

Niall Johnson

Writer

Niall is currently developing several projects for film and tv including a feature ASSASSIN'S ACADEMY for producer Tom George. His writing credits include: LAND OF LEGEND (2023-2024) production rewrite on feature film which Niall has also directed for Straight Wire Group starring Harry Gilby, Emilia Fox and Rupert Everett which is currently in post. KEEP ME POSTED (2021-2022) rom-com screenplay optioned by Appian Way and Authentic ANOTHER DAY OF LIFE, (2018) animated drama-documentary hybrid based on the memoir by Ryszard Kapuscinski set in the Angolan civil war of the mid-1970s. Winner of the Best Animated Film at the 2018 European Film Awards, it received its World Premiere at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival as Official Selection, and has been winning Audience Awards at a wide range of festivals including San Sebastian. Produced by Kanaki Films, Spain, and Platige Films, Poland, it began its worldwide release in October 2018. "A striking piece of rare immediacy and power" (Hollywood Reporter). "Exhilarating...breath-taking" (Cineuropa). "Matches documentary authenticity with dramatic intensity...commands your attention" (Screen Daily). THE STOLEN (2017, also director) a Western-styled adventure co-written with producer Emily Corcoran. Set in New Zealand's 1860s Gold Rush, starring Alice Eve, Jack Davenport, Graham McTavish and Richard O'Brien. It was released in the US by Universal, and enjoyed a successful 16-week theatrical run in New Zealand. "A thrilling adventure. Johnson has brought the characters to the screen with style" (Blazing Minds), "Hard-hitting, engaging and refreshing" (Time Out London), "Pick of the week" (Hello Magazine). MUM'S LIST (2016, also director), a true story weepie romance based on St John Greene's best-selling memoir, starring Rafe Spall and Emilia Fox. After a theatrical run in the UK its release on DVD/VOD in March 2017 saw it reach #1 on the Amazon DVD/Blu-Ray bestsellers chart within a single day. Official Selection at the Dinard Festival of British Film, at Shanghai, at the Heartland Film Festival in Indianapolis, USA (where it won the Audience Award), and at the Festival of British Film at D'Ajaccio in Corsica (where it won the main festival award, the Prize Coup de Couer). "Heartfelt and utterly committed" (The Guardian), "Powerful and beautifully acted" (Mail on Sunday). "A huge emotional rollercoaster, painstakingly handled" (Vue Magazine), "A triumph" (HeyUGuys), "Heart-breaking and uplifting" (Mark Kermode, BBC Radio 5 Live), "Probably the most touching thing I have seen in a while" (BBC Radio 3), "Beautifully well-crafted, staggeringly moving" (Flickreel) "Altogether outstanding. One of the most memorable of 2016." (The Hollywood News). KEEPING MUM (2005, also director) a black comedy starring Rowan Atkinson, Maggie Smith, Kristin Scott Thomas, and Patrick Swayze, and co-written with Pulitzer-Prize winning novelist Richard Russo (Nobody's Fool, Empire Falls). It won the 2006 HBO Comedy Arts Festival Screenplay Award in 2006. "A sophisticated gem" (Hollywood Reporter), "British comedy at its very best" (Daily Mirror), "one of the best British film comedies in recent years" (The Times, UK). WHITE NOISE (2005), a supernatural thriller starring Michael Keaton, directed by Geoffrey Sax, and produced by Gold Circle Films. It began life as a spec script which Niall sold to Gold Circle in 2002. The film opened in January 2005 at #1 in the UK and #2 in the US, where it broke the record at the time for the biggest January opening for a non-sequel. It went on to reach the \$100m barrier on its worldwide theatrical grosses. Niall began writing and directing movies in the UK at the end of the 1980s, after graduating with First Degree Honours in Drama from Bristol University. He started with a run of low budget features, including vampire romance DAWN (1991), and wife-swapping comedy drama THE BIG SWAP, won the Gold Award at the 1998 Flagstaff Film Festival in Arizona, and was selected as Critic's Choice at the 1999 Rotterdam Film Festival. It was called "unmissable" (Daily Star), "one of the year's gems" (Cosmopolitan), and "a tour de force" (Seattle Weekly). In the UK, 1999 it secured a place in the year's top 30 Video Rental releases. Niall followed that with traditional haunted house tale THE GHOST OF GREVILLE LODGE (1999, starring Prunella Scales and George Cole), which has become a Halloween/Christmas season favorite on TV channels around the world. Born and raised in the Midlands, Niall's passion for movies is a result of a childhood spent producing epic remakes PLANET OF THE APES, STAR TREK, DOCTOR WHO and BATMAN with his older brother and a silent Kodak 8mm film camera—the most notable recurring feature being his mother's laundry hanging on the washing line in the back-garden!

