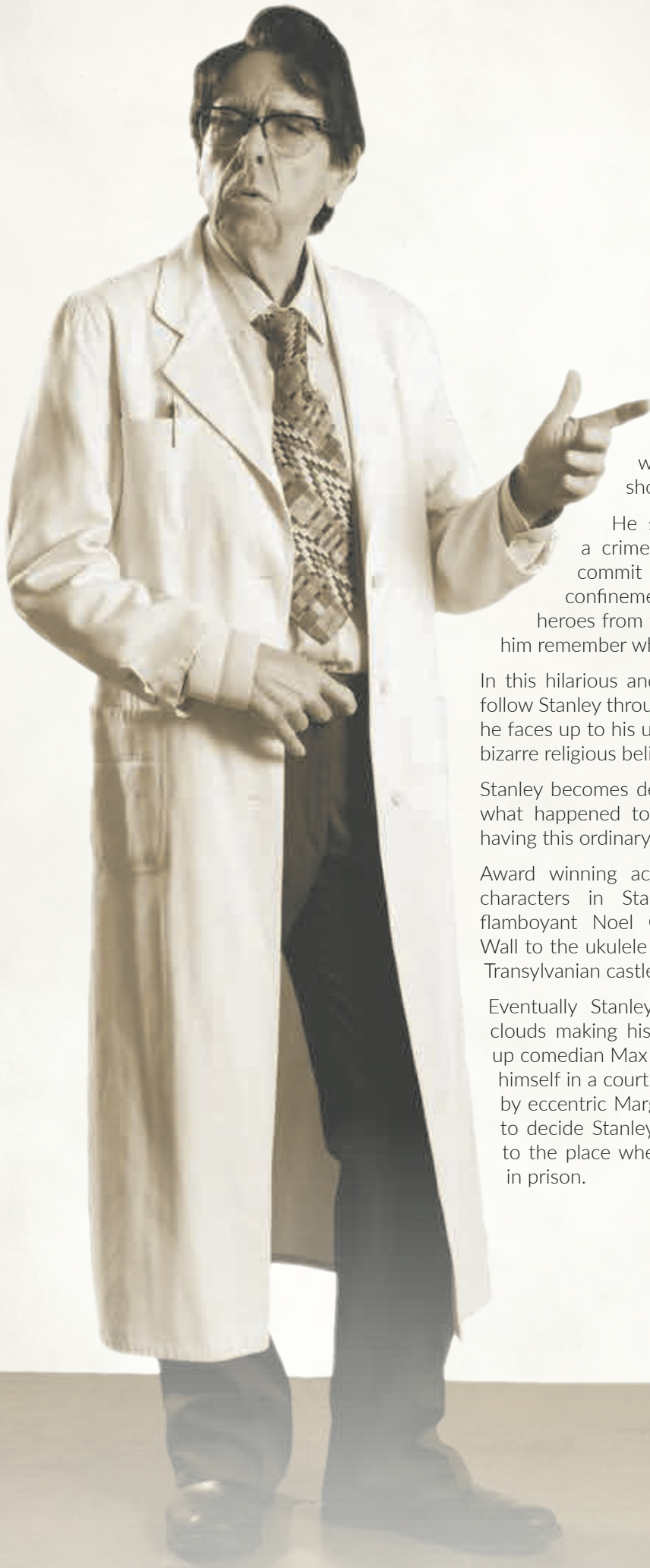
That's when they started to research the Ealing Comedies and in particular Alec Guinness in Kind Hearts and Coronets. This gave Stephen and Tim the idea that perhaps one actor could play more than one role and indeed populate the entire film with entertaining figures from the leading character's imagination.

That was the starting point to where the film ended up. Stanley was such a fan of vintage comedy films it seemed possible that he actually became all of his film star idols. These visions in turn would try to help Stanley face why he's in prison and what he can do to change his life and become a better person.

