

# Andersen AND THE Jinn



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FILM

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## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

### **Andersen and the Jinn**

*Experience the First of One Thousand and One Nights*

Young, adventurous writer Hans Christian Andersen is out of ideas and in a hurry to catch the train home when he meets the beautiful yet dangerous Princess Scheherazade of the tales of One Thousand and One Nights. He is inspired to save her from being killed by the angry sultan, and thus begins the affair between Andersen and the Princess... Can stories heal souls and perhaps change the world?

## **MEDIUM SYNOPSIS**

### **Andersen and the Jinn**

*Experience the First of One Thousand and One Nights*

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During his 1864 Spanish tour, Danish storyteller Hans Christian Andersen visits Malaga. When he quietly explores the ancient Arabic bath house looking for inspiration, he comes across the sultan, who addresses his vizier, "All women are treacherous, disloyal, and unfaithful". The jealous sultan will marry Scherezade and her father will have to kill her the next morning.

Andersen devises a plan to save Scheherazade's life. He suggests that she tells the sultan a new exciting story each night but without giving away the ending. The sultan does not want to kill her before he knows the end but Scheherazade begins a new story. Afterwards, she secretly visits Andersen so that he can go on telling her stories to keep her alive. Slowly the two strangers fall in love, and the Vizier becomes suspicious...

## **LONG SYNOPSIS**

### **Andersen and the Jinn**

*Experience the First of One Thousand and One Nights*

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Malaga in the middle of the nineteenth century: The Industrial Revolution is at its peak. At the end of his visit to this Andalusian town, Hans Christian Andersen, the famous Danish story teller, wants to go back to the castle of Alcazaba one more time, with the hope of finding something that he has been searching for, without knowing what.

As he walks silently through the Alcazaba's ancient Arab baths in search of inspiration, he overhears the sultan and his vizier. The daughter of the vizier, the beautiful, temperamental, and intelligent Scheherazade, is set to marry the sultan that night. The sultan, betrayed by his former wives, is planning to kill her the next day to prevent her from also betraying him. The sultan asks the vizier if he will do this duty, even though she is his own daughter. "I am loyal only to my sultan. She will be beheaded in the morning."

Andersen, who has been watching from a hidden corner, is caught by Scheherazade. He calms her down by suggesting a way to save her life. By telling the Sultan an exciting story each night without giving away the ending, her life is preserved until the next evening when again she starts a new story. The plan works well. Scheherazade and Andersen have the greatest fun. One evening they kiss and their secret love affair begins. Then, Andersen gets discovered and is thrown into jail, to be executed the next day.

## CAST

### **Ken Appledorn - *Hans Christian Andersen***

Ken Appledorn's first film as a leading man in "The Extraordinary Tale of the Times Table" (2013) has gained acclaim by critics both nationally and internationally. He was nominated as best Spanish actor in the Andalusian Film Awards as well as best actor at the Cardiff Film Festival. His most famous project is a series called "The Refugees", produced by the BBC.

### **Nuria Fergó - *Scheherazade***

Nuria is an actress and Flamenco singer from Málaga. Known in Spain for her long dark brown hair and her voice, she has starred in numerous musicals, television series, and films like "La Playa Roja" and "Love in Difficult Times". Her Flamenco and pop albums have achieved gold records. She performs frequently in Spain and in Latin America.

### **Juan Fleta - *Servant***

Juan Fleta got his first taste of professional acting on the stage when he was barely 12 years old. He has taken the stage in Germany, Slovakia, and Japan working in theater plays by Sarah Kane, Bertolt Brecht, and Fernando Arrabal. His most recent performances are in "Si Quiero" and the award-winning film "Paraiso Beach".

### **Rafael Chaves - *Sultan***

Rafael Chaves Madera is a Spanish actor and opera singer with a vast repertoire in theater, film, and TV-productions. Born in Málaga, he began his career after a

comprehensive education at the Escuela de Teatro Antonio Machado. He has appeared in more than a dozen film productions, such as the feature film "Las Hijas de Danaus", "Komodo b12", and "Deus le Volt".

#### **Fernando Gil - *Vizier***

Son of the painter and art restorer Fernando Gil Moreno, his first appearance as an actor was with the María Zambrano Theatre Company in Velez Malaga, of which he has been an active member ever since. He has participated in several audiovisual productions, such as "S.O.S Pelota tierra", "Zulu Time", and several video clips, such as "Tu Destino" and "Qué Goze".

#### **Smith Emeka - *Eunugh***

New upcoming actor Smith Emeka was born in Nigeria but moved to Germany in his twenties to pursue a career as a professional football player. His journey took a different direction and after a dozen commercials, Smith has recently starred in the promising independent horror film "Maniac Tales".

## **CREW**

#### **Director - *Rogier van Beeck Calkoen***

Rogier has trained in Prague, Italy, New York, and Los Angeles. He directed the award winning short "24/7 Fitness Club: set in nighttime Prague, the incredible World War II story "The Storykeeper", shortlisted for the Hot Springs Documentary Award, and the documentary of the Czech Puppet master, Pavel Trülar.

