



THE FLYING SCOTSMAN

Starring:

Jonny Lee Miller
Billy Boyd
Laura Fraser
Brian Cox
Morven Christie
Niall Fulton
Steven Berkoff

RT: 102 mins **CERT:** 15

For press enquiries please contact:

Caroline Henshaw / Anna Penney at Rabbit Publicity

Tel: 020 7299 3685/3686

caroline@rabbitpublicity.com / alice@rabbitpublicity.com

To download photography please go to:

www.vervepics.com

INTRODUCTION

The Flying Scotsman is the remarkable true story about the turbulent life of cyclist Graeme Obree, who built his own bike out of washing machine parts and rode it to gold at the world championships.

Jonny Lee Miller (*Trainspotting*) stars as the cyclist determined to succeed against the odds, alongside Laura Fraser (*Vanilla Sky*), Billy Boyd (*The Lord of the Rings trilogy*) and Brian Cox (*X-Men 2: X-Men United*).

From a humble background, Graeme Obree (Jonny Lee Miller) always had to fight for survival. As a grown man, nothing had changed and when his beloved bicycle shop went bust, Obree had neither the money nor the sponsorship necessary to realise his dream; to compete at the highest level of world cycling. But it was always clear from his passion for the sport that he was destined for greatness. He faced years of gruelling preparations, problems with funding, injuries and scandals, but with the unwavering support of his wife Anne (Laura Fraser) and the help of his close friend and newly-appointed manager Malky (Billy Boyd), he never gave up.

On the bike that he designed and built himself, Obree was able to adopt a new, more aerodynamic riding posture, shaving off those few crucial seconds from each lap around the velodrome. But the bicycle brought Obree into conflict with the World Cycling Federation, and far from praising his ingenuity, the board rewrote the rulebooks and went to great lengths to stop him from competing.

Defiant, Obree refused to give up, He built another bike of radical design that squeezed through the WCF's strict guidelines – and against all the odds he won the World Pursuit Championship – astonishingly beating his rival, the Olympic Gold Medal holder Chris Boardman. Graeme's pioneering 'Superman Position' remains one of the most defining images in the history of world cycling.

The Flying Scotsman is directed by Douglas Mackinnon (*Jekyll, Gentlemen's Relish, Bodies*) and written by John Brown, Declan Hughes and Simon Rose. The producers are Sara Giles, Peter Gallagher and Peter Broughan.

BACKGROUND

In July 1993, 27-year-old Scottish racing cyclist Graeme Obree broke the world record for the longest distance traveled in one hour on a bike, previously held for nine years by Francesco Moser, with a distance of 51km. The record lasted less than a week, when it was broken by his long-term cycling rival, Englishman Chris Boardman. But Obree re-took the record in April 1994 and was individual pursuit World Champion in 1993 and 1995. At home he also broke the British 10-mile individual time trial record in 1993, won the RTTC 50-mile championship the same year and won the 25 mile championship in 1996.

These achievements were all the more remarkable because he had constructed a unique bike frame out of household objects to achieve his goal. Until he took the 'hour record' for the first time, his riding had been largely amateur, and he certainly did not have large scale sponsorship and development support, unlike other professional cyclists at that time. Instead, in order to develop his technique, he developed a unique riding position (the 'crouch' or 'tuck' position) and was challenged by the world governing body for cycling who kept changing the rules on which riding positions were allowed, and Obree often found himself banned from taking part in races, hours before the event...

AN INTERVIEW WITH GRAEME OBREE

The Flying Scotsman charts Graeme Obree's victories as well as his personal and professional struggles.

He admits that his initial reaction when he heard about his life story being turned into a film was “I’ll believe it when I see it’, and I still had doubts until filming started. I’ve been involved in a few documentaries but I was blown away by the depth of preparation involved. Director Douglas Mackinnon put his entire life on hold to make this film.

“Jonny Lee Miller was absolutely sound too. He did a brilliant job and took to cycling like a duck to water, coming into work on his bike even on lashing wet mornings. Within days he was copying my hand movements, almost subconsciously, and my autobiography was never out of his hand. I did some body doubling, not because his legs weren’t up to it, but because the sheer quantity of cycling you’ve got to do is amazing. So Jonny and I took turns.”

Director Douglas Mackinnon says that Obree committed himself body and soul to the film: “He was completely immersed in it. He cycled behind Jonny on the velodrome track while filming him with a camera strapped to the handlebars.”

The tenacity of both cast and crew mirrored Graeme’s approach to his sport which he agrees was partly moulded by childhood bullying and subsequent mental health problems. The son of a firm and distant policeman father, the young Graeme never took a friend from school home: “I liked trees more than people. Cycling made me feel better, winning made me feel better. My worst subject at school was Physical Education. I was also useless at Metalwork and English. I started cycling with my brother when I was about eleven. It was an escape mechanism. I had this idea that one day I would go out for a ride, cycle over the horizon and just disappear. I suppose at school I always wanted to be an explorer. The trouble was that the horizon never came.”

He continues: “The story is surreal. The portrayal of my depression is intense, but quite subtle.” But Graeme chooses not to dwell on the negative: “I couldn’t have done any of it without the support of my wife Anne; she’s the one person who has always believed in me. A big part of the story is a woman standing by a difficult man. It’s a serious film, but it’s also very funny.”

It was his obsessive fear of failure that drove Obree to have another go at the world record – the day after the official attempt: “It didn’t happen for me on the scheduled day, just didn’t work out. But the moment I finished, I decided I was going to have another go the next day. I was feeling absolutely wretched and knew I had to get back on the bike and try again in the morning. Second time around just about everyone had gone, just a few family and friends and a couple of journalists from France were left behind. I went for

it, and I did it. I'm the only person in the world to have broken a cycling speed record in a Winter Olympics stadium, on the wrong day, in front of nine people.

"It was a death or glory moment. I had to do it. The thing had become a complete obsession. When I was going around the track, I noticed nothing but the track in front of me, nothing but the black line I had to cross. I just went for broke." It was a fantastic achievement, prompting the French sports daily *L'Equipe* to give him front page billing as 'L'Incroyable Graeme Obree'.

