

TOM  
HUGHES

DIANNA  
AGRON

LAURA  
HADDOCK

# The LAUREATE

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY WILLIAM NUNEZ

*What the jazz goes a round a round  
the douring eye  
The strange is not*



IN THE ROARING TWENTIES THEY REWROTE THE RULES

METRO INTERNATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT, LIPSYNC and HEAD GEAR present in association with METROL TECHNOLOGY and BOHEMIA a COOL WEB PICTURE in association with DEYA PRODUCTIONS produced in association with NORTH END PICTURES, FLUIDITY FILMS and PARTON PICTURES in co-production with RED ROCK ENTERTAINMENT a WILLIAM NUNEZ FILM TOM HUGHES DIANNA AGRON LAURA HADDOCK THE LAUREATE FRA FEE with PATRICIA HODGE and JULIAN GLOVER CASTING CAROL DUDLEY COMPOSER BRIAN BYRNE COSTUME DESIGNER HELEN BEAUMONT HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGNER FRANCES HOUSON JORDAN DAVID INASSACHI PRODUCTION DESIGNER NATALIE O'CONNOR DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ADAM BARNETT EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS WILLIAM MACHIN NORMAN MERRY PETER HAMPOEN GARY COLLINS SAM PARKER NATALIE BRENNER DIANNA AGRON CAROL DUDLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PHIL HUNT COMPTON ROSS PRODUCED BY GUY DE BEAULIEU WILLIAM NUNEZ CHRISTIAN PARTON WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY WILLIAM NUNEZ



CAA

DEYA  
PRODUCTIONS



LIPSYNC

METRO  
INTERNATIONAL

METROL

NORTH END  
PICTURES

PARTON  
PICTURES



CREDITS NOW CONTRACTUAL





A married couple on the brink of separation allow a stranger to live with them in their idyllic cottage. Will this stranger push their fragile state over the edge?

The Laureate is set in the beautiful countryside of England and is based on the tempestuous life of the famous author and poet Robert Graves.



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# SYNOPSIS

## THE LAUREATE



The true story of Robert Graves, the globally renowned author and icon of the bohemian 20's was married when he began an intense and torrid love affair with writer and muse Laura Riding. This led to a menage-à-trois between the married couple and a new collaborator. The arrangement was further complicated with the arrival of handsome Irish poet Geoffrey Phibbs.

Tensions and rivalries reached boiling point, and culminates in Graves being charged with attempted murder. In the style of *The Postman Always Rings Twice*, *Henry and June*, and *The Last Tango in Paris*, *The Laureate* is a passionate and unflinching tale of sexual awakening, obsession, and jealousy, set during the life of one of the 20th Century's most admired writers.

The film is to be produced by DEYA PRODUCTIONS alongside SUBOTICA FILMS. Written by William Nunez, the award winning writer/director who will also direct. *The Laureate* is a film for an audience looking for passion, depth in their storytelling, and being swept up in a tale of sex, madness, passion and love.



Robert Graves



Nancy Nicholson



Laura Riding



# DIRECTOR'S VISION

*"Since the age of Fifteen, poetry has been my ruling passion and I have never intentionally undertaken any task or formed any relationship that seemed inconsistent with poetic principles which has won me the reputation of an eccentric"*

Robert Graves

## WILLIAM NUNEZ

Robert Graves was a rare individual in the pantheon of all the great writers of English literature. An English bohemian of sorts who defied the conventions of polite society, Robert was also the most British of writers: loyal to English traditions, and customs while challenging them. Uncompromising in every aspect of his life, and an elusive figure shrouded in poetic myths, Robert Graves is a perfect subject for motion picture treatment.

The 20th Century was born in the trenches of World War I, and Robert Graves attended with bloody hands and shell splinters whistling through his lungs. In England after the war, there was a gradual awakening after a century of the strictures of Victorian society as well as battle fatigue. For many, it was a time for pushing boundaries, not just in public life, but in their personal lives where passions and power struggles between the "Old Guard" and "Bright Young Things" set the course for a generation and the rest of the century to follow.

At its core, *The Laureate* is a study of intense relationships centered on the famous novelist and poet Robert Graves. Graves was the rock star of his day along with DH Lawrence, Aldous Huxley and TS Eliot. People would queue up to hear his readings or obtain a signature from his latest book.

I will dive deeply into my characters and use all of my abilities as well as my cast and crew's to convey their passions in a way that will connect with a modern audience. Although

*The Laureate* will be seen by some as a period art film, it is not.

A love story is universal no matter the time in which it takes place, and the times our characters lived through will resonate with today's young audience struggling with many of the same issues.

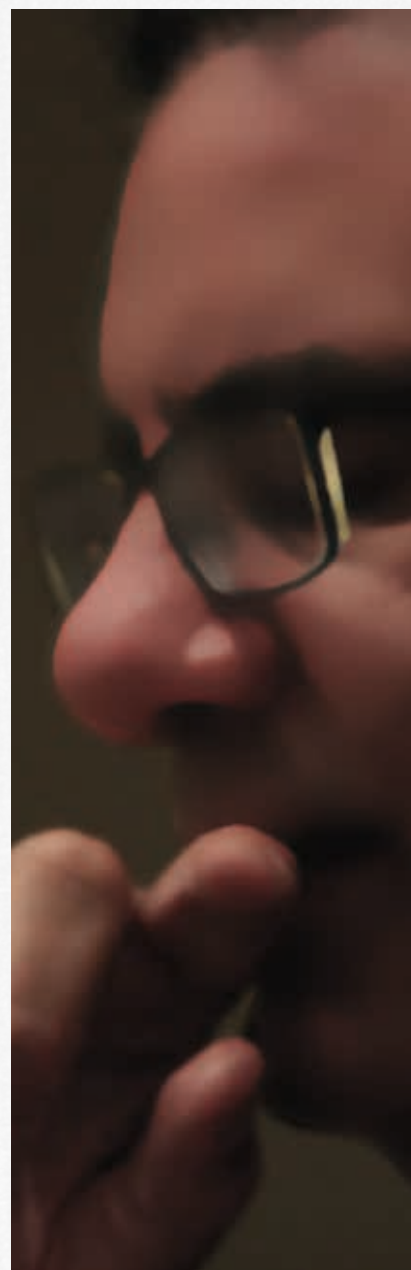
I plan to shoot the film in a modern way and use the great assembled cast to appeal to younger audiences while keeping the matter fresh for all age groups.