TELEVISION

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2021-2022	EMERGENCY EXIT	FETISOFF ILLUSION LTD	dialogue polish and rewrites on European tv series
2022	THE SCENES		Spec pyschological drama pilot co written with MelissaReynolds
2021	UNTITLED SPACE PROJECT	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL	Pilot in development
2019-202	SHIMMERS	NETLIX	Sci fi series in development

FEATURE FILM

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2021 to present	SONS OF NEPTUNE	Eclipse Films	Feature in development Niall also attached to direct
2019	BLACK WATER LANE	Ensemble Films	rewrite on feature with Geoff Sax attached to direct
2019	BONJOUR ROSSINI	Nikaia Films SL	Polish on feature Producer Bay Okan
2018 to present	BORDER GUIDE	FILM INK	feature rewrite
2018	ANOTHER DAY OF LIFE	KANAKI FILMS	Feature rewrite. Winner European Film Awards Best Animation feature
2017-present	SONS OF NEPTUNE	Eclipse Films	Feature in development.
2017	SIDE KICKED	London Town Films	Romantic comedy feature in development
2016-17	THE STOLEN (Co-Writer / Director)	Cork Films / Goldcrest	Co written with Emily Corcoran In post production Shot in NZ
2015-16	MUM'S LIST (Writer / Director)	Acres And Acres Prods.	Adaptation of best-selling book, in post Starring Rafe Spall and Emilia Fox
2015-Present	EMPTY WORLD	CANYON CREEK FILMS	Writing a feature in development Prod. Simon Brooks
2014-15	STIFFS	Bedlan Productions	Feature in development based on the novel Six feet Under
2014	SCRUM LIKE IT HOT		Rewrite Prod. Francie Von Schonfeld

2014	ANDROID (Co-Writer / Director)	Magnet Pics / Divisadero Pics /Infinite Studios, Singapore	<p>Sci-fi thriller</p> <p>Co-written with Matt O'Reilly, and attached to direct in 2016</p> <p>Prod. Hal Sadoff</p>
2014	PARALLEL LINES		Romantic comedy in development
2013-14	TREASURE ISLAND	Ecosse Films	Adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's novel, to shoot in Australia
2012	THE ALEXANDER KING CHRONICLES	Ecosse Films	Edwardian supernatural thriller
2012	THE CALLED	Tall Man Films	<p>Supernatural thriller in development, attached to direct</p> <p>Prod. Tim Dennison</p>
2011	THE WILLIAM RICHARDS	Magnet Pictures	Comedy-drama feature
2011	CALLAS	De Angelis Productions, Italy	Bio-pic
2011	ENDAL	Canyon Creek Films	<p>Single film script based on true story</p> <p>Prod. Simon Brooks</p>
2010	THE ONE I LOVE	Progress Pictures / Future Films	Triangular love story
2010	BLIND SPOT (Attached to Direct)	Magnet Pictures, LA	<p>Contemporary noir thriller set in New York</p> <p>Wr. Vince Keenan</p>
2008	THE STAND-IN		<p>Psychological thriller based on Deborah Moggach's novel</p> <p>Prod. Marc Samuelson</p>
2005	WHITE NOISE	Produced by Gold Circle Films	<p>Supernatural thriller</p> <p>Dir. Geoff Sax</p> <p>Starring Michael Keaton</p>
2005	KEEPING MUM (Co-Writer / Director)	Summit Entertainment	<p>Black comedy</p> <p>Co-Written with Richard Russo</p> <p>Starring Rowan Atkinson, Maggie Smith, Kristin Scott Thomas and Patrick Swayze</p>
2004	THE NIGHT COUNTRY		<p>Adaptation of Stuart O'Nan's novel</p> <p>Prod. Nick Wechsler</p>
2003	BEFORE	Universal Pictures	<p>Supernatural reincarnation thriller</p> <p>Prod. Hal Lieberman</p>

2002	ANGEL FACE	Haystack Productions	Teen romantic comedy Prods. Debbie Balderstone and Xavier Marchand
2001	THE GATECRASHER		Romantic comedy about a wannabe filmmaker at Cannes Prod. Ivan MacTaggart
2001	TELL		Feature based on the story of William Tell Prod. Julia Palau
2000	DEATH KNELL	Renown Pictures / Dandelion Distribution	Adaptation of Nicholas Wilde's family murder mystery Prod. Noel Cronin
1999	THE GHOST OF GREVILLE LODGE (Writer / Director)	Renown Pictures	Starring George Cole and Prunella Scales
1998	THE BIG SWAP (Writer / Producer / Director)	Moonlit Pictures / Mayfair Entertainment / Film.Four	Comedy drama feature theatrically released in Europe Gold Award at 1998 Flagstaff Film Festival in Arizona Critic's Choice at 1999 Rotterdam Film Festival
1991	DAWN (Writer / Producer / Director)	Shooting Gallery Productions	Vampire romance

TELEVISION

DATE	PRODUCTION (ROLE)	COMPANY	PROJECT DETAILS
2019	SHIMMERS	Netflix Asia	reworking pilot for thriller series set in Thailand