But he admits that he always felt unworthy: "Even when I was training, I was driven by fear. Every day I would really psyche myself up, then ride as though my life depended on it. It was all about fear. If I didn't train well, I wouldn't race well. If I didn't race well, I would never win anything. If I never won anything, nobody would think I was worthy."

Obree felt compelled to write his autobiography, *The Flying Scotsman*, which so impressed former Labour spin-doctor Alistair Campbell that he wrote that it was "one of the best books by a sportsman I had ever read, because of the passion with which he described his sporting endeavours, and the palpable, searing honesty of the accounts of his troubled history."

Obree explains what inspired him to write: "You put it all down on paper, you try to get out the feelings that are trapped. It started with a psychologist saying it would do me good and ended up as my life story. I had to make the decision either to write a book with lots of pictures but not saying much, or a real autobiography saying everything. I want people to know the real person, I want people to understand what it's like, how it feels."

And the film adaptation of Obree's life certainly does that. *The Flying Scotsman* begins with Obree at his lowest ebb. It then tells the story of his gritty determination in constructing his handmade bike, Old Faithful, and establishing a new world record for the distance covered in an hour. It charts the triumphs of a sporting underdog, but with an extra human dimension to the story; he wasn't just chasing records, he was fighting personal demons.

Things got worse for Obree, who was diagnosed with manic depression, but he remains upbeat: "I think in time it'll be seen as a multi-faceted film; one that appeals to people in different ways. It's no longer just a rocky story of a cyclist; it's much deeper than that."

In fact the film was some 12 years in the making: "It's been like diamond mining; it's a dirty, filthy process but at the end there is a real gem, and that's what has happened. I totally believe that a Hollywood director with a budget of £100 million would not have made a better movie than the one that's been made." Obree feels the film does justice to his incredible story and says it compares with *Chariots of Fire*.

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

But watching it gave him sweaty palms: “The sound of the gun going off at the starting line brought back vivid memories of the feeling that, at that instant, my life changed for ever. I have been trying to dislocate myself from it all, the come-backs, the emotional problems and face the fact that I am no longer a competitive track cyclist. And this movie has brought closure for me.”

Scottish First Minister Jack McConnell, who attended the film’s opening night Gala screening, comments: “The film is a great story, and it is particularly pleasing that it is a Scottish story about a real Scottish champion. It is fair to say that part of the reason we have some of the world’s best cyclists now, like Chris Hoy, is down to the inspiration provided by Graeme Obree.”

But powerful emotions are never far from the surface, as Obree explains: “I went to the Tour de France finish on the Champs Elysees in Paris last year because a friend coincided his stag night with the race’s last day. Before the cyclists came past, I actually had to walk away into the park battling with this huge and powerful feeling of resentment – because I still feel I was robbed of part of my career. I was signed up to ride in the Prologue of the Tour back in 1995, but it was made very obvious to me that I would have to take drugs. So there I was, 11 years later, sitting there waiting for the Tour cyclists to come by, and something just welled up, I just disappeared.” His friends thought it was an overreaction, but then a few days later Floyd Landis – the eventual winner – tested positive for testosterone.

Nowadays, Obree still cycles, not least because he doesn’t have a car, occasionally competes, but prefers to go out on the road with friends.

He concludes: “I hope people enjoy *The Flying Scotsman*. It’s not a cycling movie as such – the director knew nothing about cycling at all. It’s more a human story. I like to think of people coming out of the cinema, buying their fish and chips and talking about it, and my hope is that they’ll feel motivated to do something.”

THE CAST TALK ABOUT THE FILM

JONNY LEE MILLER (GRAEME OBREE)

Jonny Lee Miller, who shot to international fame in *Trainspotting*, was drawn to the script of *The Flying Scotsman* by “a combination of strong characters, good dialogue and a wonderfully inspiring story of a family overcoming huge obstacles together. Playing a living person was nerve-wracking and quite a responsibility, especially as Graeme was on set so often, but it was also good for focusing the mind.”

The film had a long gestation period, and director Douglas Mackinnon comments: “Jonny had no reason to stick with this project over the years, but he did because he fell for it. There were times when he wasn't available and we looked at other people and tried to force them into the peg marked Graeme Obree, but none of them really fitted.

“Apart from his fantastic abilities as an actor, Jonny is also very fit – he runs marathons – and he does a very mean Scottish accent. He is impeccable. One of the days he was actually very close to the British record when he was cycling.”

To prepare for this very demanding role, Jonny read Graeme's autobiography a couple of times, “And I rode my bike a lot! I had a few lessons at the velodrome in Manchester to get used to the completely different art of track riding – no brakes, fixed gear, fixed wheel, very steep inclines at turns, track rules and etiquette – riding, riding, riding in my spare time. I also met up with Graeme and his wife Anne for no-holds-barred Q&A sessions, and I trained for months and every day during filming, even if it meant getting up at four in the morning.”

Jonny also had to learn to ride an unusual bike in a variety of unorthodox positions: “Old Faithful” herself is in a museum in Edinburgh, so we used a replica built specially by Graeme for the film. He made two or three for us, which was a great privilege. The cycling extras went nuts when we gave them a go one day! The riding position is torturous and highly unstable - Graeme can fold himself in two. I cannot... it took a lot of getting used to!”

He felt very privileged to have The Flying Scotsman himself on hand throughout much of the filming: “Graeme is a very kind man who opened up his heart to us. He also gave great encouragement to me with the psychological parts as well as the physical. He was invaluable to the props department in dealing with all the bikes and was a true joy to have around. The entire crew would testify to this.”

As for the depiction of Graeme's famous battle with manic depression: “I felt the script dealt with this very well. I just performed it to the best of my knowledge.”

Jonny managed to get himself into pretty good cycling shape for the film, which meant he was able to do all the track riding in the film, “apart from a couple of shots when Graeme whizzes by in the background. When it comes to whizzing, I can’t compete with Graeme. I have never sweated so much at work in 25 years!”