A fresh approach to the biopic is key to this story. Robert suffered shell shock and I will not hold back in the telling of what the times were like. I will present Laura Riding (not your typical love interest) as Robert's true love and saviour. My shooting style is based on giving my actors the space to use their talents within the visual canvas that I will provide.

We plan to shoot in some of the actual locations where the events took place such as Islip, Oxfordshire and Hammersmith, London. *The Laureate* is a film that will require broad brush strokes of primary colours and not just fine pencil strokes. Because this film must resonate with a global audience and not just to a limited audience interested in literature and scholarship.

The way to accomplish this is to keep things simple within the acting and dialogue, ensuring that we have a visually stunning film and establish the premise that good and evil do not come in neat tidy packages.

At the conclusion of *The Laureate*, the audience will feel like they lived alongside these characters and that this film will truly be a love story like no other!





# WRITER | DIRECTOR



**WILLIAM NUNEZ**  
(DGA)

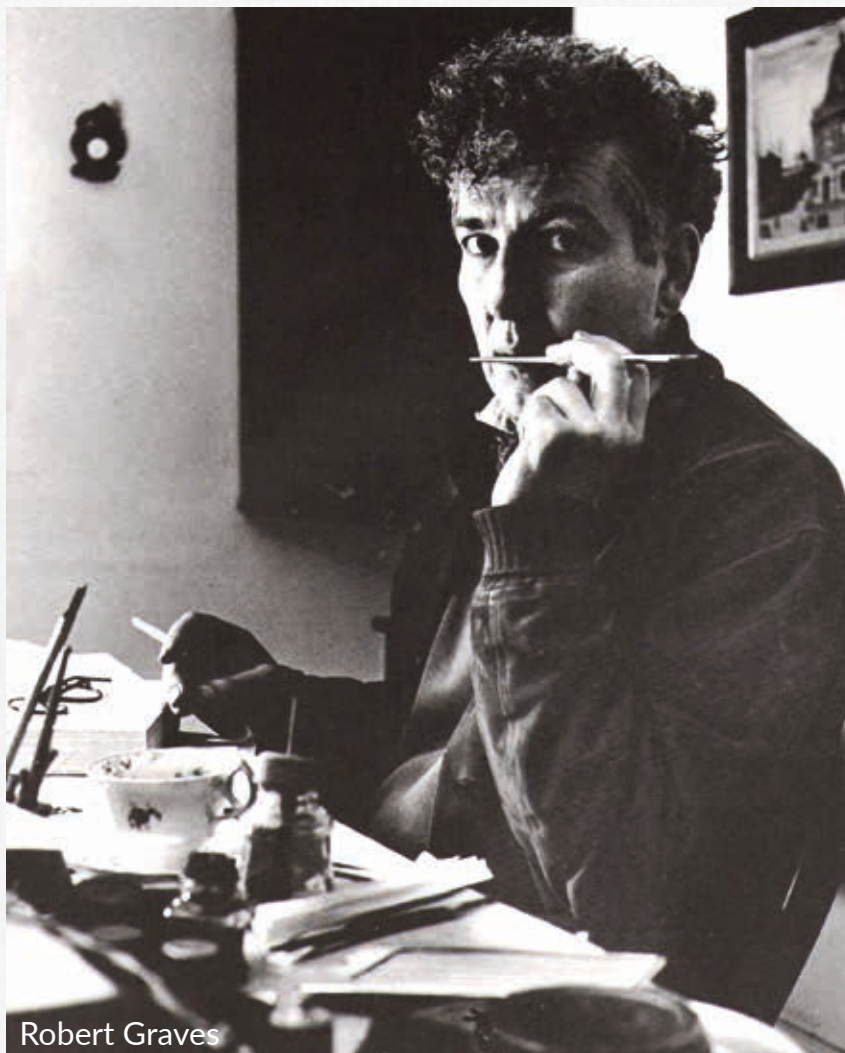
William Nunez is a writer/director of award winning commercials and short films now making feature films. Nunez is a principal of North End Pictures based in New York, the production company that has produced much of his work.

Nunez is in development with two feature films THE LAUREATE and CARNAVAL. In 2013, he completed his documentary CHOCOLATE WORLD, a look at Nestle's attempt to buy Hersey Foods and how the small town of Hersey, PA fought back and beat back the takeover from the large global conglomerate.

As a television director, for CNN and NBC, Nunez has directed many of the news stories of the last decade winning the prestigious Dupont and Peabody awards for directing coverage of the 2008 Presidential election as well as Hurricane Katrina.

William directed the first 2016 presidential debate that reached over 200 million homes worldwide.

Nunez has directed over 100 commercial spots for clients such as Sony, Amtrak, NY Institute of Photography, Crest Toothpaste and Philippe Patek among many others.



