

WUTHERING HEIGHTS

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WUTHERING HEIGHTS

INTRODUCTION

Leading screen and television writer Peter Bowker has adapted the world famous love story of Emily Bronte's ***Wuthering Heights*** for ITV1.

The haunting and gothic novel is a shocking and passionate portrayal of ungoverned love and cruelty across desolate landscapes with two of the most memorable lovers in literature. **Tom Hardy** plays dark and brooding Heathcliff alongside newcomer **Charlotte Riley** as Cathy.

Acclaimed television actress **Sarah Lancashire** takes on the role of housekeeper Nelly, while **Andrew Lincoln** is Edgar, Cathy's forlorn husband. **Burn Gorman** stars as Cathy's brother Hindley, and **Kevin R. McNally** plays Mr Earnshaw.

In a new interpretation of the story, the role of Church Organist, **John Cowpe**, takes on a much greater significance in revealing Heathcliff's essential nature.

Multi-award winning writer, Peter Bowker has written some of the most original dramas of the past decade, including *Blackpool*, *Flesh and Blood*, *Buried Treasure* and *Occupation*.

Wuthering Heights is executive produced by Michele Buck and Damien Timmer from Mammoth Screen, writer Peter Bowker and Hugo Heppell from Screen Yorkshire. The 2 x 90 minute film is directed by Coky Giedroyc and produced by Radford Neville.

Michele and Damien's recent credits include *Lost in Austen*, Agatha Christie's *Marple*, the Inspector Morse spin off *Lewis* and the BAFTA winning *Housewife 49* starring Victoria Wood.

Damien Timmer said: "***Wuthering Heights*** is one of the greatest love stories in literature. We've assembled a first class team to capture all of the novel's rawness and passion."

Michele Buck added: "Peter Bowker is one of the country's leading contemporary writers and we are privileged to be working with him. He has written a highly emotional piece that remains true to Emily Bronte's epic story."

Peter Bowker remarked: "I was thrilled to be asked to adapt one of the great English novels. Mammoth Screen are the perfect company to work with on a project as adventurous and bold as this. In Charlotte Riley I believe we have found the perfect Cathy and Tom Hardy has the power and charisma to be the definitive Heathcliff. It is also really exciting to bring the major musical and acting talents of newcomer John Cowpe to the screen for the first time"

Wuthering Heights was commissioned by Laura Mackie and Sally Haynes, ITV's drama commissioning team and is supported by **Screen Yorkshire** through its Production Fund.

Wuthering Heights will be available to own on DVD this autumn.

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CAST LIST

HEATHCLIFF	TOM HARDY
CATHY EARNSHAW	CHARLOTTE RILEY
EDGAR LINTON	ANDREW LINCOLN
NELLY	SARAH LANCASHIRE
CHURCH ORGANIST	JOHN COWPE
HINDLEY EARNSHAW	BURN GORMAN
ISABELLA LINTON	ROSALIND HALSTEAD
CATHERINE LINTON	REBECCA NIGHT
LINTON HEATHCLIFF	TOM PAYNE
HARETON EARNSHAW	ANDREW HAWLEY
MR EARNSHAW	KEVIN R. MCNALLY
JOSEPH	DES MCALEER
DR KENNETH	SHAUGHAN SEYMOUR
FRANCES	SIA BERKELEY
SAUL	BARNABY KAY
SHEPHERD	JACK O'CONNELL
GREEN	STEVE FURST
ROBERT	JOHN HOLLINGSWORTH
YOUNG HEATHCLIFF	DECLAN WHEELDON
YOUNG CATHY	ALEXANDRA PEARSON
YOUNG HINDLEY	JOSEPH TAYLOR
YOUNG HARETON	NICO DEVITTORIS

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THE CHARACTERS

HEATHCLIFF (Tom Hardy) was orphaned at an early age and rescued from the streets of Liverpool by Mr Earnshaw. He grows up at *Wuthering Heights* with Cathy and her brother Hindley. Blamed by Hindley for Mr Earnshaw's withdrawal from society, Heathcliff finds it difficult to escape his wretched beginnings. He is wild and uncultivated and his passion can turn to anger. His temper is fierce and his instinct can be savage. Heathcliff forms a strong and everlasting bond of friendship and love with Cathy from which he can never be separated.