The character of Malky, played by Billy Boyd, is actually an amalgam of several people who helped Graeme out during this period, as Jonny explains: “There is no real life Malky, but that helps the film flow for the audience. Billy and I get on brilliantly. I really rate him as an actor, so natural and instinctive, and a stupendous laugh – he’s not at all hobbitty!”

The Flying Scotsman was the first feature film for TV director Douglas Mackinnon: Jonny comments: “Douglas is fiercely protective of his cast, the story and more importantly of the Obree family’s feelings and privacy. It was a pleasure working with him.”

Jonny concludes: “It won’t just be keen cyclists who are drawn to Obree’s story. ***The Flying Scotsman*** is about an underdog and his family overcoming dark problems in their own way. It is positive, uplifting stuff.”

LAURA FRASER (ANNE OBREE)

When director Douglas Mackinnon sent a copy of Graeme Obree’s autobiography to Laura Fraser in preparation for her role as Graeme’s wife Anne, she admits that she initially had misgivings:

“I wasn’t expecting to enjoy it as I thought it would be all about sport,” explains Laura, “but I got into the book straight away, it was absolutely compelling. It’s an inspiring story and Graeme comes across as the amazing person he is, particularly in the way he overcame his childhood experiences.”

She continues: “Fortunately my character didn’t have to be sporty, although Anne did manage Graeme at one stage in his career. Anne has a very matter-of-fact, grounded and practical personality, which informs everything she does. I don’t think we’re particularly similar as I tend to have crazy, impulsive ideas.”

This is the first time Laura has played a real person: “There’s huge pressure to make sure you don’t mess it up!” But she found having the Obrees on set extremely helpful, and was particularly struck by the close nature of the couple’s relationship: “There’s something quite inspiring about being around Anne and Graeme. What you notice is how lovely they are to each other. There’s a shorthand between them, right down to predicting each other’s sentences.

“Before we started filming, Jonny and I quizzed them for hours and obviously there are some things you pick up and others you leave out. Although it’s not in the script, both Anne and Graeme have lost their brothers, which might partly explain the bond between them.”

By the end of the project, Laura's antipathy to sport had all but dissipated, particularly when it came to filming the scene in the velodrome in Germany where Graeme is set to break the one-hour world record.

"It's such an exciting scene," recalls Laura. "The crowd is cheering, the real Graeme was there, and I found it all very emotional. I hope people will catch the mood of what is a heart-warming and powerful story."

BILLY BOYD (MALKY)

Lord Of The Rings star Billy Boyd, who plays Graeme Obree's manager Malky McGovern, admits that he had only known the basic elements of the story before he read the script: "I knew what most people know – that he was a guy who had turned his washing machine into a bike and set world records. But I didn't know much about the battles he had to face. It was a great script about a Scottish hero. I love the story. For me it is important to promote Scottish film as much as possible."

By playing the friend that the lead character never really had during his moving road trip, Billy Boyd ended up forging a real life friendship with Graeme Obree: "Malky is an amalgamation of all the people who helped Graeme along the way. My character is asking the kind of questions an audience would ask, sharing the same doubts. Whether it's fact or fiction, it's a cracking script, intelligently written. It would have been only too easy to write a *Rocky* scenario, but that's not Graeme's story, it's about real people helping this breathtaking outsider. It's a magnificent, brilliant story."

Billy reflects on the experience with great affection, particularly as he was working in his home city of Glasgow where he gets around on a mountain bike. To prepare for his role as Graeme's right hand man, Billy swapped it for a racing bike, taking part in serious road runs.

"It's quite difficult to film a race on a velodrome and capture the excitement," Billy explains, "but Douglas Mackinnon had such inventive ways of filming which helped interpret the excitement of Graeme breaking the record. I really hit it off with Jonny and we talked a lot about the subtleties of the relationship between the two men."

He continues: "Graeme truly believes that anyone can do what they want to, providing they set their mind to it. He doesn't start where the sport is or look at the greatest bike; he asks what would make him faster and then builds one his way. I love to surf and when I promised to take Graeme along for the first time, he started redesigning the surfboard before going near a wave; but that's Graeme."

BRIAN COX (DOUGLAS BAXTER)

Scottish actor Brian Cox sprung to international fame in such Hollywood heavyweight films as *Troy* and *Braveheart*. He now plays Douglas Baxter, the minister who helps Graeme fulfill his dreams. Cox comments: “*The Flying Scotsman* is a great story, a very Scottish story of perseverance and passion. I always enjoy going back to work in Scotland and as I was in Europe for the summer anyway, it fitted in perfectly. The end result is even better than I hoped – it’s a masterpiece. The opening scene is incredible – I was very impressed.” And he salutes director Douglas Mackinnon for his work: “Douglas is extremely talented – the man is a genius. This was his transition from TV to film, and he has done so well.”

Originally from Dundee, Cox knew very little about Graeme Obree: “It was fascinating to meet up with him, there’s much more to him than meets the eye. He’s a pioneering spirit who has faced a lot of adversity; you’re not dealing with anyone typical. Graeme is not a company man, which can make for a solitary existence.”

In his role as church minister Baxter, someone who fought his own demons when his wife committed suicide, Brian attempts to breach that sense of isolation, helping Graeme through what his character refers to as the ‘dark night of the soul’. Although Baxter is a fictional almost mythical character, Brian appreciated Graeme’s understanding of cinema and its need for the dramatic.

“That is the interesting thing about Graeme,” points out Brian, “he’s not precious and having him on set was helpful in as much as you respect the subject even more. He’s a man of essence, powerful, even in the way he walks into a room; he cuts the air. I think Jonny’s portrayal of him was very strong and as an actor, he just gets better and better. Douglas is a director who knows his mind which made for a great working relationship.

“The end result is a story of courage about a man who sacrificed himself towards an idea. Graeme’s life is an inspiration and this film is a vindication of his life; not that he needs it.”