**Robert Graves**

Nunez also directed, wrote and produced award winning short subjects FULL METAL RACKET and FEAR OF MAN. FMR was in competition at the Cannes Film Festival and screened in 24 countries. FEAR OF MAN won the Golden Hugo award at the Chicago Film Festival.

His last short AROUND THE WORLD IN 90 SECONDS screened in film festivals around the world including the Rio de Janeiro Short Film Festival and the Marbella Film Festival.

**Poetry is no more a narcotic  
than a stimulant; it is a  
universal bittersweet mixture  
for all possible household  
emergencies and its action  
varies accordingly as it is taken  
in a wineglass or a tablespoon,  
inhaled, gargled or rubbed on  
the chest ...**

Robert Graves



# PRODUCERS

## FLUIDITYFILMS

Fluidity Films is the independent British film production company behind RC Sherriff's *Journey's End*, released through Lionsgate on 2018 in the UK and by Good Deed in the US. The company also produced and financed Michael Morpurgo's *Private Peaceful* and Filter Theatre's *What You Will*, led by producer Guy de Beaujeu and producer and writer Simon Reade.

We are developing a number of significant literary adaptations including Jane Austen's final work *Sanditon*, Eva Ibbotson's YA classic *Journey to the River Sea*, Helen Dunmore's brooding *Zennor in Darkness*, Geraldine McCaughrean's enchanting YA novel *The Middle of Nowhere* and the extraordinary true story of US/STASI spy Jeff 'Kid' Carney. We are also developing a 21st Century re-imagining of Bram Stoker's *Dracula* for the social media age.

Our literary and artistic connections have enabled us to build an ever-growing slate of rich and interesting works that cross genres, budgets and styles.



# PRODUCERS



**GUY de BEAUJEU**

Guy de Beaujeu is the lead producer on RC Sherriff's unforgettable war drama *Journey's End*, recently released through Lionsgate in the UK and *Good Deed* in the USA and *Icon* in Australia. The film is directed by Saul Dibb and stars Sam Claflin and Paul Bettany.

He is producing Fluidity Film's modern adaptation of Bram Stoker's *Dracula* due to shoot in mid 2019.

He also produced *Private Peaceful* adapted from Michael Morpurgo's seminal and award winning novel.

Guy is producing the Jane Austen adaptation *Sanditon* due to shoot in 2020 and is developing Eva Ibbotson's classic YA novel *Journey to the River Sea* and a modern interpretation of *Dracula* for the social media age.



**WILLIAM NUNEZ**

William Nunez is a writer/director of award winning commercials and short films, now making feature films.

Nunez is a principal of North End Pictures, a production company that has produced much of his work since 1989. They have recently entered the feature film business with the mission to produce in-house projects.

Just a few of the projects that are North End's slate include: *Carnaval*, *False Impressions* (The Las Meninas Caper), *The Laureate*, *Chocolate World*, *Glorieta Pass*, and *River of Doubt*. In all these film projects, Mr. Nunez is attached as director, co-producer or writer.



**CHRISTIAN PARTON**

Christian is the founder and CEO of the worldwide short film funding company Genera. Since launching in April 2017, Genera's platform has attracted filmmakers from over 130 countries, and worked with over 70 partner, financing and executive producing just shy of 50 short films to date.

Genera recently teamed up with Noel Clarke and Jason Maza's All3Meida backed *Unstoppable Film & TV*.

Christian co founded the TV production company *Two of a Kind* productions and most recently signed a co-production agreement with Tiger Aspect to develop their next show.

Christian also owns West London based post production company *Emanate Studios* for feature films and branded content.



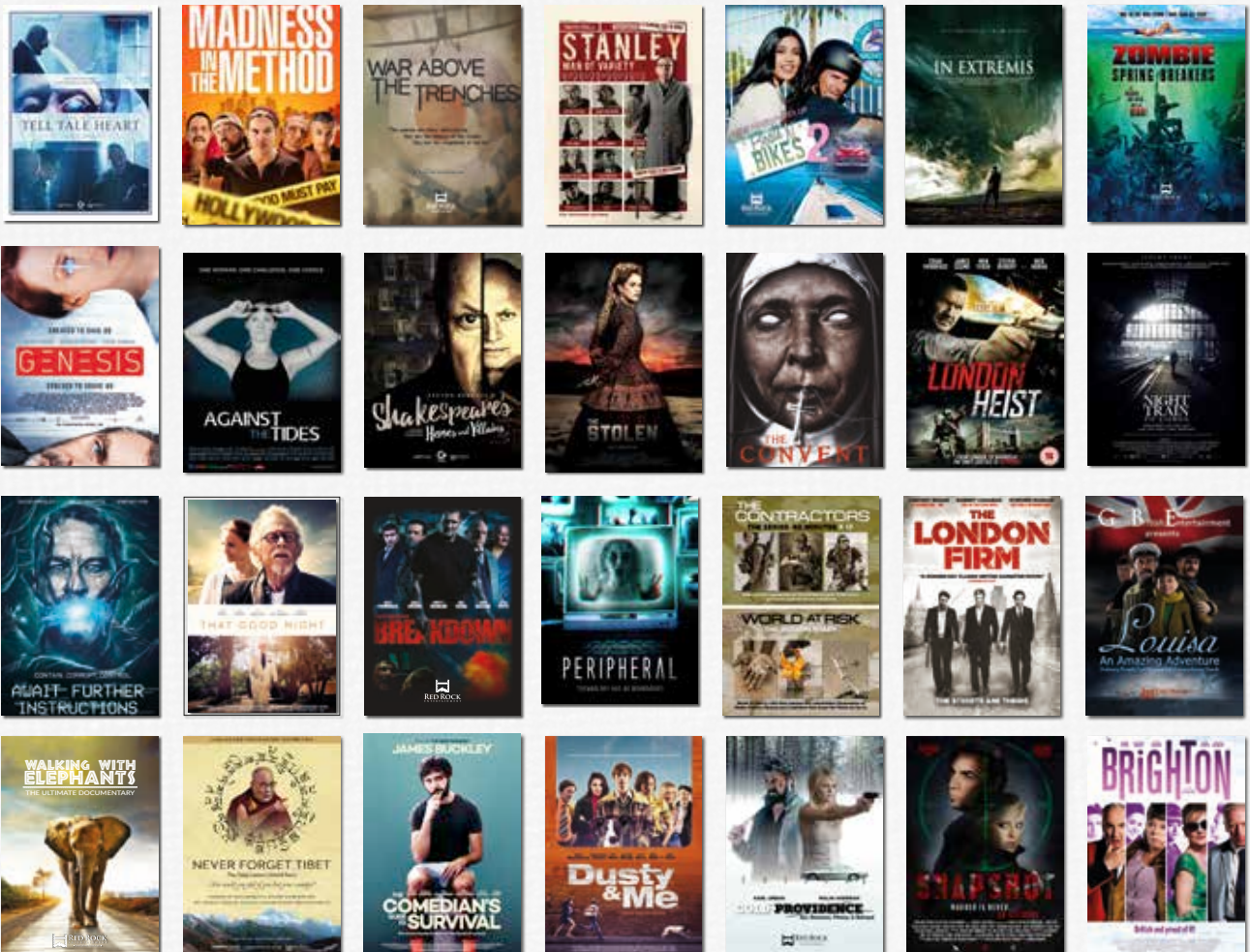
# EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

