

A scenic autumn landscape featuring a gravel path that curves through a green lawn. In the background, there is a pond and a white house partially obscured by trees. The trees have vibrant yellow and orange autumn foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and picturesque.

Nathaniel Hawthorne's
Blithedale
Romance

THE LEGENDARY STORY

BY AMERICA'S GREATEST
STORYTELLER

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S *THE BLITHEDALE ROMANCE* HAS NEVER BEEN ADAPTED FOR FILM OR STAGE TILL NOW!

EVEN THE GREAT HENRY JAMES FAILED TO ADAPT THE STORY FOR STAGE.

BASED ON HAWTHORNE'S OWN LIFE, THE FILM IS AN INTIMATE LOOK AT THE PERSONAL LIVES OF HAWTHORNE, MELVILLE, AND THE MOTHER OF FEMINISM, MARGARET FULLER.

FAITHFULLY PRODUCED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE HAWTHORNE SOCIETY



A woman in a red and gold dress is looking into a large, ornate, oval mirror. The mirror reflects her image, showing her wearing a white high-collared dress with a red and gold floral pattern. The background of the reflection shows a dimly lit room with a painting on the wall and a table with a vase. The overall scene is set in a period-appropriate interior.

BREATHTAKING LOCATIONS

THE BLITHEDALE ROMANCE WAS SHOT AT PERIOD MUSEUMS, SOME OF WHICH HAVE NEVER BEFORE ALLOWED FILMING.

COMBINED WITH THE WORLD-RENOWNED CATSKILLS FOR EXTERIORS, IT IS NO WONDER THAT EARLY REVIEWERS FROM ITALY, NEW YORK, AND NEW ENGLAND CALLED THE FILM “STUNNING”

SOME HAVE EVEN COMPARED IT TO FAMED TERENCE MALICK’S OEUVRE OR JOE WRIGHT’S *PRIDE & PREJUDICE*.

“IT’S LIKE HAWTHORNE WROTE IT HIMSELF”

DR. DALE SALWAK CITRUS COLLEGE

CALLED “A BRILLIANT IDEA” DR. HENRY LOUIS GATES JR OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY AND PRAISED BY “FOR ITS FAITHFULNESS AND SCRIPT” BY DR. RICHARD BRODHEAD, FORMER DEAN OF YALE AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF DUKE UNIVERSITY.

IT TRANSPORTS YOU BACK INTO THE WORLD OF EMERSON, HAWTHORNE, AND THOREAU AND THE MAKINGS OF EARLY AMERICA.





CAPTIVATING CINEMATOGRAPHY BY EDWARD AROSE



MUSEUM QUALITY COSTUMING



NOTHING IS DEADLIER THAN DESIRE UNSPOKEN

A TALE OF UNREQUITED LOVE THAT UNRAVELS A
UTOPIAN COMMUNITY IN THE 1850S.

MILES COVERDALE, A LITERARY STAND-IN FOR
HAWTHORNE HIMSELF, STRUGGLES WITH DESIRE FOR
BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

THE FILM HIGHLIGHTS THE STRUGGLES OF BOTH
SEXES IN WAYS THAT SPEAK TO TODAY'S AUDIENCES.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

HAWTHORNE AND BLITHEDALE APPEALED TO ME BECAUSE IT SHOWS DESIRE CAN DERAIL EVEN THOSE WITH THE BEST OF INTENTIONS.

THE STRUGGLES OF THE QUARTET OF FRIENDS AND LOVERS ARE THE SAME STRUGGLES WE FACE TODAY TO DEFINE THE ROLES OF MEN AND WOMEN IN THE INDUSTRIAL AGE.

HAWTHORNE FORESAW OUR OWN CONFLICTS AND WROTE BLITHEDALE AS A WARNING AGAINST THE MADNESS OF SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HUBRIS.

REASON.COM CALLS IT ONE OF THE FIVE BOOKS WE NEED TO READ TO UNDERSTAND AMERICA. I WHOLEHEARTEDLY AGREE.

SCOT COOPER

“MILES COVERDALE”

A VETERAN OF STAGE AND FILM. THE SIX WEEKS OF FILMING WAS THE LONGEST PRODUCTION OF HIS TWENTY-YEAR CAREER.

A NATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA, COOPER BECAME AN AMERICAN CITIZEN THIS YEAR. TO PORTRAY “MILES COVERDALE” AKA NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE REQUIRED MONTHS OF PREPARATION INCLUDING WORKING WITH A LITERARY ADVISOR FROM THE HAWTHORNE SOCIETY.

HIS PERFORMANCE WAS “COMPLEX AND MULTI-LAYERED” ACCORDING TO EARLY REVIEWERS AT THE AMERICAN LITERATURE ASSOCIATION.



EMILY LAPISARDI

“ZENOBIA”

BEST KNOWN AS MUSIC DIRECTOR FOR THE PRESTIGIOUS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY, LAPISARDI WAS PART OF THE CREATIVE FORCE BEHIND BLITHEDALE.

SHE CO-WROTE THE SCRIPT WITH HER HUSBAND CODY KNOTTS, PERSONALLY OVERSAW THE MUSEUM-QUALITY COSTUMING AS PRODUCTION DESIGNER, ARRANGED THE MUSIC, AND ALSO PRODUCED THE FILM.

DR. LEONARDO BUONOMO OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TRIESTE SAID OF HER PERFORMANCE: “SHE CAPTURED THE SPIRIT OF MARGARET FULLER.”



CHRISTIAN PETERSON

“HOLLINGSWORTH”

GERMAN-AMERICAN ACTOR CHRISTIAN IS A RISING STAR. HIS POWERFUL PORTRAYAL OF “HOLLINGSWORTH” AKA HERMAN MELVILLE OF *MOBY DICK* FAME WILL HAUNT YOU.

CHRISTIAN DELIVERS HIS LOVE OF COVERDALE WITH A WISDOM AND DEPTH BEYOND HIS YEARS.

A SCENE STEALER, CHRISTIAN MAKES USE OF EVERY SECOND HE IS ON SCREEN.



LYDIA HELEN “PRISCILLA”

CHOSEN FROM OVER 4,000 APPLICANTS, SWEDISH-ENGLISH ACTRESS LYDIA HELEN CAPTURES THE DEMURE, BUT ULTIMATELY VICTORIOUS, PRISCILLA.

A DUAL ROLE, PRISCILLA IS ALSO THE “VEILED LADY”, A SIBYLLINE FORETELLER OF DOOM.

THE RECENT STAR OF THE LIONSGATE RELEASE “THE LITTLE MERMAID” IN THE TITLE ROLE, LYDIA HELEN IS A NAME THAT WE WILL ALL BE SAYING SOON.



AMINE J. HACHEM

“PROFESSOR WESTERVELT”

A WORLD-RENOWNED OPERA SINGER, THIS IS AMINE’S FIRST FILM ROLE. COMPLETING OUR INTERNATIONAL CAST, AMINE IS A LEBANESE-AMERICAN WHO TRAVELS BETWEEN BOTH NATIONS.

FILMING STARTED AS ISRAEL INVADED LEBANON, AND HE CAUGHT A FLIGHT OUT OF BEIRUT AS THE FIGHTING STARTED. HE WAS IN LEBANON AS THE FAMOUS “PAGER” ATTACK STRUCK HAMAS.

HACHEM’S PERFORMANCE WILL REMIND ONE OF THE EARLY MASTER OF HORROR VINCENT PRICE.



CONTACT

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FILM LOCATIONS:

WALDEN, NY

WURTSBORO, NY

NEWBURGH, NY

WARWICK, NY

MONTGOMERY, NY



Nathaniel Hawthorne's

THE BLITHEDALE ROMANCE

SCOT COOPER EMILY LAPISARDI CHRISTIAN PETERSON LYDIA HELEN

A FILM BY CODY KNOTTS

In association with Eternity Box Pictures

ALSO STARRING AMINE HACHEM * JP SILK * CASEY HEILMANN * XAVIER JEFFERSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS EUGENE SMALLWOOD * JAMES ZERFOSS STORY BY NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE
PRODUCERS HAWTHORNE SOCIETY * EDWARD AROSE * DAVE AND JANET LYBOLT * EMILY LAPISARDI
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY EDWARD AROSE PRODUCTION DESIGN EMILY LAPISARDI
DIRECTOR CODY KNOTTS