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PICTURES



# INLAND

A film by Fridtjof Ryder

In cinemas from 16<sup>th</sup> June

Certificate 15

📷 / @inlandfilmofficial

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## Logline

Starring Rory Alexander and Mark Rylance, writer-director Fridtjof Ryder's unravels a modern folktale in this atmospheric and accomplished debut feature.

## Synopsis

In rural England, a modern folktale unravels. Following the mysterious disappearance of his mother, a young man (Rory Alexander) walks back into a world he once knew well. Guided by a father figure (Mark Rylance) and old friends who care deeply, his journey through the dreamlike spaces of local forests and smalltown life brings him face to face with the loss that haunts him in unexpected ways.

With echoes of David Lynch and Nicolas Roeg, writer-director Fridtjof Ryder's enigmatic debut feature premiered at London Film Festival to critical acclaim.



## Director's Statement

As I write these words, I have just completed work on my first feature film, *Inland*, having spent the last three years in the presence of friends who have become family and who I now hope to be an honest spokesman for. We are a small crew, a young crew, many of us still in University or starting out in our working lives and the film I hope to share with you lies curled around our hearts - it is the kind of film where our actors had as great stakes in its creation as I did. It was made for next to no money, it was made with blood and sweat and the need to speak. It is the kind of film that glowed out from its setting of Gloucester and changed the weather to help us shoot, brought us good light, good winds, good luck. I love everyone who made this film with me for their madness. You will see in our work all the care we have for it, and the hope it gives us moving forwards as the next generation of filmmakers, into these weird times. We achieved something we felt was perhaps impossible, something we were told was impossible, something larger than any one of us - and now here we stand, hand in hand. Therein lies our pride.

The film's genesis comes from my hometown, from my first loves growing up, and of course from films. The borderland between myth and the present, the thin line between the past and now, in rural England, walking through the landscape, often feels so powerful it makes me cry. There is a hauntedness to the wet green hills and forests, something that speaks of a connection we are swiftly losing, and cannot afford to lose. The ecological threads of the film tie in directly with the mythical ones - the notion of a return, both dramatically and thematically was something I was unable to shake. Besides this, as Paul Thomas Anderson says, somehow I just end up making films about dysfunctional families, the mother, the father, the child. I guess that's what the film is really about; how the land shapes us, a love letter to mothers, and how, hiding somewhere, between the cracks, is something illogical, something in the form of dream and memory and poetry that is older than us, and that speaks to us about this land we live on, and this borrowed time we live in. I am humbled and excited to be sharing our debut work with you.

Fridtjof Ryder



## Cast

### Mark Rylance / Dunleavy

Sir Mark Rylance is a one-time Oscar and three time BAFTA winning actor, with a legendary and beloved career on the stage and screen. Mark's upcoming projects include the role of Satan in Terence Malick's biblical epic *Way of the Wind*, a recent leading role alongside Timothee Chalamet and Taylor Russell in Luca Guadagnino's *Bones and All*, and in Brady Corbet's 20th century picaresque *The Brutalist*, starring alongside Joel Edgerton, Marion Cotillard, Isach de Bankole and Vanessa Kirby. *The Outfit*, in which he plays the lead role, recently world premiered at Berlinale. Mark's work with brilliant projects and directors stretches far back into the past. He has led a number of films for Steven Spielberg, with whom he has a deep and close relationship, ranging from *Bridge of Spies* (for which he won best supporting actor) to *The BFG*, playing the titular character, with a premiere at Cannes Film Festival in 2016.

Mark has also had leading and supporting roles in films such as Adam McKay's smash hit ecological drama *Don't Look Up*, alongside Meryl Streep, Leonardo Dicaprio and Jonah Hill and Aaron Sorkin's six-time Oscar nominated *Trial of the Chicago 7*. In the same year he starred alongside Robert Pattinson and Johnny Depp in Ciro Guerra's JM Coetzee adaptation, *Waiting for the Barbarians*, which premiered in Venice, whilst the year before playing a lead role in Christopher Nolan's extraordinary *Dunkirk*. Prior to this Mark's credits range from a BAFTA winning role in the acclaimed miniseries *Wolf Hall* to Patrice Chereau's Berlinale and Sundance award winning *Intimacy*. His work in the theatre, in the role of Johnny Rooster Byron in Jez Butterworth's *Jerusalem* won him worldwide acclaim and Tony and Olivier awards. He played leading roles in Lukas Haas' Cannes-premiering *Angels & Insects* and also in Peter Greenaway's Cannes entry *Prospero's Books*. Alongside taking a lead role in Fridtjof's *Inland*, he has nurtured the young director and his work, executive producing the film and building a close relationship with Fridtjof. They have plans to work together again in the future.