The style for the film needed to be straight forward without any tricks or unnecessary editing or special effects. Whilst there are some VFX, particularly when Tim is playing multiple roles, comedy is always filmed in a wide shot so that the audience can watch everybody's performance and thus it should be more entertaining to watch.



SYNOPSIS



Stanley, a Man of Variety
Is about a middle
aged man who enjoys
watching classic British films and TV
shows from the 1960/70's.

He soon finds himself in prison for
a crime that he believes that he didn't
commit and after many years in solitary
confinement he begins to talk to his comedy
heroes from the past as each one tries to help
him remember what he's done.

In this hilarious and sometimes moving comedy we
follow Stanley through his journey of hallucinations as
he faces up to his unusual upbringing and his parents
bizarre religious beliefs.

Stanley becomes desperate to learn the truth about
what happened to his daughter and what lead to
having this ordinary life he has already dreamed of.

Award winning actor Timothy Spall plays all the
characters in Stanley's hallucinations; from the
flamboyant Noel Coward to the grotesque Max
Wall to the ukulele King George Formby to Egor in a
Transylvanian castle.

Eventually Stanley flies on a coffin through the
clouds making his escape from prison with stand-
up comedian Max Miller for company. He then finds
himself in a courtroom facing the magistrate played
by eccentric Margaret Rutherford. It's down to her
to decide Stanley's fate and either send him back
to the place where he was born or back to a life
in prison.

CAST

TIMOTHY SPALL

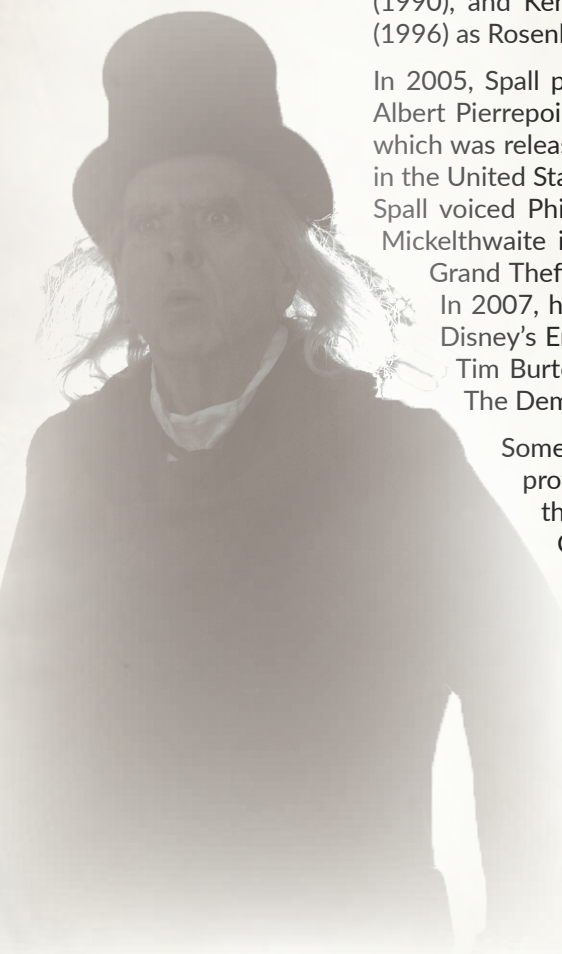
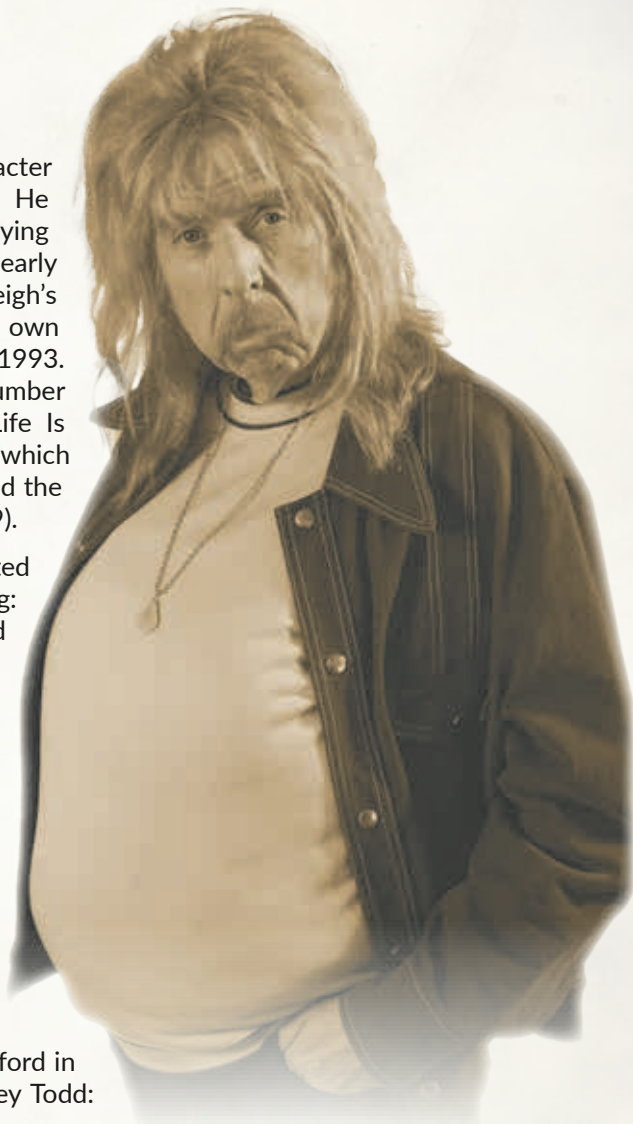
Timothy Spall is an English character actor and occasional presenter. He began his career in theatre portraying title roles in *Macbeth* and *Othello*. In the early 80's he moved into TV roles with Mike Leigh's "Home Sweet Home" and later had his own drama series *Frank Stubbs Promotes* in 1993. In his early career, Spall appeared in a number of award-winning features, particularly *Life Is Sweet* (1990) and *Secrets & Lies* (1996), for which he earned a BAFTA Award Nomination, and the Gilbert & Sullivan biopic *Topsy-Turvy* (1999).

