



Media Release – 21st November 2019



Inaugural UK Ghost Story Festival takes place in Derby in November

The first edition of the UK Ghost Story Festival (UKGSF) will be taking place in Derby this month at QUAD and Museum at the Wardwick venues. With Derby's reputation as one of the UK's most haunted cities, the festival to be an atmospheric weekend bringing into focus one of the most popular forms of fiction. Taking place over the last weekend in November (29th – 1st December), the festival promises three days of readings, author interviews, screenings, workshops and panel discussions.

Headline authors for the event include acclaimed writer and anthologist **Johnny Mains**, who will be discussing female ghost story authors in the Victorian era. Multiple award-winning folk horror author **Adam LG Nevill** launching his new novel *The Reddening*. There will also be interviews with two of the most exciting modern names in supernatural fiction, with **Laura Purcell** (*The Silent Companions*, *The Corset*, *Bone China*) and **Andrew Michael Hurley** (*The Loney*, *Devil's Day*, *Starve Acre*). The event will close with an interview with popular crime and supernatural horror writer **Martyn Waites**, author of *The Old Religion* and *The Woman in Black: Angel of Death*.

The festival will see a host of workshops and panel discussions for aspiring writers, looking at subjects such as 'The Elements of a Ghost Story', 'A Ghost Story Primer', 'The Relevance of Ghost Stories Today' and 'Developing a Great Ghost Story' among others.

Film fans will have the chance to attend a Friday night triple-header screening at the Museum at the Wardwick, beginning with ghost story classic *The Innocents* (12A) (inspired by Henry James's iconic *The Turn Of The Screw*), followed by Tim Burton's cult favourite *Beetlejuice* (12A) and concluding with Japanese masterpiece of suspense *Ring* (15). The Ghost Story Festival films take place on Friday 29th November from 6:00pm. Individual film tickets are: £9.50, £7 concessions, or £3.50 for 16 to 25 year olds. Triple Bill tickets are: £19 or £14 concessions and available from QUAD Box office. An



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insightful double-bill documentary film screening looking at two of MR James's most famous ghost stories, perfect for fans of one of the maestros of the form. **Documentary Screenings: Wits in Felixstowe & Dim Presences (Advised 12A)** takes place in QUAD Cinema on Sunday 1st December at 1:45pm. Tickets are £10.

Alex Davis, Literature Officer for QUAD and UKGSF Co-Ordinator said:

"It's such a thrill to be able to bring the UK Ghost Story Festival to Derby. I've been a fan of the genre for as long as I can remember, and I'm delighted to be able to bring so much of the very best modern writers in the field for the weekend. Whether you're a writer, a reader or a film fan there's be something for you over the three days!"

Tickets are available for the individual events and screenings. Ghost Story Festival passes are available for Saturday only: £35, full weekend passes are: £55.

For more information, visit <https://www.derbyquad.co.uk/UKGhostStoryFestival> or call QUAD Box Office on 01332 290606.

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Notes to Editors

For any queries or press enquiries, contact Alex Davis at alex@derbyquad.co.uk

QUAD is Derby's centre for art and film, on the Market Place in Derby city centre. QUAD is a gallery, cinema, café bar and workshop that anyone can use. QUAD is a partnership between Derby City Council and Arts Council England. See www.derbyquad.co.uk for more information. <http://twitter.com/derbyquad>

For further information on this event, or any other issue relating to QUAD, please contact Kathy Wilson on 01332 285422 (mobile 07791441941) or email kathyW@derbyquad.co.uk