DOUGLAS MACKINNON, DIRECTOR

In 2002 seasoned television director Douglas Mackinnon (*Jekyll, The Vice, Gentlemen's Relish, Bodies*) attached himself to *The Flying Scotsman* along with actor Jonny Lee Miller. Describing it as the professional experience of his life, he is delighted that *The Flying Scotsman* is his first feature film: "I was so taken with the screenplay and I'm glad that it's Graeme's story as it is such an extraordinary one and he's an extraordinary human being; it's also very cinematic."

He continues: "I just knew what everyone else knew about Graeme Obree. I am a sports fan but not a cycling fan. I was starting from scratch and it instantly leapt out as a piece of Scottish cinema. It had the elements of films that have often worked in Scotland in the past – it is set in a small town, it has a guy who is a local hero, and so on. The most attractive aspect of the story was that these extraordinary things were done by somebody who is actually very ordinary. The values in his story are very Scottish values. Simply put, the film says that even though you are a world record holder, you cannot get anywhere without people helping you."

The film was shot in summer 2005 in just 32 days in Ayrshire, Glasgow and Germany: "We shot four weeks in Scotland and two in Germany and it was just the way I like to work; gathering a cast and crew who are all passionate about the project. It was wonderfully strange to have Graeme around all the time. I found it fascinating that when we were rehearsing something Graeme had actually done in real life, he would say, 'yes I did that but wouldn't it be more cinematic if we did it this way', and I'm arguing against it."

Douglas recalls "a bizarre moment when we were filming the velodrome scene. Jonny Lee Miller was on the bike, with Graeme cycling behind him filming 'himself'. Jonny is an incredibly dedicated actor and was cycling two or three hours a day, to and from the set. As an actor he's a true leader; generous and intense."

Both Douglas and Jonny were aware of the immense responsibility of treating the subject of Obree's bipolar disorder with honesty and respect. While Douglas didn't set out to make a biopic of Obree's life, the majority of the story is authentic. "I think Jonny tackled it with great dignity and sensitivity," reflects Douglas. "We wanted Graeme to feel comfortable with the film, as he has to carry on with his life afterwards, but he encouraged me to make the film I wanted and to follow my vision."

"Despite his problems, Graeme is just the most life affirming man in the world, so full of exuberance and existence. The film is really about this individual who realizes that he can't survive on his own and that breaking records doesn't give you inner peace. I hope people will come away with a truthful understanding of what being a celebrity sportsman is all about and what heroism is. What Graeme did comes with a price. He's a very Scottish hero."

BIOGRAPHIES

JONNY LEE MILLER

Jonny Lee Miller, who plays Graeme Obree, first caught the attention of international cinema audiences when he starred opposite Angelina Jolie in HACKERS. But it was his star turn opposite Ewan McGregor and Robert Carlyle in the Scottish film TRAINSPOTTING for director Danny Boyle that paved the way to an impressive list of credits.

More recently, Jonny co-starred with Charlize Theron in AEON FLUX and with Will Ferrell and Chloe Sevigny in Woody Allen's MELINDA AND MELINDA. Other film credits include the role of Jeffrey Byron in Alan Rudolph's AFTERGLOW; Lord Byron himself in BYRON with Vanessa Redgrave; LOVE, HONOUR AND OBEY with Jude Law; Jane Austen's MANSFIELD PARK and PLUNKETT & MACLEANE which reunited him with Robert Carlyle.

He honed his talents on stage in such productions as FESTEN (Almeida and West End); THE PLAY WHAT I WROTE (West End); DEMOCRACY (Bush Theatre); FOUR KNIGHTS IN KNARESBOROUGH (Tricycle Theatre); BEAUTIFUL THING (Bush Theatre) and, more recently, in the revival of Frank McGuiness' SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME in London's West End.

Television credits include: ELI STONE; SMITH; THE CANTERBURY TALES: PARDONER'S TALE; BYRON; ROUGH JUSTICE; SPEAKING IN TONGUES; PRIME SUSPECT III; BAD COMPANY; BETWEEN THE LINES and GOODBYE CRUEL WORLD.

LAURA FRASER

Born and raised in Glasgow, Laura Fraser's film credits include LAND OF THE BLIND; IRON JAWED ANGELS; 16 YEARS OF ALCOHOL; DEVIL'S GATE; DEN OF LIONS; CONEY ISLAND BABY; A KNIGHT'S TALE; KEVIN & PERRY; WHATEVER HAPPENED TO HAROLD SMITH; A CHRISTMAS CAROL; TITUS ANDRONICUS; THE MATCH; VIRTUAL SEXUALITY; DIVORCING JACK; MAN IN THE IRON MASK; PARIS BRIXTON; COUSIN BETTE; THE TRIBE and SMALL FACES.

Television includes: CASANOVA; CONVICTION; HE KNEW HE WAS RIGHT; STATION JIM; FORGIVE AND FORGET; THE INVESTIGATOR; NEVERWHERE and TAGGART.

BILLY BOYD

Billy Boyd grew up in Glasgow's East End and trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. He became a household name when he played the Hobbit Peregrine 'Pippin' Took in the LORD OF THE RINGS trilogy.

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

Other film appearances include: MIDSUMMER DREAM; SAVE ANGEL HOPE; ON A CLEAR DAY; SEED OF CHUCKY; MASTER AND COMMANDER: FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD; AN URBAN GHOST STORY; SOLDIER'S LEAP and JULIE AND THE CADILLACS. Television includes STILL GAME, COMING SOON and TAGGART.

Theatre appearances include: HOME – GLASGOW (National Theatre of Scotland); SAN DIEGO (Tron, Glasgow for Edinburgh Festival); THE BALLAD OF CRAZY PAOLA (Traverse, Edinburgh and Tour); THE SPECULATOR (Traverse for Edinburgh Royal Lyceum); AN EXPERIENCED WOMAN GIVES ADVICE (Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh); THERESE RAQUIN (Communicado at Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh); BRITANNIA RULES (Royal Lyceum); KILL THE OLD, TORTURE THEIR YOUNG (Traverse); THE CHIC NERDS (Traverse); HANSEL & GRETEL (Royal Lyceum); MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Royal Lyceum); CALEDONIA DREAMING (Traverse and Tour); WIDOWS (Traverse and National Tour); THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (Royal Lyceum); TRAINSPOTTING (UK tour); MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Cottier Theatre, Glasgow); MERLIN THE MAGNIFICENT (Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh); THE SLAB BOYS (Byre Theatre) and THE SECRET DIARY OF ADRIAN MOLE (Byre Theatre).