CATHY EARNSHAW (Charlotte Riley) is the daughter of Mr Earnshaw. She becomes close to Heathcliff after her brother Hindley is sent away to school. Cathy loves being outdoors. She is free spirited and untamed and is attracted to Heathcliff's wild nature. After spending time with Edgar Linton at Thrushcross Grange, Cathy returns to *Wuthering Heights* transformed into a sophisticated young woman and Heathcliff does not recognise her. Cathy marries Edgar but can never escape from her love for Heathcliff.

EDGAR LINTON (Andrew Lincoln) is kind and well meaning. The son of a magistrate, he is refined and courteous. He lives at home on his family estate of Thrushcross Grange. Edgar falls in love with Cathy and after three years of courting they marry. After Cathy's death he finds solace in the company of his daughter, Catherine. He is an affectionate and devoted father.

CHURCH ORGANIST (John Cowpe) is a mysterious and slightly sinister figure who plays a key role in revealing Heathcliff's essential nature, reflecting the subjective/objective duality that haunts all transitional phenomena and suggesting both Heathcliff's "external" personification of tormenting trickster and his "internal" representation of psychological development

HINDLEY EARNSHAW (Burn Gorman) is the brother of Cathy and is distrustful of Heathcliff from the beginning. Having gained a good education, Hindley inherits *Wuthering Heights* with his wife Frances. His demise begins after Frances dies and he struggles to be a good father to his son, Hareton. Hindley is a victim of Heathcliff's revenge.

MR EARNSHAW (Kevin R. McNally) is the father of Cathy and Hindley. Mr Earnshaw rescues the young orphan Heathcliff from the streets of Liverpool. He is a kind and caring father and is frustrated by the judgemental society around him who look down on young Heathcliff. Despite hearing Hindley's concerns, he believes that a man does not counter prejudice by agreeing with his persecutors and so chooses to withdraw from society.

NELLY (Sarah Lancashire) is the maidservant of Cathy, Hindley and Heathcliff at *Wuthering Heights* and later of Catherine, at Thrushcross Grange. She is the eyes and ears of both houses and watches over everyone. Nelly is a voice of guidance and council to all those whom she raises and in particular to Cathy.

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JOSEPH (Des McAleer) is the pious servant of *Wuthering Heights* and unsuccessfully attempts to educate Heathcliff in the ways of God. Joseph is like a piece of the furniture at *Wuthering Heights* that ages year by year but is firmly rooted.

ISABELLA LINTON (Rosalind Halstead) is the sister of Edgar Linton and is cultured and well educated in all matters of society. She longs to be courted by a handsome and rich admirer and while she enjoys frivolous fun she wishes to be taken seriously by those around her. Her life changes course when she marries Heathcliff and she is exposed to a darker world than the one she is used to.

CATHERINE LINTON (Rebecca Night) is the daughter of Cathy and Edgar. Like her mother, Catherine is free-spirited and loves the outdoors. She is inquisitive and longs to know more about her mother's history. Her love for her father is deep rooted but she is secretly aware that he has protected her from many of life's truths. When she meets Heathcliff, she faces the shocking reality of her mother's past. Catherine marries Heathcliff's son, Linton, but after his death she becomes close to Hareton, finding his wild ways endearing.

HARETON EARNSHAW (Andrew Hawley) is the son of Hindley and Frances. Frances died in childbirth and Hindley rejects Hareton as a child. He grows up at *Wuthering Heights* where Heathcliff takes him under his wing. Hareton finds much pleasure in the company of the family dogs. Hareton likes Catherine Linton and after her husband dies they spend much time together and grow close.