## RED ROCK ENTERTAINMENT

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

Working in conjunction with many of the UK's top production companies to raise equity for film, TV content and film distribution, Red Rock Entertainment offers a number of tax-efficient opportunities to investors.

It primarily works on projects that are at an advanced stage and are looking for the final tranche of financing. Its focus is on film and TV projects that have commercial appeal, an identifiable audience, controllable costs and a sound financial structure. As an executive producer, Red Rock Entertainment can arrange for investors to visit sets during filming, appear as extras and attend private screenings. It also regularly arranges seminars at Elstree Studios, at which high-profile corporate and financial specialists offer advice and insight into the various tax advantages of investing in the UK film industry.



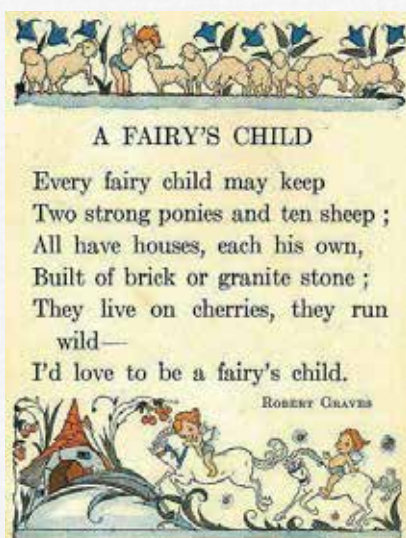


# QUOTES BY R. GRAVES

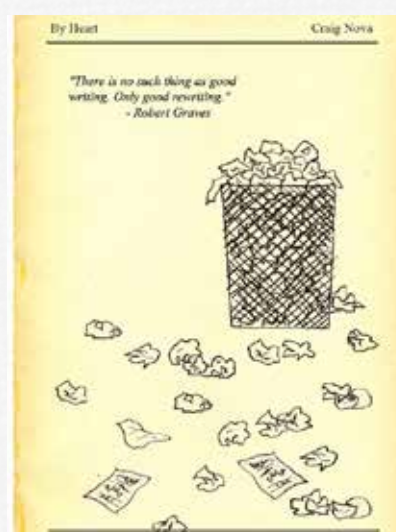
If I were a girl, I'd  
despair. The supply of  
good women far  
exceeds that of the  
men who deserve  
them.



One smile relieves a heart  
that grieves though  
deadly sad it be, and one  
hard look Can close the  
book that lovers love to  
see.



**"Never use the word 'audience.'  
The very idea of a public,  
unless the poet is writing for  
money, seems wrong to me.  
Poets don't have an 'audience':  
They're talking to a single  
person all the time."  
— Robert Graves**



flyership.tumblr.com

**"Poets don't have  
an 'audience':  
They're talking to a  
single person all  
the time." ROBERT  
GRAVES, THE ART**

**SMILING DOESN'T  
NECESSARILY  
MEAN YOU'RE  
HAPPY.  
SOMETIMES IT  
JUST MEANS  
YOU'RE STRONG.**

**THERE'S NO MONEY IN  
POETRY, BUT THEN  
THERE'S NO POETRY IN  
MONEY, EITHER.**

Robert Graves  
PICTUREQUOTES.COM

Every English  
poet should  
master the rules  
of grammar before  
he attempts to  
bend or break  
them.