BRIAN COX

Brian Cox is an award-winning actor of stage, screen and television. Born in Scotland, he trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) and is a veteran of more than fifty feature films. He co-starred in Woody Allen's critically-acclaimed MATCH POINT, Wes Craven's RED EYE and in the hit action thriller THE BOURNE SUPREMACY, reprising the role he first played in the 2002 blockbuster THE BOURNE IDENTITY. He also appeared in Ryan Murphy's RUNNING WITH SCISSORS in which he joined an ensemble cast including Gwyneth Paltrow, Annette Bening, Joseph Fiennes, Vanessa Redgrave and Alec Baldwin, in SECRETS OF THE NUTCRACKER and THE ESCAPIST and in the television series OUTSIDERS, ROCK N ROLL and the third season of HBO's hit original series DEADWOOD.

Cox earned AFI and Independent Spirit Award nominations for his work in the critically acclaimed independent film L.I.E. and also shared in a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award nomination received by the cast of Spike Jonze's ADAPTATION. His long list of film credits goes on to include: TROY; X2; 25TH HOUR; THE RING; THE ROOKIE; THE AFFAIR OF THE NECKLACE; FOR LOVE OF THE GAME; RUSHMORE; DESPERATE MEASURES; THE BOXER; KISS THE GIRLS; BRAVEHEART; ROB ROY; HIDDEN AGENDA and NICHOLAS AND ALEXANDRA.

He was also the first to play Dr Hannibal Lecter on screen in Michael Mann's MANHUNTER.

On television, Cox delivered a chilling portrayal of Hermann Goering in the mini-series NUREMBERG, for which he won an Emmy Award and was nominated for Golden Globe and SAG Awards. He also earned an Emmy Award nomination for his guest appearance on the comedy series FRASIER. In addition, Cox has starred in a variety of notable television projects, both in the United States and Great Britain, including:

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

BLUE/ORANGE; LONGITUDE; WITNESS AGAINST HITLER; GRUSHKO; SHARPE'S EAGLE; SHARPE'S RIFLES; SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR; THE CLONING OF JOANNA MAY; THE LOST LANGUAGE OF CRANES; MURDER BY MOONLIGHT; FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE and KING LEAR, to name only a few.

Cox has appeared in dozens of plays on the stages of London, New York and Scotland. Repeatedly honoured for his work in the theatre, Cox won Olivier Awards for his performances in RAT IN THE SKULL and TITUS ANDRONICUS, British Theatre Association Drama Awards for Best Actor for THE TAMING OF THE SHREW and STRANGE INTERLUDE, and the Lucille Lortel Award as well as Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle nominations for ST NICHOLAS. In addition Cox has helmed stage productions of: I LOVE MY LIFE; MRS WARREN'S PROFESSION; THE PHILANDERER; THE MASTER BUILDER and RICHARD III. He made his television directorial debut on the critically acclaimed HBO prison drama OZ.

A prolific writer, Cox has penned two non-fiction books: THE LEAR DIARIES and SALEM TO MOSCOW: AN ACTOR'S ODYSSEY. He has contributed to the New York Times Arts & Leisure section, and has written articles for a number of other publications.

At the beginning of 2003, Cox's contributions to the arts were honoured by the Queen, who named him a Commander of the British Empire. In 2006 Empire Magazine (UK) honored his film achievements with the Empire Icon Award.

MORVEN CHRISTIE

Morven graduated from the Drama Centre in 2003. Film appearances include: HOUSE OF NINE and DIGITAL. Television includes: FAMILY MAN; TEACHERS; QUITE UGLY ONE MORNING; DOCTORS and THE SECOND QUEST.

Theatre includes: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (RSC); ROMEO & JULIET (RSC); KING JOHN (RSC); WHEN YOU CURE ME (Bush Theatre) and FESTEN (Lyric Theatre).

NIALL FULTON

Niall's film appearance include: ONE LAST CHANCE; IM; THE ACID HOUSE; TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN and 3. He has also appeared in almost a dozen short films. Television includes: EASTENDERS; HOLBY CITY; THE OUTSIDERS; WEDDING BELLES; TAGGART and THE REAL AMITYVILLE HORROR.

Theatre includes: DANNY AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA (Merlin) and A MEETING WITH THE MONSTER (Merlin)

STEVEN BERKOFF

Steven's numerous film appearances include: THE COTTAGE; NAKED IN LONDON; SAY IT IN RUSSIAN; PU-939; FOREST OF GODS; A HENCHMAN'S TALE; BRIDES; HEADRUSH; CHARLIE; NINE DEAD GAYS; BOKSHU THE MYTH; ANOTHER 9 ½ WEEKS; RIDERS; BEGINNER'S LUCK; RANCID ALUMINIUM; LEGIONNAIRE; FAIR GAME; DECADENCE; BEVERLY HILLS COP; RAMBO II; THE KRAYS; UNDER THE CHERRY MOON; REVOLUTION; ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS; OCTOPUSSY; OUTLAND; BARRY LYNDON and A CLOCKWORK ORANGE.

Television appearances include: HOTEL BABYLON; MISS MARPLE; NEW TRICKS; CHILDREN OF THE DUNE; JONATHAN CREEK; NCS MANHUNT; CHRITIAN ANDERSON; IN THE BEGINNING; ATILLA; LA FEMME NIKITA; STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE; WAR AND REMEMBRANCE and SINS.

His extensive stage work includes: SIT & SHIVER; REQUIEM FOR GROUND ZERO; TELL TALE HEART; THE SECRET LOVE LIFE OF OPHELIA (London & Tour); MESSIAH (London, UK & Eastern European Tour); EAST (UK & International Tour); HAMLET (Hafia Municipal Theatre); EAST (Vaudeville Theatre / UK Tour); SHAKESPEARE'S VILLAINS (East Productions, National, International Tours and West End); CORIOLANUS (East Productions) and SALOME (East Productions).