Spall has worked with a number of noted directors throughout his career, including: Ken Russell in *Gothic* (1986), Clint Eastwood in *White Hunter Black Heart* (1990), Bernardo Bertolucci in *The Sheltering Sky* (1990), and Kenneth Branagh in *Hamlet* (1996) as Rosenkrantz.

In 2005, Spall played the starring role of Albert Pierrepoint in the film *Pierpoint*, which was released as *The Last Hangman* in the United States. Moving on from this, Spall voiced Phil Collins' manager, Barry Mickelthwaite in the 2006 video game *Grand Theft Auto: Vice City Stories*. In 2007, he starred as Nathaniel in Disney's *Enchanted* and Beadle Bamford in Tim Burton's production of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

Some of Spall's more recent and high-profile roles include Peter Pettigrew in the *Harry Potter* film series; Winston Churchill in *The King's Speech* (2010), for which as a member of the ensemble he was jointly awarded the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. Spall reprised the role at the 2012 Summer Olympics closing ceremony; Peter Taylor in *The Damned United* (2009); Beadle Bamford in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (2007) and his own documentary *Timothy Spall: Back at Sea* (2010–2012).

On 24 May 2014 he won the Best Actor award at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival for his lead role in Mike Leigh's British biographical drama, *Mr. Turner*. Spall also recently won Best Actor at the New York Film Critics Circle Awards for *Mr. Turner* and Best Actor for his role in *My Angel* at the Monaco International Film Festival.



DIRECTOR STEPHEN COOKSON



Stephen Cookson since making short films with some of the Monty Python crew, his vivid imagination caught the attention of Robert Zemeckis and Michael Jackson's production company in the late 90's, where he was given his first development deals.

