



Borley Rectory - The Most Haunted House in England

British Horror outfit Carrion Films set to take the next step in the resurrection of British Horror

For Immediate Release

January 2012, Worldwide: Carrion Films is an acclaimed British production company now set to follow the multi award winning animated films *Scayrecrow*, *The Screaming Skull* and *The Hairy Hands* with the next ground breaking film in its series of gothic shorts. *Borley Rectory* is inspired by what Director Ashley Thorpe believes to be neglected aspects of British horror heritage. It's an approach that has led to the Devon-based artist being marked as integral to a British Horror revival.

After months shrouded in secrecy Carrion Films is proud to announce its next step in the resurrection of British Gothic Horror! *Borley Rectory - The Most Haunted House in England*: is a Carrion Film / Glass Eye Pix co-production, with Directors Larry Fessenden and Glenn McQuaid onboard as Exec producers and featuring narration by Julian Sands (seen most recently in David Fincher's *Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*).

Exec Producer Fessenden's production outfit Glass Eye Pix has been responsible for dozens of celebrated independent films including *The Innkeepers*, *I Sell the Dead*, *The Last Winter*, *The House of the Devil* and *Stake Land*, as well as the critically acclaimed *Tales From Beyond the Pale* series of radio dramas.

Exec Producer Larry Fessenden: "It is a pleasure to see how much inspiration Ashley draws from his local myths and surroundings: I believe strongly that the sense of place is an essential character in any good story, and after his wonderful radio play *The Demon Huntsman* captured the feeling of the Moors, I knew Glass Eye would want to get behind the next Thorpe production." McQuaid adds, "Ashley is a unique and soulful voice within the horror genre, and having already collaborated with him on *Tales from Beyond the Pale*, it's a logical and exciting step to jump into another project together."

Director Ashley Thorpe: "Borley Rectory is essentially an animated documentary, inspired by a genuine haunting that caught the world's imagination during the late 1920's. It's something quite old-fashioned, very textural, with a house very much a projection of the personalities within it - Haunted house as voyeur. It's a subject that seized my imagination as a child after stumbling across the legend in the Usbourne Book of Ghosts. So it's occupied a very strange colourful place in my imagination for a very long time, and I'm thrilled to be making it with people for whom I have so much genuine admiration."

Borley Rectory is due for completion in winter 2012. Once that happens, Thorpe is fully prepared for the next step. "I'm planning for this film to be the catalyst for all of the Carrion Film animations to finally be released on DVD. I also have my first feature in development – *Spring Heel Jack* - a Victorian gothic which will be the absolute culmination of my endeavors."

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

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About Carrion Films & Director Ashley Thorpe

Carrion Films is a young animation production company that has taken the lead in the revival of British horror. Since 2008 it has produced several critically reviewed short films that re-examine long lost tales from British horror history. 'Scayrecrow' (a tale of a ghostly Highwayman), 'The Screaming Skull' (a meditative tale of bone locked spirits) and 'The Hairy Hands' (a beast with five fingers style chiller based on a genuine Dartmoor legend) took neglected British folk tales and digitally rebooted them for a new generation.

Editor-in-Chief of Fangoria Magazine - Chris Alexander: "This guy is going places and – although Hammer Horror is back in an "official" incarnation – Thorpe's gothic miasma's are the honest offspring of those "pure" supernatural melodramas that changed the face of dark fantasy cinema."

Actor Julian Sands on *Borley Rectory*: "When I first came across Ashley Thorpe's work as a film maker I was struck by his originality and passion," states Sands. "The poetry and sensitivity of his images were compelling and extremely moving. When I heard he was developing a project based on the notorious Borley Rectory I had to be involved. Working on this astonishing piece has been immensely fulfilling and I am happy to have joined his repertoire..."

Key Awards and Nominations

- '*Scayrecrow*', '*The Screaming Skull*' & '*The Hairy Hands*' - 'Buried Alive! Film Festival' – '**Visionary Award**', Atlanta USA 2010.
- '*The Hairy Hands*' - **Official selection for 18th Raindance Film Festival 2010**
- '*The Screaming Skull*' – **Best Animated Short Film 2010**, 'A Night of Horrors', Sydney Australia.
- '*The Screaming Skull*' – **Nominated for Best UK Short Film 2009**, 17th Raindance Film Festival.
- '*Scayrecrow*' – **Winner of Media Innovation Award for Best Independent Film 2009**
- '*Scayrecrow*' - **Official Selection for Cannes Short Film Corner 2009**
- '*Scayrecrow*' – **Winner of Judges selection**, Horror UK 2009.
- '*Scayrecrow*' & '*The Screaming Skull*' - **Both nominated for Best Animation**, Horror UK 2009