BIOGRAPHY

DOUGLAS MACKINNON, DIRECTOR

Douglas Mackinnon, makes his feature film directorial debut with **THE FLYING SCOTSMAN**. He caught attention with his student film **ASHES** in 1992 starring Peter Mullan and has become one of the country's most prolific and accomplished television directors, with a list of credits that includes **THE VICE** with Ken Stott, the darkly humorous and scarily unsettling medical drama **BODIES** with Max Beesley, and period romp **GENTLEMEN'S RELISH** with Billy Connolly. He has directed the first three episodes of the highly anticipated drama series **JEKYLL** starring James Nesbitt for BBC One, which screens from late June, describing it as "a cross between **24** and **THE FUGITIVE**."

Douglas's successful television career has seen him direct a large number of TV series, many of them familiar names such as **THE BILL**, **LONDON'S BURNING**, **SOLDIER SOLDIER**, **SILENT WITNESS** and **MURDER IN SUBURBIA**. Other television credits include **GIFTED**, **THE LAST DETECTIVE**, **THE GOOD THIEF**, **NICE GUY EDDIE**, **DIRTY WORK**, **OUT OF HOURS**, **THE GRAND**, **THIEFTAKERS** and **BACK UP**. He plans to continue his film career with a big-screen adaptation of the Alan Spence novel **WAY TO GO**, "a bleakly funny tale of mortality, spirituality and salvation set amongst a family of Glasgow undertakers."

BIOGRAPHIES

JOHN BROWN, WRITER

John Brown provided some of the most intelligent detective screen writing for television in the last 26 years and was considered a genuine contributor to film in Scotland. His writing credits include: TAGGART; CAPTAIN SCARLET; THE SECRET ADVENTURES OF JULES VERNE; MAKING THE CUT; IN SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES; CIRCLE OF DECEIT; INSPECTOR MORSE; BERGERAC; RUTH RENDELL MYSTERIES; SARACEN; THE JUSTICE GAME and THE ONE GAME.

DECLAN HUGHES, WRITER

Declan's writing credits include: SHIVER (a new play for Rough Magic); GALLOWS THIEF (a film for ITV based on Bernard Cornwall's novel); YOUNGER THAN SPRINGTIME (feature film); 20 GRAND (a Michael O'Connell Film); DIGGING FOR FIRE (play, premiered in Dublin, sell-out run at The Bush Theatre) and HALLOWEEN NIGHT (play, premiered in Dublin, transferred to the Donmar)

SIMON ROSE, WRITER

A winner of the Orange Prize for Screenwriting, THE FLYING SCOTSMAN is Simon's first screenplay to be filmed. A former film critic of THE MIRROR, he reviews movies and DVDs weekly for BBC Radio. Author of ten books, including the best-seller DAD STUFF, he is currently writing HEARTLESS, a sexy horror film.

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Graeme Obree	JONNY LEE MILLER
Young Graeme Obree	SEAN BROWN
Child Gang Leader	JOSEPH CARNEY
First Child Bully	CRAWFORD McINALLY-KEIR
Second Child Bully	JAN PLAZALSKI
Graeme's Father	NIALL MACGREGOR
Graeme's Mother	JULIE AUSTIN
First Office Receptionist	MORAG CALDER
Malky	BILLY BOYD
Anne Obree	LAURA FRASER
Woman At Finish Line	JEAN MARIE COFFEY
Baby Ewan	CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON
Baxter	BRIAN COX
Scobie	RON DONACHIE
Katie	MORVEN CHRISTIE
Second Office Receptionist	PAULINE LYNCH
Cycle Courier	GARY HOLLYWOOD
Armstrong	MORAY HUNTER
First Kid In Street	KIERAN TENNANT
Second Kid In Street	STUART GLEN
Ernst Hagemann	STEVEN BERKOFF
Francesco Moser	PHILIP WRIGHT
First Cycling Official	DENNIS MATSUKI
Second Cycling Official	ERICH REDMAN
Third Cycling Official	PETER MAJER
"Specialized" Representative	DAVID HOUNSLOW
Adult Gang Leader	NIALL FULTON
Chris Boardman	ADRIAN SMITH
French Mayor	DANIEL ANDRE PAGEON
Mayor's Assistant	GRANT AYLWARD
Mayor's Wife	GUDRUN MANGEL
Daughter On Bike	CAITLIN BRENNAN
Father On Bike	GEORGE DRENNAN
Doctor	ASHOK SRIVASTAVA
Toddler Ewan	NATHAN McGRATH

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

Production Managers	SUZANNE REID PETER KREUTZ
Post Production Supervisor	RICHARD LLOYD
Production Co-ordinators	SHARON HOWAT MANUELA GROH
Production Secretaries	GIOVANNINA COTRONEO EMMA DOETT
Assistant To Kai Künnemann	GU DRUN PARZICH
Production Runner	DAVID MCKINNON
Second Assistant Director	MICHAEL QUEEN
Third Assistant Director/ Additional First Assistant Director	IAN EASTON
Third Assistant Director	PATRICIA FRORATH
Floor Runners	ROBIN HAIG PETER BÜSCHER DANIEL FLURY MAX SCHMITT
Daily Floor Runners	LISA BARUFFATI ERIN CURRIE NEIL McCORMACK GRAEME STEVENSON
Extras Co-ordinator	MAJA NEUMANN
Assistant Extras Co-ordinator	ALEXANDRA GEORGI
Crowd Co-ordinators	MICHAEL GOODING ANDREAS MODDE NICOLA SEIDL
Script Supervisor	KIRSTIE EDGAR
Additional Continuity	MARGARET GRAHAM
Location Managers	STEPHEN BURT DIRK HENNING
Unit Managers	MICHAEL CAMPBELL STEPHAN BECHEM
Additional Unit Manager	BARRY GORNELL
Location Assistant	DAVID BURT
Production Accountants	NEIL CAIRNS LIES SCHUMANDL
Assistant Accountant	PAUL ZIELENIEC
Scottish Screen Trainee	JACQUI McBRIDE
Art Director	URSULA CLEARY
Standby Art Director	SUSAN COLLIN
Set Decorator	LEE PORTER
Production Buyers	ANN MARIE COULTER DANIEL KOLAROV
Art Department Assistants	MOLEY CAMPBELL CHRISTIANE SCHMID