He went on to work at the Cannes Film Festival and discovered that during his first year he would be a runner for David Lean, who became his mentor. Cookson acted alongside Jason Connery in *Journey's End* and found himself that same year working as an extra on *The Russia House* with Sean Connery. He took as much extra work as he could, working on large scale, studio movies filming in the UK and spoke with top directors including Brian De Palma, Jerry Zucker, Kevin Costner and Kenneth Branagh.

He started his directing and producing career by doing many short films and commercials. One of the first projects was for an aspiring singer called Ricky Gervais. Fate led him to meet his neighbour; Academy Award winning producer John Daly (*The Last Emperor*, *Platoon*, and *Terminator*) who helped him raise the finance for his

first movie *Stoneman*. He went on to direct *Mumbo Jumbo* (starring Joss Ackland, and Brian Blessed) distributed by Warner Bros.

Stephen's first film with Timothy Spall - *My Angel*, was the first British production to win Best Film, Best Director and Best Screenplay, plus Best Actor (Timothy Spall) and Best Actress (Brenda Blethyn) at the glitzy French film festival, Monaco International Film Festival in 2014.

He went on to direct the first original musical since Alan Parker's hugely successful *Bugsy Malone* to star a cast of entirely children playing adults. The songs for *Journey To The Moon* were

composed by Monty Python collaborators Andre Jacquemin & Dave Howman. Paul Ross along with Philip Schofield helped with publicising the auditions which ended up taking eight months with over 8,000 children auditioning across the UK.

He is currently writing a comedy with Timothy Spall called '*Skid Marks and Glamour*' which focuses on what happens to actors when they reach the end of their career. Stephen's next project is the official sequel to David Lean's *Ryan's Daughter*, written by Oscar winner Robert Bolt (*Dr Zhivago* and *Laurence of Arabia*) which he is developing with Sarah Miles.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ISMAEL ISSA

Ismael Issa is a Spanish cinematographer and is known for his fast and imaginative cinematography. He has passion, commitment and a natural ability for storytelling. He has come from a background in commercials and has worked for some of the biggest companies in the world on some of the largest productions and also some of the smallest budgets in the most remote locations.

He is used to working quickly and economically but will always deliver shots that tell the story. Having completed three feature films in 2015 Ismael has been busy; Co-Producer of Martha Pinson's feature film "Tomorrow", executive produced by Martin Scorsese, We Still Kill The Old Way (Ian Ogilvy, Alison Doody, Steven Berkoff), Age Of Kill (Dexter Fletcher, Patrick Bergin, Martin Kemp), Bonded By Blood (Christopher Ellison, Martin Delaney).

His other work includes The Zombie King (Edward Furlong, Corey Feldman) and Deranged (Craig Fairbrass, Marcia Do Vales).

Co-PRODUCER PETER KEEGAN

Peter Keegan with a successful track record in a number of property and construction ventures over the past twenty years, Peter has utilised his skills as a chartered surveyor, in financial control and contracts in making his transition into film production.

Peter has worked on two films with Stephen Cookson – Journey to the Moon where he was involved in the initial setup, castings, finance and shooting at Shepperton Studios and on location in Coventry; and in the multi award winning My Angel with Timothy Spall and Brenda Blethyn, Peter raised all the project finance and had a day to day involvement, overseeing the production office with responsibility for budgetary control; overseeing actors / crew contracts.

Peter operates as Chief Financial Officer for the company including liaising with professional consultants and generally handling the business side of the operation allowing Steve to devote his energy to the creative elements. Peter also oversees script development.



POST PRODUCTION

LIPSYNC POST

LIPSYNC has been providing a complete range of post production services to the film and television industry for nearly 25 years.

LIPSYNC

LipSync Post celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2014 and has invested in more than 50 feature films.

It started out from an office in Barnes doing shortform, such as founder Peter Hampden's work on the trailer campaigns for Basic Instinct. The company moved to Soho in 1998, taking over 123 Wardour Street in 2000. In 2002, it became one of the first post houses in the UK to work on digital intermediates, which has become one of its areas of expertise (James

Clarke serves as head of DI and Stuart Fyvie as senior colourist).

