

TURNSHOE

# THE ENEMY



A Film by Harry Boast

2016 / United Kingdom / English / 110 Minutes

## **Synopsis**

Romeo and Juliet are alive. For eighteen years and nine months, less a day, the star-crossed lovers lived in exile far from Verona. Now their hiding place is known, and the epic warring families are out for blood.

The greatest love story ever told is about to be reborn.

### **Press and Sales Contacts:**

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## Director's Statement

This film is about more than love. It's about Love, with a capital L, the most attractive and destructive bond between two humans. What director wouldn't find such a potent theme irresistible? Love so fierce, so violent, so obsessive and so unavoidable that it has the power to destroy both Romeo and Juliet, everyone they know, and everything that matters.

I had a very clear idea from first reading the script what I wanted the film to be. This is not Shakespeare. It is not *Romeo and Juliet*. All that is in the past. Because Romeo and Juliet did not die, I needed to explore their future. And I needed to find a way to bring the richness and depth of those characters and their extraordinary changing story across in a world - ours - that is driven by realism, psychology and fate, yet has this fundamental theatrical underpinning.

One unique aspect of the script is that it plays out in real time, and the 110 minutes of the film is the same for the characters as for the audience. This element gives us an intriguing way of finding a dialogue with the audience, simply using our universally intuitive experience of time as a way of immersing everyone in this particular reality.

This impacted greatly on my approach to production. My aim was to give the actors as much freedom as possible. I wanted them to find their rhythm in the performance and treat it as though they were doing a play live, take after take, keeping the camera rolling as they find the key moments and insights that might otherwise remain undiscovered. I made this film because it's a great and truthful story and if there is anything, for me personally, that remotely resembles a sense of duty to film-making, it is to seek for Truth. And that is my Love. With a capital L, of course.



## Long Synopsis

A mysterious stranger, Paris, comes from the shadows. Romeo and Juliet did not die. They fled the tomb and hid in exile in England, at a quiet university. Now eighteen years and nine months less a day have passed, and Paris's long search for the love of his life, Juliet, is ended. Only Romeo stands in his way ...

But for Romeo and Juliet teenage love is distant memory. Middle age crept up on them, but beneath the domestic surface raw passion and intensity smoulder, awaiting the spark to burst into flame. Uncivil disturbance breaks out, the police are called ...

When their teenage daughter Kate brings innocent fiancée Theo home to meet the parents, Romeo and Juliet's past is reborn in the most explosive way. For Romeo killed Theo's father and married Juliet, his enemy, the day after meeting her.

Juliet was thirteen.

On their wedding night, Kate was conceived.

Now Romeo and Juliet's hiding place is known.

Will Theo believe their story?

This time revenge, hatred and family vendetta will have no mercy.

Paris swears to kill Romeo and marry Juliet. Loyal Capulet thugs Gregorio and Samson vow to drag Juliet back to her father as Romeo's widow. And Balthasar ... can Romeo really trust his old friend Balthasar?

Can Juliet?

When the lights go out, murder meets mayhem in a romantic tragedy for our time and all time.



## Cast Bios

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### ***Grant Russell - Romeo***

Grant completed his Acting course in 2010 and has been performing regularly in theatre ever since. He started a long association with Fourth Monkey Theatre Company with whom he has performed with in at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival including *The Elephant Man* and *The Threepenny Opera*.

### ***Chloe Addiscott - Juliet***

Chloe has a degree in Theatre and has been cast in numerous theatrical productions. Her credits include Edinburgh Fringe Festival runs with *The Elephant Man* and *Night At The Circus* as well as a London season performing *Love of a Nightingale*, both of which were with Fourth Monkey Theatre Company.

### ***Carly Davies - Kate***

Carly trained at University of Wales Trinity Saint David and graduated in 2013. Passionate about performing on stage, Carly is keen on pursuing a career in inclusive theatre along with Theatre in Education and touring theatre. *The Enemy* marks Carly's first professional production as an actor.

### ***Sam Harding - Theo***

Sam is an actor who has several theatre and film credits to his name. He has starred in films that have been screened at film festivals around the world, including Cannes. His recent credits include *Theatre of Fear* and the upcoming *Poltergeist Activity*. He has also toured the country with many theatrical productions including *Of Mice and Men* and *An Inspector Calls*.



## **Film-maker Bios**

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### ***Harry Boast - Director***

Harry, showcasing his debut feature film, has been working as an independent film maker for 5 years after setting up Turnshoe with Caylee Coote. They have since gone on to make numerous short films including *185 Seconds*, *Previous*, *Still Life* and *Zero*, all of which have screened at film festivals in the UK and abroad.

### ***Caylee Coote - Producer***

Caylee has been producing films since 2010 and co-founded Turnshoe. In that time she has produced several short films and also worked on Hollywood films such as *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*. One particular role was running a film club with established film critic Mark Kermode.

### ***Philip Boast - Writer***

*The Enemy* scriptwriter Philip Boast wrote his first published book when he was 20. Fifteen bestselling novels later, including *Era*, *Sion* and *Resurrection*, followed by the *Quistus* detective series, he was approached by Turnshoe to originate their latest project, a radical popular reimagining of the world's greatest historical love story - a story for all times transformed into a legend for our time.