#### **Writer - *Salva Rubio***

Salva Rubio is an accomplished novelist and feature film screenwriter. His short film "Checkout" was preselected for the Spanish Oscar "Goya" in 2011. His first co-scripted animation feature film "Deep" is nominated for the Goya in 2018. Recently he released a new screenwriting book called "Save the Cat Goes to The Indies" based on the books by Blake Snyder.

#### **Cinematographer - *César Hernando A.E.C***

César Hernando has been working as a cinematographer, color-grader, and camera operator for the last 25 years for different public and private national and international channels such as TVE, Canal +, ZDF, and Arte. César has filmed over eight feature length films and is currently filming a French/Moroccan co-production in Casablanca.

#### **SFX and Matte Painting - *Frederic St-Arnaud***

Frederic St-Arnaud is a visual effects artist, focusing primarily on high-end photo-realistic Digital Matte Painting, set extension, and concept art in the film industry. His film credits include Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull and The Day the Earth Stood Still. In 2008, he won the best visual effects Academy Award with "The Golden Compass".

### **Production Manager- *Ana Gamíz***

Ana Gamíz started her career with a local Spanish Television program. She learned all aspects of producing through over twenty productions including the feature films "Toro" and "Seis y Medio". Using that knowledge, she started her own production company in 2016, with the appropriate title which describes her best: La Hacedoria (The Doer).

### **Executive Producer - *Steven Bratter***

As a major Studio Executive Producer and screenwriter (WGAW), Steven Bratter has had over 25 years' experience in the industry. His producing credits include Sylvester Stallone's "Demolition Man". and "Motorama". He is currently based in Malaga, developing a new television series for Sony.

### **Singer theme song - *Sére Skuld***

Sére began her training in lyrical singing with maestro Tony Madigan in 2006 while developing as a vocalist and instrumentalist in different musical groups and audiovisual projects. In 2015 she co-founded STRIGA, a theater and collective multidisciplinary company where she works as a performer and producer. She has been a member of the Academy of Scenic Arts of Spain since 2016.

### **Composer - *Jeffrey van Rossum***

In 2010 Jeffrey graduated as a Master of Arts in "Composition in Context". He was a finalist in several film music competitions, such as Soundtrack Cologne and The Krakow Film Music Festival. In 2016 he won the Transatlantic Film Music Competition. His latest credit includes the popular Dutch TV series, "Soof".

## **FAQ's**

### ***Could you tell us something about the premise of the short film?***

Just as the original stories of One Thousand and One Nights, good stories from any culture or religion could change our world and heal.

### ***The title of the film is Andersen and the Jinn. What exactly does the Jinn stand for?***

In ancient Arabian times, Jinn often referred to magic and miracles.

### ***Why is the genre of the film "historical drama"?***

In the story, two legendary figures from very different historical times meet each other.

### ***How did you get the infamous Nuria Fergó to star in your film?***

We knew she would be perfect to take on the role of Princess Scheherazade. We approached her management company and Nuria immediately accepted our offer. She gives a very special touch to the delicate yet dangerous Scheherazade.

***Why the Spanish city Málaga?***

Málaga, not Paris, London, or Venice was Andersen's favorite city. The warmhearted people made him love the city of Málaga, although Málaga was covered in smog from numerous iron factories.

***The second tower of the Cathedral in Málaga was never finished. Why did you choose to show two towers on the cathedral?***

In 1862 Andersen made a sketch of the cathedral with two towers, expecting that the second tower would be finished by the time his publisher received his mail.

***How was it to film in an Arabic bathhouse?***

It was very humid. We did not realize a lot of things would curl up, such as the handmade chess game. We needed a lot of lighting and it was very important to keep things electrical safe.

***How did you create the strong difference between the industrial revolution and the magical palace?***

The correct light and color grading was used to distinguish the difference between the look of the industrial revolution and softer and warm light was used for the fairy tale.

***The sound is very magical. Could you tell us something about that?***

Most difficult was the creation of believable silences in locations. Our sound team practiced many times to capture the sound of water drops, blowing tree branches, and footsteps on stone floors.

***What was the shooting schedule?***

The time pressures of using the bathhouse was an ongoing stress factor. Just half an hour before opening the doors of the bathhouse, we turned the Arabic palace back into a modern-day bath house reception. The visitors did not notice anything apart from some tape which was still placed on the walls.