'Part of our job is managing expectations and getting post done on time and on budget'

Recent projects for post-production services include Cannes trio Mr. Turner, Catch Me Daddy and Snow In Paradise. Forthcoming releases include A Little Chaos, What We Did On Our Holiday, Hyena and more. There are also bigger productions – the company did VFX work on Kick-Ass and Total Recall.

VFX PRODUCTION

MELANCHOLY STAR

A newly emergent boutique VFX, Art & Film Studio, based in London



The company is the vision of director/VFX artist Konstantinos Koutsoliotas & designer Elizabeth E. Schuch: a creative studio providing top quality VFX, uniquely styled art services, and producing highly visual films - always with an intense passion for aesthetic quality.

The beautiful, the fantastical, and the eccentric are always in the forefront of our imaginations, and we foster a creative environment that thrives on collaboration.

Officially founding the company in 2011, the dynamic duo have been working together since 2004, on projects spanning commercials, titles, 2D-3D shadow play

backgrounds for films, live circus design, music videos, theatre projection, scripts, and other adventures. Both trained in CGI at the Glasgow School of Art, Kostas comes from a traditional arts background, and Elizabeth from theatre design.

Using our network of brilliant freelance animators and associates in music, circus, and theatre, we can provide powerful artistic backing to Film & VFX projects.

Kostas' Greek heritage has given company a vested interest in the stories and cinema of Europe, growing stronger with our first Greek feature film production underway.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS



RED ROCK
ENTERTAINMENT

■ Executive Producers ■

Red Rock Entertainment is a film finance company, based at the world famous Elstree Studios in Borehamwood, home to some of the biggest TV shows on British television and the studio of choice for many successful British films.

Working in conjunction with a number of UK production companies to raise equity for film, TV programmes and film distribution, Red Rock Entertainment offer a number of tax efficient investment opportunities.

Red Rock Entertainment primarily works on projects which are at an advanced stage and are looking for the final amount of financing.

Their sole focus is on film and TV projects that have a commercial appeal, an identifiable audience, moderately low and controllable costs and a sound financial structure.

As executive producers, Red Rock Entertainment can arrange for investors to visit the sets during filming, appear as extras, and attend private screenings.

They also arrange film investment seminars at Elstree Studios with guest speakers from the different film companies, along with qualified accountants to discuss the various tax advantages of investing in the film industry.



RED ROCK
ENTERTAINMENT

INVESTMENT SCHEMES

SEED ENTERPRISE INVESTMENT SCHEME



The Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme (SEIS) offers great tax efficient benefits to investors in return for investment in small and early stage start-up businesses in the UK.

SEIS was designed to boost economic growth in the UK by promoting new enterprise and entrepreneurship.

The scheme was introduced in the Chancellor George Osborne's 2011 Autumn Statement which heralded a big shake up of tax incentives for investors, with the Enterprise Investment Schemes and Venture Capital Trusts also being revamped.

Now the Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme has become one of the most revered government-backed schemes ever created.

Some of the most important points to consider are:

- SEIS investors can place a maximum of £100,000 in a single tax year, which can be spread over a number of companies.
- A company can raise no more than £150,000 in total via SEIS investment.
- Investors cannot control the company receiving their capital, and must not hold more than a 30% stake in the company in which they invest.
- The company seeking investment must be based in the UK, and have a permanent establishment in the British Isles.
- The company must have fewer than 25 employees. If the company is the parent company of a group, that figure applies to the whole group.
- The company must be no more than two years old, and have assets of less than £200,000.
- 50% Tax Relief for current or previous Tax Year (from date of Share Certificate).
- 50% Capital Gains write off from current Tax Year No Inheritance Tax after 2 years.
- No Income Tax or Capital Gains on any Profits.
- Loss Relief on any monies lost at your current tax rate.
- Monies must remain in the company for 3 years to benefit from the above.

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