**THERE IS NO SUCH  
THING AS GOOD  
WRITING, ONLY  
GOOD REWRITING**

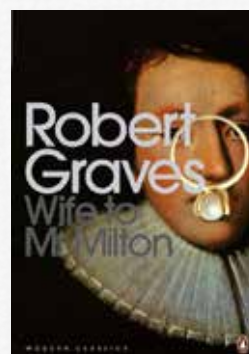
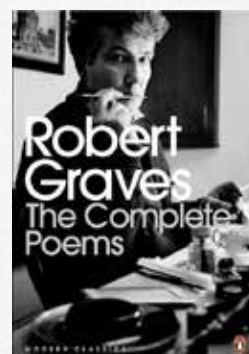
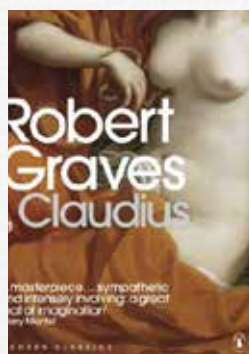
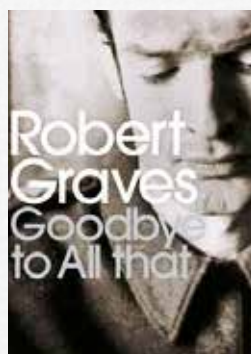
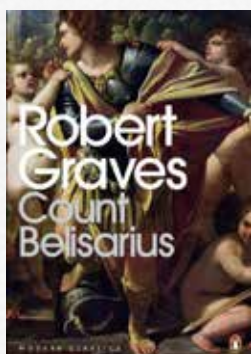
ROBERT GRAVES

As we are, here,  
together; now and  
here, Always you and I.



# BOOKS

## “THE WAR POET WHO CHEATED DEATH”



Poet, novelist, classical scholar, philanderer and war hero, Graves was the author or editor of over 140 books and collections of essays & poetry over the course of his life, in which he became one of the great figures of the 20th Century English Literature. He is commemorated as one of the sixteen Great War poets in Westminster Abbey (alongside his friends Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen), turned down a CBE in 1957, and was short listed for the 1962 Nobel Prize in Literature alongside John Steinbeck.

Several of his books have never been out of print, and there have been various screen adaptations of his work, including *I, CLAUDIUS* and *CLAUDIUS THE GOD*, which became a very successful BBC television series in 1976.









# CAST



## JULIAN GLOVER

Glover is known for portraying major characters in many popular movie and television franchises. His film roles have included General Maximilian Veers in *The Empire Strikes Back*, Aristotle Kristatos in the James Bond film *For Your Eyes Only*, Walter Donovan in *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*, and Brian Harcourt-Smith in *The Fourth Protocol*.

He also voiced the giant spider Aragog in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Glover has also appeared frequently on television, especially in Britain, including guest appearances in cult series such as *The Avengers*, *The Saint*, *Doctor Who*, *Blake's 7* and *Remington Steele*. In May 2014, he played the character Joe Goodridge in two episodes of the BBC TV medical drama series *Holby City* ("My Name is Joe" and "No Apologies"). In the same year, he portrayed an old man in horror thriller *Backtrack*.

On television, he played the leading role of Sir Martin Lacey in the BBC English Civil War drama series *By the Sword Divided*, and played the role of surgeon Arnold Richardson in a 1989 episode of the BBC medical drama *Casualty*. He also appeared as a different character again in the sister series *Holby City* in (2014). He has also played a leading role in the British film *Brash Young Turks*.

In 2009, Glover played the role of Mr. Brownlow in the West End revival of the musical *Oliver!* at the Theatre Royal. In the short film *Battle for Britain* (2010), Glover portrayed the character of Grand Maester Pycelle in the HBO series *Game of Thrones* between 2011 and 2016, appearing in a total of 31 episodes across the first six seasons of the show.

In 2013, Glover played the role of General Beauvilliers in the BBC Four drama series *The Spies of Warsaw*.

## CHARACTER

### MR. GRAVES:

is Robert Graves Father who is an established writer on his own and has a sort of rivalry with his son.

While he views the rivalry as healthy competition, it weighs heavily on his son as well as his wife.



Game of Thrones





# CAST

## CHARACTER

**AMY GRAVES:** is Robert's mother and first muse. She is perhaps Robert's most important influence before the arrival of Laura.

Amy believes in a strict moral code for her son. Amy is a stranger in her resident country and her only connection to England is through her son. In some ways, *The Laureate* is a battle between all three women in the battle for Robert's artistic soul and moral fortitude.



## PATRICIA HODGE

Patricia Ann Hodge, She made her West End debut in 1972 and starred in the 1973 West End production of *Pippin*, directed by Bob Fosse. She received two Olivier Award nominations for Best Actress in a Musical, before winning the 2000 Olivier Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the play *Money*.

Other roles include the 1983 film *Betrayal*, the TV series *Rumpole of the Bailey* (1978–1992), the 1986 TV adaptation of *The Life and Loves of a She-Devil* and the TV film *Hotel du Lac* (1986), for which she received a Best Actress BAFTA TV Award nomination. From 2009 to 2015, she starred in the BBC sitcom *Miranda*.

She has appeared in roles as diverse as in *The Naked Civil Servant* opposite John Hurt, shortly after she featured in the BBC's 1975 Christmas production *Great Big Groovy Horse*, a rock opera based on the story of the Trojan Horse shown on BBC2 starring Julie Covington, Bernard Cribbins and Paul Jones. It was later repeated on BBC1 in 1977. She featured as Myra Arundel in the 1984 BBC version of Noël Coward's *Hay Fever*, as Margaret Thatcher in *The Falklands Play*, and in 2007 as Betty, the wife of tycoon Robert Maxwell, in the BBC TV drama *Maxwell* opposite David Suchet. She took the female lead in the 1983 film, *Betrayal* (based on Harold Pinter's play *Betrayal*), a roman à clef derived from the playwright's affair with broadcaster Joan Bakewell.

She co-starred with Dame Judi Dench in the 1995 London revival of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* as Countess Charlotte Malcom.

She was nominated for a BAFTA for her role in a television adaptation of Anita Brookner's *Hotel du Lac* in 1987, and was awarded the Laurence Olivier Theatre Award in 2000 for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in the production of *Money* at the Royal National Theatre.