# Q&A with the Director

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- ***What/who were your influences when making this film?***

There were many influences. Because I was approaching this as a director and cinematographer, I was taking influences from all kinds of films and directors. I'd say one of my biggest influences for this particular project was probably Paul Greengrass, who being from a documentary background, really carries that 'hand held' style in to his work. His films have a great sense of the camera actually being in the scene, as if it was just lucky that the camera was rolling as the events unfold. I wanted that effect of using the camera as a player, engulfed by the events that are happening around it. I find that kind of cinematography really engrossing and enables you to move the camera like your mind moves, capturing the spontaneity of the moment.

- ***If you could do it again what would you do differently?***

I wouldn't necessarily do anything differently, but I would have liked to have had a longer rehearsal period. Because of the shooting schedule there wasn't a great deal of wiggle room to experiment and play with the material a whole lot. We had two days rehearsal in total and then ran one or two of the longer scenes before a take just so the actors could find their rhythm.

- ***The film is shot in real time, mirroring the 110 minutes of the story's events. Why did you choose to tell the story this way?***

One of the most important things was because of the theatrical nature of the film and characters, it had to do one thing more than anything else. It had to feel real. There are many different elements that go in to achieving that. But it isn't just about filming 'hand held' or making sure the actor's performances fit that particular world. The overall structure and tone had to pull us in to that environment and so by making it so the scenes all stitch together in that 'real time' structure it enables the audience to feel that the events are happening as they watching it.

- ***What was the most difficult scene to shoot?***

Probably the fight scene between Romeo and Balthasar. It was hard to film that with any kind of momentum or rhythm because it was very much a stop-start process making sure we captured all the details, swords flying on to the floor, hands grabbing cheese wire, that sort of thing!

- ***Tell us about the casting process for the film.***

With Romeo and Juliet we had two people in mind from the start, the film was written for both Grant and Chloe. Philip had written it for them because they were perfect and the idea was built around them from the start because he'd seen them work together on a Turnshoe short film called *Zero*. They are both very capable character actors but they also have a terrific chemistry between them which is essential when approaching a casting like Romeo and Juliet. Sam Harding, who plays Theo, we knew from a previous project and felt would be perfect for the role. Carly was the first person we auditioned and blew us away. We knew pretty quickly she would be the perfect fit for Kate. She had energy, charisma and was clearly a hard worker. Her and Sam had a few meetings beforehand and got along very well and were able to develop a great chemistry between them as well.

- ***Why Romeo & Juliet? What's different about your story?***

I, personally, had never seen a film like this before. We were taking Romeo and Juliet to a specific time in the future where we felt there was a lot of material to dig in to. I think the main difference though is this is not Romeo and Juliet. The play has been done in a million different ways and pulled apart in every possible way. This was something new, something fresh. I wanted to see these characters put in to a world where they had never been before and see what it looks like, it's a completely new universe for these incredibly rich characters.

- ***How many shooting days was the film?***

We had a total of 14 days shooting, with the bulk shot in March 2014 and then after we needed to do some re-shoots with scattered shoot days after that.

- ***Can you tell us about a scene that turned out better on-set than you imagined when reading the script?***

I think the Samson and Gregorio introduction scene. Although I loved it in the script, the shoot really surpassed my expectations. Alan and James worked so well together, they really jumped in to the characters and played and experimented with the material. They made those characters their own.

## Cast & Crew

<b>Romeo</b>	<b>Grant Russell</b>	<b>Director</b>	<b>Harry Boast</b>
<b>Juliet</b>	<b>Chloe Addiscott</b>	<b>Producer</b>	<b>Caylee Coote</b>
<b>Kate</b>	<b>Carly Davies</b>	<b>Writer</b>	<b>Philip Boast</b>
<b>Theo</b>	<b>Sam Harding</b>	<b>Edit &amp; DOP</b>	<b>Harry Boast</b>
<b>Balthasar</b>	<b>Robyn Griffiths</b>	<b>Make-Up</b>	<b>Joanne Shackley</b>
<b>Paris</b>	<b>Michael Scott</b>	<b>Sound</b>	<b>Dan C. Smith</b>
<b>Gregorio</b>	<b>James Bryant</b>		<b>Jake Cannon</b>
<b>Samson</b>	<b>Alan Humphreys</b>		<b>Tom Gripper</b>
<b>PCSO Sly</b>	<b>Charlotte Hall</b>	<b>Prod Team</b>	<b>Shannon Walsh</b>
<b>PCSO Christine</b>	<b>Anja Conti</b>		<b>Bethan Lilley</b>
<b>Kid on Bus</b>	<b>Stuart Waters</b>		<b>Izzy Coote</b>

## Special Thanks to

**Sian Addiscott**

**Adam Sillman**

## Links

**Official Website: [www.enemymovie.co.uk](http://www.enemymovie.co.uk)**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/TheEnemyFilm](https://facebook.com/TheEnemyFilm)**

**Twitter: [twitter.com/enemy\\_movie](https://twitter.com/enemy_movie)**

## **Reviews**

**\*\*\*\* - IndyRed.com**

**“You actually believe you're a fly on the wall, watching these  
"real" people live their lives.”**

**<http://www.indyred.com/the-enemy-review.html>**

## **The Independent Critic**

**“The Enemy is an entertaining, inspired film”**

**[http://theindependentcritic.com/the\\_enemy](http://theindependentcritic.com/the_enemy)**

## **Rogue Cinema**

**“Every actor in this film is absolutely wonderful”**

**<http://www.roguecinema.com/the-enemy-2016-by-misty-layne.html>**

## **Watch This Space Film Magazine**

**“It’s all about trying something new and this film does just that!”**

**<http://www.watchthisspacefilmmagazine.co.uk/2016/02/02/the-enemy-2015/>**

**Filmed on location in Swansea, UK**

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