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

Art Department Runners	STEPHEN MASON JUDITH FISCHER NORA IMHOFF
Storyboard Artist	DEREK GRAY
Petty Cash Buyers	MARTIN KELLY ZOE WIGHT
Costume Supervisor	DEE WALSH
Costume Assistants	KATHERINE HYLAND ELENA WEGNER
Wardrobe Assistants	DANI MILLAR HELEN FREISE
Wardrobe Dailies	DENISE COOMBES YVONNE MULLOCK KARIN BURKERT NINA KUGLAND ANDREA UEBEL REGINE VORNHOLT
Make-up Artist	NIAMH MORRISON
Make-up Dailies	MAXINE DALLAS ETIENNE CARAVAJAL RODRIGUEZ LISA BÜSCHER
Casting Adviser	POLLY HOOTKINS CDG
Casting Assistant	CATHERINE GORDON
Stunt Co-ordinator	ANDREAS PETRIDES
Stunt Arranger	JIM DOWDALL
Stunt Performers	LUCY ALLEN ANDY BENNETT GEORGE COTTLE GLENN FOSTER DEREK LEA GUY LIST TONY LUCKEN
Race Commentators	MARK CURRY DAVID DUFFIELD DAVID MONTEATH
Velodrome Cyclists	ANDY OBERSCHMIDT TIMO DILLENBERGER
A-Camera / Steadicam Operator	XANDY SAHLA
B-Camera Operator	RALF K. DOBRICK
A-Camera / Focus Puller	ASHLEY BOND
B-Camera Focus Puller	TOBIAS KLAUKE
Additional Focus Puller	TONY KAY
Clapper Loaders	GEORGE GEDDES RAFAEL JENERAL SEBASTIAN GROSS
Additional Clapper Loader	ALYSIA MACIEJOWKSA
Camera Trainee	SCOTT RODGERS

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

Camera Car Driver / Additional Loader	PAUL MASON
Video Playback Assistants	OLIVER STIEGLITZ KONRAD ZIMMERMANN
Additional Video Playback Operator	DAVID LEISHMAN
Bikecam Operator	GRAEME OBREE
Motion Control Operator	TIM MENDLER
Video Camera Operator	MARCO ROEPKE
Sound Recordist	REG MILLS
Boom Operator	DAVID McMILLAN
Sound Trainees	GORDON FORBES TIM DYER THOMAS DECKERS
Additional Sound Recording	CAMERON MERCER
Grips	COLIN STRACHAN RUDI KURTH
Assistant Grip	BETTINA BRENNER
Velodrome Motorcyclist	ULI SCHOBERER
Additional Grips	ROBERT CARRACHER ROBERT ETHERSON DAVE MORRISON HARALD REINDL
Grips Truck Driver	JESSE JACKSON LOWE
Riggers	DAVID MILLHERN DAVID MORRISSEY
Gaffer	BRANDON EVANS
Best Boys	NIALL SMYTH GEORG NONNENMACHER
Electricians	GUS MACRAE DAVID SHERWIN GEOFFREY SCOTT HOWARD ROE NILS RAUSCH MARKUS RETTLER LUIS RODRIGUEZ
Additional Electricians	DONALD CAMPBELL JOHN DUNCAN ROBIN HADDOW ANDREW MACBEAN MICK McGILLION NOEL MILLER LENNY O'BRIEN DERRICK RITCHIE ROSS RITCHIE DAVID WILSON
Props Masters	BOB ORR JOE HATTENHAUER
Dressing Props	PAUL CAMPBELL STEPHEN BURNS WOLFGANG HOFFMANN
Standby Props	BILL GOWER

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

	KEVIN McGUINNESS
Props Drivers	PAUL CASWELL OLIVER KLOOS
Action Vehicle Co-ordinator	RONNIE MORRISON
Action Vehicle Driver	BILL STEVENSON
Additional Props	JAMES CAIRNS STEWART CUNNINGHAM JAMES McCALLUM ANDREW MACDONALD BRIAN McGRAW PAUL McNAMARA DAVID WEATHERSTONE
Construction Manager	PHIL BOWEN
Chargehand Carpenter	CHRIS BRESLIN
Carpenters	BRIAN ADAMS DAVE RICHMOND TOMMY DOWDALLS
Chargehand Painter	PAUL CURREN
Painters	ALEXANDER BORTHWICK GEORGE McKAY ROBERT GEE SAM CURREN JNR.
Plasterer	DAWN YOULL
Stagehands	HUGH SPEIRS JACK DRUMMMOND
Additional Stagehand	JON DAVIDSON
Labourer	CRAIG MULDOWNIE
Standby Carpenters	ALEX ROBERTSON SABINE ZOBEL
Additional Standby Carpenter	RICHARD HASSALL
Standby Riggers	IAIN HARRISON ALBERT HUDJI
Special Effects Supervisor	JOHNNY RAFIQUE
Senior Technicians	NICK SMITH CHRIS WATSON
Stills Photographers	CHARLIE CRAWFORD BERND SPAUKE
Press Notes	ANYA NOAKES
EPK	FEASIBLE FILMS
Unit Nurses	STEFANIA SWIATEK GAVIN DOLAN CLAIRE GERALD KAREN KNOX NICOLE MEINECKE
Chaperones	CORINNE BENNETT JIM BENNETT

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

THERESA BROWN
CATHY CARNEY
FRED ELLIS
LORRAINE ELLIS
CLAUDIA ENNEMOSER
LINDA GLEN
MARIANA HARRIS
EILIDH McCORMICK
LAURA McGRATH
MAIRIONA McINALLY KEIR
PAULINE MITCHELL
AUDREY MOLLOY
DAN PLAZALSKI
PAULINE TENNANT
MARCO AURIEL
MARION HATTENHAUER
SANDRA KUEMMEL
TANYA TREY