# CAST



## TOM HUGHES

Since graduation from RADA in 2008 Tom has been the face of Burberry's Summer collection, along with Emma Watson, formed a new band Quaintways and made his mark in several television series from 'Casualty 1909' to 'Silk'.

In 2009, he featured in the spin-off BBC series Casualty 1909, and in ITV's Trinity. In 2010, he appeared in Ian Dury biopic Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll as Dury's bandmate Chaz Jankel, and starred as rebellious Bruce Pearson in comedy-drama Cemetery Junction, by Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant. In the same year he appeared in Sweet Nothings by David Harrower at the Young Vic, directed by Luc Bondy, and was nominated for a BIFA Award for Most Promising Newcomer. In 2011, he was named one of the 42 BAFTA Brits to Watch. In 2011, he appeared as pupil barrister Nick Slade in BBC legal drama Silk, as well as the BBC thriller Page Eight, alongside Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz.

In 2016, he began appearing as Prince Albert in the ITV historic drama series Victoria. Tom has completed filming Red Joan with Judi Dench.



## CHARACTER

**ROBERT GRAVES:** was and is a world famous author of over 200 books. His publications range from some of the best written love poetry of the 20th Century to non fiction as told in the masterpiece GOODBYE TO ALL THAT, and the fiction classic I, CLAUDIUS.

Prior to our story, Graves had gained worldwide renown as one of the greatest war poets of the First World War, along such notables as Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen.

The Laureate is Robert's story and his willingness to put his heart and soul into the pursuit of artistic excellence makes him a fascinating character for all times.

He is certainly no angel, yet through his faults as well as his humanity, a modern day audience will identify with him as he navigates the murky currents of life.





# CAST

## CHARACTER

### NANCY NICHOLSON:

is the perfect counterfoil to Laura. She is prepared to share her home and her man with another woman for the greater good of their work. Nancy falls in love with Laura as she finds a connection profoundly at odds with the one she has with her husband.

At the same time, Nancy is accepting of Robert's need for Laura, and makes strong decisions that will alter the fate of her family as well as her personal well being. Brilliantly talented as a painter, she paints for the love of it and is Laura's equal as an independent thinker and self expressed woman.

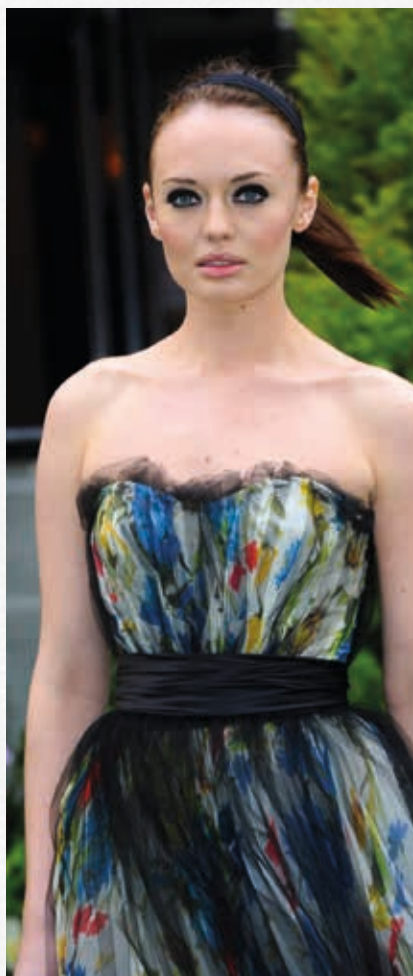


### LAURA HADDOCK

Laura Jane Haddock is an English actress. She is best known for portraying Kacie Carter in *Honest*, Lucrezia in *Da Vinci's Demons*, Meredith Quill in *Guardians of the Galaxy* and its sequel *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2*, Alison in *The Inbetweeners Movie* and Viviane Wembly in *Transformers: The Last Knight*.

Haddock made her television debut in the television pilot *Plus One*, part of the *Comedy Showcase 2008*. Her other television credits include *The Palace*, *My Family*, *The Colour of Magic*, *Marple: A Pocket Full of Rye* and *Honest*, playing the lead role of Kacie Carter. She also appeared in the pilot episode of *Life Is Wild*, the American version of *Wild at Heart*. Haddock played the lead role of Natasha in the ITV1 comedy drama *Monday Monday*, and appears in series two and three of *How Not to Live Your Life*, replacing previous female lead Sinéad Moynihan.

In 2011, she appeared in the Cinemax/Sky TV drama *Strike Back: Project Dawn* for two episodes playing the kidnapped daughter of an illegal arms dealer. She starred as Lucrezia Donati, the mistress of Lorenzo de' Medici and lover of Leonardo da Vinci in the 2013 series *Da Vinci's Demons*. In 2014, she portrayed Meredith Quill in *Guardians of the Galaxy*, a role she reprised in its 2017 sequel *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2*. She appears in the ITV series, *The Level*, and played Vivian Wembley in the Michael Bay film *Transformers: The Last Knight*, which was released on 21 June 2017.





# CAST



## DIANNA AGRON

While Dianna was growing up, she spent much of her time performing. She began dancing at the age of three, focusing mainly on jazz and ballet, and she later began hip-hop dancing as well. Dianna also spent much of her time performing on stage, appearing in many local musical theater productions when she was younger.

After graduating from high school, Dianna decided to pursue acting as a career and began appearing in several commercials and television shows including CSI: NY (2004), Numb3rs (2005), Veronica Mars (2004), and Heroes (2006). In 2009, Dianna won the role of high school cheerleader, Quinn Fabray, on the FOX television series, Glee (2009).

