



The Cellar

I'm Jamie, I've been an actor for over 20 years. I trained when I was 17 at the **Academy of Creative Training in Brighton** where I was brought up and I've been involved in independent film for a long time now. So much so I thought I had all the contacts and knowledge of the business to set up my own production company and make my own films. On 'The Cellar' I'm working with some very talented people, most of who'm I've worked with numerous times before and know I can trust in many ways. So on cinematography we have **Richard Anthony Dunford** from **Hypericum films**, editing we have **Cristian Parras** from **Crystal Dome** productions, on sound we have **Carrie Higgs** and **Rohan Van Twest** and playing the lead character of Abigail is **Meghan Adara** aswell as many other talented people.

I'd describe 'the cellar' as a tense, psychological Horror about a young girls battle against her inner demons and the fight against immorality.

So what was the inspiration behind the film?

I initially wrote a short film with a location I had in mind but then I just kept thinking of new ideas and let my imagination run wild and then decided to turn the script into a full length feature film. The inspiration came from the locations I found. When I went to check out various locations I just kept coming up with new ideas.

What was your experience of filming some major scenes in the confines of a narrow cellar?

Filming in the cellar was *ok* apart from all the fire exit signs **everywhere** which was a bit of a problem. I'd have to go around trying to cover them up or we had to try to crop them out of shot. We seem to live in a country that is very hot on fire safety but that being the biggest problem I suppose isn't too bad. In fairness we probably lit around 100 candles so there were a lot of open flames so if something did catch fire we would have DEFINITELY known where the fire exits were.

Also it was quite cold in the cellar so the lit candles helped to warm things up a bit.

What made you choose to make a horror film?

I love the endless possibilities of horror films and being afraid makes me appreciate being alive, although it's hard to find a horror film that scares me these days sadly.

You made a cameo in the film as the Masked Guard, what was it like acting behind the mask?

I like the freedom of being behind a mask, the anonymity of being behind a mask is quite powerful and any feeling of being self conscious goes away so it's quite freeing. I've played quite a few characters in films who wear masks and I'm sure it won't be the last. It can be restrictive in a psychological sense depending on the mask. One of the most memorable times was a fight scene I had in the film 'The Caller'. That was a **heavy** mask, I think it was made out of clay and fibre glass so it was hefty and I wore a balaclava underneath to keep it in place and more secure so it was hot and it didn't have a mouth or nostrils so it was hard to breathe in that thing, especially with all the fight choreography. I'd take it off in-between takes and it would be dripping with sweat, I also had no peripheral vision so was quite limited to what I could see. The masked characters in 'The Cellar' are mainly played by **Wayne Liversidge** and **Tom Clear**, I would just Chuck on the mask for a few shots when they weren't available so I can't take too much credit for that. One thing I didn't really want to do in this film was act in it. I've got far too much to be concerned about with the producing and directing.

“It's hard to find a horror film that scares me these days sadly”



Jamie Langlands
Writer/Director
Brighton



(Pictured) Meghan Adara, Neil James, Charlie Marshall, Sophie Karl, Mickaela Sands, James Merganser, Obie Dean, Richard Anthony Dunford, Jamie Langlands

Unit stills and BTS Photographer Adam Hollingworth

(Pictured) Neil James
Unit stills and BTS Photographer
Adam Hollingworth



You've recently amassed an additional £3k from Crowdfunding to finish the film. What do the backers mean to you and this production?

The backers are the people who are going to make this film bigger and better than it was ever supposed to be so it means everything to this film. I thought I'd struggle to raise £50 so the fact that it's raised over 3k has shocked me a bit plus the pressure really is on now. The money raised will go to bigger and better locations than I originally had in mind and also the post production. Basically everything will be able to be done on a bigger scale at a faster pace now.

I'd like to shout out everyone that has been involved in the making of this film. I could write a list of names but I'd be here all day. It really has been a team effort.

There haven't been too many serious challenges. Obviously nothing ever goes to plan when making a film, it's just about coming up with a plan B quickly.

It's hard to say exactly when this film will be released. But the deadline I've set for it to be complete is by October.



FAVOURITE FILM: MY FAVOURITE FILM IS THE CROW (OBVIOUSLY THE ORIGINAL). I LOVE REVENGE FILMS IN GENERAL AND WHEN IT'S PUT AGAINST A GOTHIC BACKDROP THEN YOU CAN'T GO WRONG. VISUALLY THE FILM IS STUNNING AND RARELY DO I THINK VIOLENCE IS JUSTIFIED, I'D SAY IN THE CROW THE VIOLENCE IS JUSTIFIED.

GUILTY PLEASURE: I'D SAY I DON'T HAVE A GUILTY PLEASURE. I DON'T FEEL GUILTY ABOUT WATCHING ANY FILMS.

ANY OTHER ROLE: I'D START FROM SCRATCH AS A DIRECTOR/PRODUCER WHICH I GUESS THAT'S KIND OF WHAT I'M DOING NOW. I LIKE TO HAVE AS MUCH CONTROL OVER A PRODUCTION AS POSSIBLE FROM START TO FINISH.