## **TECHNICAL INFO**

**Country of production:** Spain, The Netherlands

**Genre:** historical drama

**Shooting format:** Digital 5K

**Ratio aspect:** 1:2:39

**Screening format:** 2.35:1 4K, DCP, Blu-Ray, DVD, PAL, NTSC

**Sound:** 5.1, stereo

**Running time:** 13' 48"

**Original language:** English

**Available subtitles:** Spanish, French

**Directed by**  
ROGIER VAN BEECK CALKOEN

**Written by**  
SALVA RUBIO

**CAST**

<b>Hans Christian Andersen</b>	KEN APPLIEDORN
<b>Scheherazade</b>	NURIA FERGÓ
<b>Servant</b>	JUAN FLETA
<b>Sultan</b>	RAFA CHAVES
<b>Vizier</b>	FERNANDO GIL
<b>Eunugh</b>	SMITH EMEKA
<b>Guards</b>	ERIK RÖNNQVIST DIEGO LÓPEZ TORRES

**Produced by**  
CAVEMEN FILM

**In collaboration with**  
LA HACEDORA

**Executive Producer**  
STEVEN BRATTER

**Cinematographer**  
CÉSAR HERNANDO, A.E.C

**Art director**  
AMADOR REHAK

**Film editor**  
ROB KWAK

**Composer**  
JEFFREY VAN ROSSUM

<b>First assistant director</b>	ALEX ESTEVE
<b>Second assistant director</b>	MARÍA NIETO
<b>Script continuity</b>	ROCIO SIBAJA CUMPLIDO
<b>Production Manager</b>	ANA GÁMIZ
<b>Assistants</b>	ALICIA ALJONA
	LAURA GARCÍA
	DANTE PEREYRA
	FRANCISCO CRUZADO VEGA
<b>First assistant camera</b>	AZAHARA PADIAL ALFORCIA
<b>Focus puller</b>	LUIS GARCÍA-FERRER PORRAS
<b>DIT</b>	MARIA ESTHER GACIA BARBERO
<b>Ronin operator</b>	JOSE ISRAEL FERNANDEZ ENCINAS
<b>Gaffer</b>	GUSTAVO FERNAND MURIANO FEAL
<b>Best boy</b>	IVÁN TORRES MARTIN
<b>Lighting technicians</b>	DAMIAN AGUILERA
	AURELIO MANUEL FERNANDEZ
<b>Art department assistants</b>	FLOR ALBELDA GRACIANO
	MARÍA COLLADO
<b>XIX Century costume designer</b>	VICTORIA RUBIO
<b>Moorish costume designer</b>	ELKE LANGE
<b>Wardrobe assistants</b>	SUSAN GERALDINE LICK DYDE
	CURA FERNÁNDEZ
	OMY PANIZO VILLEGAS
<b>Make up and hair direction</b>	DIANA HIDALGO
<b>Make up artist</b>	ESTEFANÍA MALAGÓN
<b>Assistants</b>	MARTA CANOSA
	VIVIANA JAIME

<b>Production sound recordist</b>	FRANK DEMUR
<b>ADR recordist</b>	PEDRO PINO LÓPEZ
<b>English voice coach</b>	HOWARD BRERETON
<b>Scherezade (voice)</b>	CRISTINA MEDIERO
<b>Facility manager Ad Hoc Studios</b>	JAVIER VALDÉS
<b>Supervising sound editor and Re-recording mixer</b>	ALEX ALCÁNTARA
<b>Sound editors</b>	ALEJANDRO ROCHETTE TOÑO CUBILLO
<b>Technical supervisor</b>	DOMINGO MORENO
<b>Matte painting and SFX</b>	FREDERIC ST-ARNAUD
<b>Chroma key</b>	GONZALO MOYANO FERNÁNDEZ

**“El Canto de la Princesa”  
(End Credits)**

<b>Performed by</b>	SÉRE SKULD
<b>Composed by</b>	JEFFREY VAN ROSSUM
<b>Lyrics by</b>	SALVA RUBIO
<b>Community manager</b>	LAURA ROALES HURTADO DE MENDOZA
<b>Graphic design</b>	PAOLO GENTILINI
<b>On set Photography</b>	CORAIMA MENGIBAR
<b>Camera rental</b>	EPC - FUENGIROLA
<b>Lighting rental</b>	CINELUZ - MÁLAGA
<b>ADR recording Studio</b>	DOCTOR BITS - MÁLAGA
<b>Sound post-production facility</b>	AD HOC SOUND STUDIO ´S - MADRID
<b>Color grading</b>	SCHOOLTRAINING - MÁLAGA
<b>Special Effects</b>	STARNO SFX - MONTREAL

<b>Catering</b>	BAR FERNANDEZ LOS CATETOS, MÁLAGA
<b>Legal counseling</b>	ASEGA - MÁLAGA
<b>Insurance</b>	CINEVENT - MÁLAGA

**Filmed on location in Málaga, Spain**

**Special thanks to**

SÉRE SKULD	SALVA RUBIO	MAR EJADA
JAVIER CASTAÑO	DIEGO LÓPEZ TORRES	ALCAZABA OF MÁLAGA
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KLAZIEN & GIJS VAN BEECK CALKOEN	HAMMAM AL ÁNDALUS, MÁLAGA	LAURA HURTADO DE MENDOZA ARÉVALO
NOELIA ESPINOSA GALÁN	MÉLANIE MARTÍNEZ BELTRÁN	MELANIE CARIGNAN
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HOWARD BRERETON	CRISTINA MEDIERO	TRIANA VAN DEN EEDEN MITCHELL
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