Since the premiere of the hit television show on May 19th, 2009, Dianna, as well as her fellow cast mates, have received critical praise for their incredible work on the show. In addition, to her work on Glee (2009), Dianna has begun to venture into films, such as Burlesque (2010), where she had the opportunity to star alongside Christina Aguilera, Cher, and Stanley Tucci, and the action thriller I Am Number Four (2011). There is no doubt that due to Dianna's beautiful gift and talent, we will continue to see her shine on the silver screen. Dianna: is getting great reviews for her current releases "Hollow is The Land (2017)" and "Novitiate 2017" She was also in The Family directed by Luc Besson and starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Robert De Niro.



## CHARACTER

**LAURA RIDING:** is the central character around whom events turn. Graves best described her as a lovely slender woman with a hooked nose, deathly pale face, lips red as Rowan berries, startlingly blue eyes and long fair hair.

She will suddenly transform herself into sow, mare, vixen she-wolf, tigress. Her titles and names are innumerable, but she is known as "The White Goddess, and I cannot think of any true poet who has not independently recorded his experiences of her".





# ACCOUNTANTS

EAM.

E A M. is a Specialist accounts practice offering services for artists, entertainers, sportsmen, creatives, and for the companies that employ and manage them. They help individuals and companies in media and sport with their accounts and taxation every day. Some of their clients are already household names - others are just starting out. The founding principal is a one stop shop solution in three specific areas.



Personal Tax - UK Tax returns, tax planning, dealing with HMRC investigations and managing overseas tax returns.

Company Accounts and tax - from single owner managed businesses through to Group structures we will provide regulatory compliant accounts and corporate tax returns.

Partnerships - we can manage all or part of your accounts function in-house or remotely.



1920's

IN THE ROARING TWENTIES,  
THEY REWROTE THE RULES



# BOND COMPANY



## Paterson James Ltd

Paterson James is a 100% independently owned UK company. They supply a strong and supportive bespoke Completion Guarantee service to their clients, without risk of conflict of interest, relevant to the changing times in the Film and Television Industries.

When working with Paterson James the production's creative & financial teams have access to highly experienced staff who are on hand at all times during the process to supply technical advice, assistance and support as and when required.

The quality of any Guarantor's legal team is especially important.

Paterson James works non exclusively with Sheridans and Reed Smith. Both companies have extensive experience of UK, European and US productions in both Feature and Television Industries and a network of worldwide associates.

Our underwriters are blue chip and London based; our reinsurers have many years of experience in the completion guarantee business and a proven track record in claims





# SALES AGENTS

## METRO INTERNATIONAL

Metro International represents quality, commercial films for the global market. They specialise in prestige films for sophisticated audiences worldwide and also represent broad commercial thrillers and art-house films as well as theatrical “event” documentaries.

Through a combination of pre-sales and their financing partners, they work with producers to finance, package and distribute their films. They offer additional bespoke production services through their partnerships and stakeholders..



## CAA Creative Artists Agency

Creative Artists Agency was formed by a handful of agents at the William Morris Agency in 1975. At a dinner, Mike Rosenfeld, Michael Ovitz, Ron Meyer, William Haber, and Rowland Perkins decided to create their own agency. According to one report, the agents were fired by William Morris before they could obtain financing. Their firm was incorporated in Delaware and had a \$35,000 line of credit and a \$21,000 bank loan and rented a small Century City office. Within a week, they sold a game show called Rhyme and Reason, the Rich Little Show, and The Jackson 5ive. An early plan was to form a medium-sized full-service agency, share proceeds equally, and do without nameplates on doors or formal titles or individual client lists, with guidelines like “be a team player” and “return phone calls promptly.”

Representing numerous A-list actors and having about \$90 million in annual bookings in the late 1980s, Ovitz led the agency to expand into the film business. By the mid-1990s, CAA had 550 employees, about 1,400 of Hollywood’s top talent, and \$150 million in revenue. In the 1990s, CAA was owned mostly by several key agents, including Michael Ovitz, Bill Haber, and Ron Meyer.





# POST PRODUCTION

LIPSYNC HAS BEEN PROVIDING A COMPLETE RANGE OF POST PRODUCTION SERVICES TO THE FILM AND TELEVISION INDUSTRY FOR NEARLY 25 YEARS.

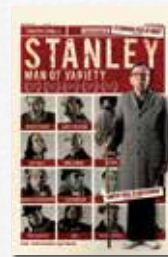
## LIPSYNC

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.



Head Gear Films is widely recognised as one of the UK's most prominent production and investment companies servicing a variety of independent media projects.

We have been involved in packaging, producing and financing over 200 feature films over the past four years, which have been shot in at least 19 countries around the world, partnering with most of the leading international sales agents and distributors.

The company is based in the UK but operates internationally, with significant operations in the United States and Australia.

We pride ourselves on the continual evolution of our company as production partners and financiers.



# LOCATIONS





# EQUITY



Red Rock Entertainment works in conjunction with numerous UK film companies to raise equity for independent film projects. It focuses on those films that have already been completed or are almost complete, but require a final tranche of funding to cover the distribution costs.

Investing in films can offer generous returns. The benefits extend far beyond the sale of box-office tickets: DVD sales, licensing to TV broadcasters and online platforms, and merchandising revenue all count towards a film's profit and can continue to generate returns for many years after its theatrical release. The chance to be part of the magic of the movie industry is another perk of many film-investment opportunities. In some cases, your investment entitles you to appear in the movie as an extra, attend film premièrès and red-carpet events, and see your name appear in the credits at the end of the film.



As well as the potential for high returns, long-term earnings and a close encounter with show business, investing in the British film industry can also offer tax-relief benefits. A range of incentives are available to those who chose to invest in an SEIS or EIS film-investment scheme.





