
AUTHORS

Thomas Vinterberg (Denmark)

Thomas Vinterberg (né 1969) is an award winning Danish film director and playwright. He graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 1993, together with Lars von Trier, Søren Kragh-Jacobsen and Kristian Levring, he is one of the four original Dogme brothers. His international breakthrough “The Celebration” (1998), the first film adhering to the Dogme concept, won the Jury Award in Cannes, and his two English-language films that followed, “It’s All About Love” (2003) and “Dear Wendy” (2005), were selected for Sundance. In 2010 “Submarino” was selected for the main competition of the Berlin Film Festival, and the film won the Nordic Council Film Prize. Selected for Cannes Competition 2012, “The Hunt” won Best Actor award (Mads Mikkelsen), the Ecumenical Jury award, and the Prix Vulcain, it was nominated for the Academy Awards 2014 in the Best Foreign Film category. Vinterberg made his debut as a playwright with “The Funeral” premiering at the prominent Burgtheater in 2010 followed by “The Commune” in 2012. He is currently working on a third commission for the Burgtheater as well as directing his next film: Far From the Madding Crowd, starring Carey Mulligan and Tom Sturridge. We represent his plays and any adaptations of his films.

Titles

FESTEN

The Celebration takes place in rural Denmark as family members assemble for the 60th birthday celebration of patriarch Helge. At the family estate are Helge's children: France-based restaurateur Christian, whose twin sister killed herself; Helene, their sister and younger brother Michael who is married with three children. At the birthday dinner, Christian who is embittered stands to deliver a toast, but instead he makes a startling speech accusing Helge of sexual abuse involving both twins. "The Celebration" won the Jury Prize at the 1998 Cannes Film Festival and the dramatization has been staged all over the world.

THE COMMUNE

The action takes place in Copenhagen in 1975. Erik – an architect – has inherited his childhood home, a huge villa, from his parents. Erik decides to form a commune with his wife, Anna, their teenage-daughter Freja and their best friend, Ole; the commune is to be based on the contemporary hippie ideals. Hence a colourful group of people are invited to move in. Amongst them is the free spirited Emma with whom Erik starts a relationship which leads to a cruel expulsion of Anna from the commune. The Commune is a warm and generous look into the hippie spirit of the 70s. The play opened at Vienna's Burgtheater in 2011.

THE FUNERAL

"The Funeral" is the continuation of the award winning film and the play: "The Celebration". The story takes place in a beach hotel ten years after the tragic events portrayed in "The Celebration". Helge has died. His wife Else and their children Christian, Michael and Helene are being reunited for the first time in ten years at their father's funeral. This get-together is taking place in the very same building, in which Christian – on Helge's 60th birthday – had made severely accusations against his father, claiming that he and his twin sister had been sexually abused by him for years when they were small children. Back then, Christian's brother Michael had beaten up his father in the morning after the birthday party and thrown him out of the house. Christian has arrived with his wife Pia for the funeral. They have come from Paris; Michael is bringing his new girlfriend Sofie and Henning, a son from his first marriage. Kim, the cook, is catering to the needs of the mourners at the abandoned hotel. But suddenly, mysterious events are happening, there seems to be a curse on the family, putting everyone's nerves to the test. "The Funeral" had its world premiere at Vienna's Burghtheatre in 2010.