### **Rory Alexander / The Man**

Rory is an extraordinary young actor, having freshly graduated from the Bristol Old Vic drama school and directly into his first leading role. Fridtjof's *Inland* highlights Rory's talents in his first major screen appearance, blossoming in intense dialogue exchanges beside one of the world's greatest living actors and deftly carrying a feature film. Rory's credits include Danny Boyle's much anticipated Sex Pistols's series *Pistol*, a supporting role in Justin Chadwick's upcoming feature film *Untamed*, and IMDBTV's *Alex Rider* series. His stage credits include *The Nether* and *Peer Gynt* alongside *August Osage County* and *The Laramie Project*. Rory is a major talent with a brilliant career ahead of him, proving himself for the first time in his debut leading role.

### **Kathryn Hunter / Eliza 'Lizzie' Heron (voice of)**

Kathryn Hunter is a deeply respected character actor, with an extensive history both in experimental theatre, with Simon McBurney's famous Complicité troupe, and also on screen. Kathryn's role as the three witches in Joel Coen's *The Tragedy of Macbeth* has brought her international recognition, premiering at NYFF and LFF, now trailing three academy awards. Kathryn won the New York Film Critics Circle Award for Best Supporting Actress for the same role. She has an upcoming role in Yorgos Lanthimos' *Poor Things* alongside Emma Stone and Willem Dafoe and was most recently seen in Disney's series *Andor*, tarring alongside Diego Luna and Stellan Skarsgård. Kathryn's past film credits include Mike Leigh's Palme d'Or nominated *All Or Nothing* and Peter Greenaway's Cannes and Toronto player *The Baby of Macon*. She also has a supporting role alongside Michaela Coel in Hugo Blick's critically acclaimed *Black Earth Rising*.



### **Shaun Dingwall / John**

Shaun Dingwall is a respected British character actor, having played a number of key roles in British television over the last decade. Shaun embodied the role of Jack Dorn in the BBC hit series *Noughts & Crosses* and the much loved role of Pete Tyler, father to Rose played by Billie Piper, in the iconic *Doctor Who* series. Alongside this Shaun has proved his worth in worldwide phenomenon *Top Boy*, Rowan Atkinson starrer *Maigret* and *Above Suspicion*, co-starring alongside Ciaran Hinds and Kelly Reilly. Shaun's film work includes *Goodbye Christopher Robin* alongside Margot Robbie and BIFA nominated *Villa des Roses*, directed by Frank Van Passel.

### **Alexander Lincoln / Tom**

Alexander Lincoln has made a name for himself in television over the last few years, growing a large fanbase and body of work. After starring alongside George MacKay in the award-winning short *Infinite*, Alex's credits include a long-standing role on the infamous television serial *Emmerdale*, a leading role in independent feature *As I am* and has recently come to the fore with the acclaimed drama *In From the Side* which premiered at BFI Flare 2022 and has earned him multiple 'Best Actor' wins at regional festivals. Alex continues to expand his credits and output.

### **Nell Williams / Daisy**

A brilliant young actor, Nell had a supporting role on the phenomenon show *Game Of Thrones*, which catapulted her into the public eye in 2015. Following this she has played key roles in Gurinder Chadha's *Blinded by the Light*, the Anna Friel-starring miniseries *Deep Water* and played alongside Ian McKellen and Helen Mirren in *The Good Liar*, and BAFTA winning *Elizabeth Is Missing* with British screen legend Glenda Jackson.



## Credits

Written and Directed by  
**Fridtjof Ryder**

Produced by  
**Henry Richmond**  
**Louis Paine**  
**Fridtjof Ryder**

Executive Producers  
**Trudie Styler**  
**Sam Tromans**  
**Ian Dawson**  
**Zak Brilliant**  
**Guy Davies**  
**Matt Cook**  
**Toby Cook**  
**Thomas Atherton**  
**Dougal Mackenzie Smith**  
**Shaun Dingwall**

Director of Photography  
**Ravi Doubleday**

Production Design  
**Ian Blackwell**

Costume Design  
**Ben Butling**

Edited by  
**Lincoln Witter**  
**Joe Walton**

Original Score by  
**Bartholomew Mason**

Supervising Sound Editor  
**Dominika Latusek**  
**Christopher Wilson**

1st Assistant Director  
**Sarah Arzoine Laurent**



## Crew

Mark Rylance / Dunleavy

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