Stand Ins GEMMA GERBER
SIMON NICOL
MARTINA KATHAGE
FRANK NAUMANN
JOSE MARIA PEREZ

Unit Drivers PAUL DUNPHY
ANGUS FINLAYSON
GERRY CONNELLY
TIM GROSSKURTH
HERBERT HOPPE
DAVID VOGT
WINFRIED ENGEL
SUZIE LEBRUN
YVO FOSSEN
RICHARD BÖHRINGER
OLIVER MAICHLE

Additional Unit Driver SHAUN DEVINE

Facilities Captain GERRY McLEOD
Facilities Drivers JIM CARDY
JOHN MALARKY
TOMMY BRYCE

Film Editor NEIL COMIN
First Assistant Film Editor GILES BURGESS

ADR Editor MIKE FEINBERG
Music Editor MICHAEL CONNELL

Post Production Assistants PATTY PAPAGEORGIU
JO MATTHEWS
MOIRA MACIVER

Archive Clearances GERARD HEALY

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

Voice Casting	BRENDAN DONNISON MPSE VANESSA BAKER
Digital Intermediate	PICTORION DAS WERK
Associate Producer	JOACHIM STURMES
Visual Effects Producer	MICHAEL BRINK
Visual Effects Supervisor	ROLF MUETZE
Lead Digital Compositor	JOERG BRUEMMER ALEXANDER BROMMER MICHAEL KRAEMER SEBASTIAN LOCKER ANDREAS RATHMACHER
Digital Compositors	HEIKE MAUER
Additional Visual Effects	HOWARD WATKINS GARETH TANSY
3D Artist	CHRISTIAN LASKAWI CHRISTIAN MECKEL MARTIN MARKERT
Systems Administrators	ROGER BECK
2K Scanning	TOM GONSIOR
Digital Intermediate Supervisor	WOLF BOSSE
Digital Intermediate Co-ordinator	FRIEDERIKE OBERLIN
Digital Grading Colourist	PHILIPP ORGASSA
Assistant Colourists	NICO HAUTER MORITZ PETERS
2K Online	CHRISTIAN TROEGER RUDI HENSEL
Title Design	ALEXANDER JANKE
Digital Lab Supervisor	BERND SCHULZE
Digital Lab Co-ordinator	RALF WACKER
Recording	GERHARD SPRING
Post Production Sound	RUHR SOUND STUDIOS
Supervising Sound Editor & Sound Designer	GUIDO ZETTIER
Sound Re-recording Mixer	TOBIAS FLEIG
Dialogue Editor	ALEXANDER BUCK
ADR Editor	ALEXANDER VITT
Sound Effects Editor	TOBIAS POPPE
Additional Sound Effects	EMIL KLOTZSCH
Crowd Editor	ALEXANDER BUCK
Foley Editor	BEN WOLF

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

Foley Artist	ROLAND PLATZ
Sound Engineer	MANFRED PLENTER JENS KRIEGEL
Sound Technicians	MARKUS MÜNZ
Sound Service Co-ordinator	MARITA STROTKÖTTER

Additional Music	RUTH BARRETT
Music Conducted by	SIMON WHITESIDE
Musicians Contracted by	COOL MUSIC LTD.
Orchestra Leader	JANICE GRAHAM
Music Engineered by	STEVE PRICE
Music Recorded by	NIAL ACCOTT
Mixed at	ANGEL STUDIOS, LONDON
Orchestrated by	SIMON WHITESIDE
Band In French Village	DES OMBRES BLANCHES

“A Piece of Peace”
Composed by Nigel Jenkins
Published by Eve Music Ltd.

“Grunge Attack”
Composed by Nigel Jenkins
Published by Eve Music Ltd.

Laboratories	SOHO IMAGES ARRI FILM & TV SERVICES
Originating Film Stock	FUJI
Lighting Equipment	ARRI MEDIA
Camera Equipment	ARRI MEDIA
Editing Equipment	HYPERACTIVE
Special Effects	ELEMENTS SPECIAL EFFECTS
Tracking Vehicles	BICKERS ACTION
Safety Boat & Divers	SPLASHSPORTS SERVICES
Caterers	THE REAL SPICE OF LIFE HERMANN KOENEN CATERING
Facilities Vehicles	THE BIG PICTURE
Mini-Buses	COURTNEY TRAVEL
Car Rental	ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR CMS GMBH
Travel Agencies	BCD TRAVEL TQ3 TRAVEL SOLUTIONS
Couriers	PRIORITY TRANSPORTVERMITTLUNG

THE FLYING SCOTMAN

NIEDENHOFF

Insurance Brokers JONES BROWN INC.
PAUL CABLE

Clearances MARK ASHBY, GRANADA

Archive Footage FILM IMAGES
ITN ARCHIVE / REUTERS
UCI

Post Production Scripts SAPEX SCRIPTS

Auditors SHIPLEYS LLP – STEVE JOBERNS

For Freewheel International

Legal Services LAURENCE BROWN, DAVENPORT
LYONS

For ContentFilm International

Managing Director JAMIE CARMICHAEL
Head of Film and Television Finance GRAHAM BEGG
Head of Legal and Business Affairs, UK ALEXANDRA KEEN
Head of International Marketing JUDITH BAUGIN
Executive V-P Business and Legal Affairs RICK KWAK
Chief Financial Officer GEOFF WEBB
Chief Executive Officer JOHN SCHMIDT

For Scottish Screen

Business Affairs ANITA COX
Legal Advisor MARY BREHONY

For Scion Films

Head of Legal & Business Affairs MEGAN DAVIS
Head of Group Finance JOANNE SENNITT
Legal & Business Affairs CLAIRE MATHESON
JOANNA MATHESON

For FDP

Co-Producers KEITH HAYLEY
ROBERT BEVAN
CHARLIE SAVILL
AMANDA COOMBES

THE FLYING SCOTMAN