# EIS

The UK has two government-sponsored investment schemes for direct investment in companies: the Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS) and the Seed Enterprise Investment Scheme (SEIS). Both schemes, which offer generous tax relief, were set up to encourage investment into start-up businesses that are not listed on a stock exchange. Investment in unquoted companies often carries a high risk. The tax relief is intended to offer some compensation for that risk.



## Enterprise Investment Scheme

The Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS) was introduced by the UK government in 1994 with the aim of helping small UK companies to raise capital from private investors.

While an EIS investment is not without risk, the incentives for those looking for tax-efficient ways to invest are extremely attractive.

**These benefits include:**



## Income Tax Relief

Investors can claim a rebate of 30% of the amount invested from income tax paid in the year prior to investment, or on tax that is owed in the tax year of investment. Relief can be claimed on up to a maximum of £1,000,000 invested in shares in EIS-qualifying companies, giving a maximum tax reduction in any one year of £300,000, providing the investor has sufficient income-tax liability to cover it. Shares must be held for at least 3 years.



# EIS

## Capital Gains Tax Deferral

If investors have any capital gains tax to pay in the current or next tax year, or if they have paid capital gains tax in the last two to three years, they can claim back or defer tax to the equivalent of up to 20% (or 28% if the gain is on a residential property or for 2015/16) of the capital they have invested in the EIS-qualifying company. If the gain is deferred, when the EIS shares are disposed of then the gain will crystallise at the prevailing rate at that time.

The payment of tax on a capital gain can be deferred where the gain is invested in the shares of an EIS-qualifying company. A capital gain can arise from the disposal of any kind of asset, but the investment must be made within a period of one year before or three years after the gain arose. There are no minimum or maximum amounts for deferral, nor is there a minimum period for which the shares must be held. The deferred capital gain is brought back into charge whenever the shares are disposed of, or are deemed to have been disposed of under the EIS legislation.

## Loss Relief

If a loss is made on the disposal of EIS shares then the loss, less the 30% initial relief may be set against income or capital gains for tax purposes.



## Key Points

- EIS investors can place a maximum of £1,000,000 in a single tax year, which can be spread over a number of companies.
- A company can raise no more than £5,000,000 in total via EIS investment in a 12 month period.
- Investors have no control over companies that receive their capital and must not hold more than a 30% stake in any company in which they invest.
- Companies seeking investment must be based in the UK and have a permanent base in the country.
- The company's trade must be no more than seven years old.
- Tax relief of 30% can be claimed in the current or previous tax year (from date of share certificate).
- A capital gains deferral can be claimed against the current tax year.
- No inheritance tax to be paid after two years. No income tax or capital gains tax to be paid on any profits on disposal.
- Loss relief on any monies lost can be claimed at current tax rate.
- Monies must remain in the company for three years to benefit from the above.



# PERKS & BENEFITS

## FILM SET VISITS

Patience is a virtue — and never more so than on a film set. Pick your moment to approach an actor carefully; it's never a good idea to disturb talent when they are shooting a scene, or preparing to shoot one.

So be prepared to wait for the right moment to take a picture or ask for an autograph. You will probably be assigned with a 'runner' from the production company, whose job it will be to look after you and let you know what's going on.



## APPEARING AS AN EXTRA



Being an investor also gives you the opportunity to be cast as a background actor, or extra.

This is a performer in a film or television show who appears in a non-speaking capacity, usually in the background to the central action as an audience member, for example, or a passer-by in the street.

Punctuality, reliability and the ability to take direction are important if you want to experience the thrill of appearing in front of the camera.

## PRIVATE SCREENINGS

Private film screenings form part of a film's production and release cycle. To show off the film to its best advantage, special preview screenings are routinely held in low seat-count theatres offering high-quality projection and sound equipment.

These events, which are usually accompanied by food and drink, also feature commentary from the film's producers, writers or actors. The guest list for a private screening typically includes VIP media personalities, investors, and key marketing and distribution executives.





# PERKS & BENEFITS

## RED CARPET EVENTS

A red-carpet premiere is the highpoint of a film's release.

Attended by its stars, alongside A-list celebrities, industry moguls and the media, they epitomise the Hollywood dream.

When one of our films premieres, our investors are invited to join us on the red carpet, and experience the glitz and glamour of showbiz for themselves.



## NAME IN THE CREDITS

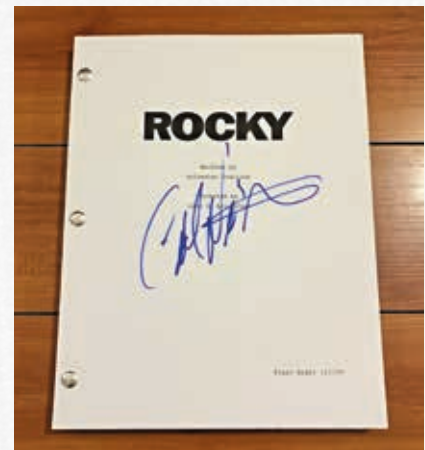
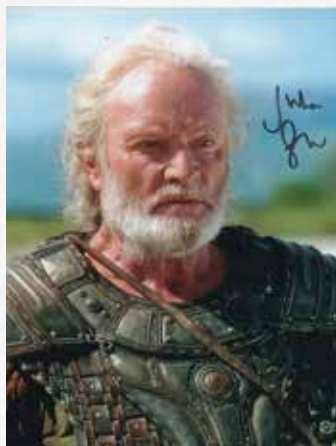


## PHOTOS WITH THE STARS



## MEMORABILIA

As an investor, if available you will have access to film memorabilia, including autographs, brochures, props, advertising material and scripts. These are not just great keepsakes — if a film goes on to be successful, they can also be valuable in their own right.







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