LINTON HEATHCLIFF (Tom Payne) is the son of Heathcliff and Isabella. Linton grew up with his mother, who left Heathcliff while she was still pregnant. When Isabella dies Linton is sent to Thrushcross Grange to be with his uncle Edgar, but Heathcliff soon insists that Linton lives with him at *Wuthering Heights*. Linton is weak and dying when he arrives at the Heights and is a puppet in Heathcliff's plan of revenge on Edgar. He is forced to marry Catherine Linton. Linton is fond of Catherine but shortly after their marriage his sickness worsens and he dies.

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EPISODE SYNOPSES

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EPISODE ONE

In the depths of *Wuthering Heights*, Heathcliff (**Tom Hardy**) is tormented by his memory of Cathy (**Charlotte Riley**), his deceased lover and eternal soul mate.

It is 1848 and 18 years after Cathy's death when Heathcliff exacts a nefarious plan of revenge on Cathy's husband and his neighbour of Thrushcross Grange, Edgar Linton (**Andrew Lincoln**). Heathcliff's son, Linton (**Tom Payne**), has recently arrived at *Wuthering Heights* after the death of his mother – Edgar's sister. Edgar and Cathy's daughter, Catherine (**Rebecca Night**), believes her cousin is many miles away but Heathcliff entraps Catherine at *Wuthering Heights* where she discovers Linton and learns that Heathcliff plans to force them into marriage and become the rightful owner of Thrushcross Grange. Edgar is close to death and is heartbroken to consider that he may lose his daughter to Heathcliff's iniquitous control. Catherine's presence evokes Heathcliff's early memory of Cathy and his arrival at *Wuthering Heights*...

In 1815, Mr Earnshaw (**Kevin McNally**) returns from Liverpool with an orphan, Heathcliff. Earnshaw's son, Hindley (**Burn Gorman**), resents Heathcliff while his sister, Cathy, befriends him. Mr Earnshaw withdraws from society and Hindley is sent to boarding school for a better education. Thus begins a journey of wild-spirited freedom for Cathy and Heathcliff amidst the Yorkshire moors, and the beginning of a bond from which they will never be separated.

Ten years later, Mr Earnshaw dies and Hindley returns to inherit *Wuthering Heights* with his wife, Frances (**Sia Berkeley**). Heathcliff is forced to live in the stables, watched by the pious servant Joseph (**Des McAleer**) and forbidden to attend Mr Earnshaw's funeral. Heathcliff and Cathy plan to escape together but Cathy is attacked by a dog while spying on the Lintons and after spending five weeks recovering at Thrushcross Grange she returns to the Heights transformed into a sophisticated young woman.

Nelly (**Sarah Lancashire**), the loyal maidservant at *Wuthering Heights*, observes Cathy as she becomes increasingly torn between her love for Heathcliff and Edgar Linton's admiration. When Edgar mistakes Heathcliff for a servant, Heathcliff's temper is ignited but his outbreak leads to punishment and Hindley flogs him. Frances dies during childbirth and Hindley's demise begins.

Edgar proposes to Cathy. She must choose a life of comfort and wealth as Mrs Linton or succumb to her love for Heathcliff. Believing that Cathy has already betrayed him in her heart, Heathcliff leaves Gimmerton while Cathy tells Nelly that nothing can ever separate them.

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After three years of waiting for Heathcliff to return, Cathy marries Edgar. At the wedding a boy passes a note to Cathy. It reads, 'I know you have betrayed me.' Heathcliff has returned to Gimmerton transformed into a wealthy and handsome suitor with plans of revenge.

EPISODE TWO

The day after Cathy and Edgar's wedding, Heathcliff surprises Nelly by arriving at Thrushcross Grange unannounced. Cathy is elated and begs Edgar to be welcoming, but Edgar is wary of the timely coincidence. Heathcliff's inappropriate behaviour does little to quench Edgar's hostility and Heathcliff's encouragement of Isabella's admiring comments further provokes Cathy and Edgar's sense of uneasiness. Cathy and Edgar go to bed together for the first time.

With his newfound wealth, Heathcliff seeks revenge on Hindley. He rents Cathy's old room at **Wuthering Heights** and encourages Hindley's gambling habits.

Cathy and Heathcliff's love for one another is insurmountable. Alone on the moors together, Heathcliff can see that there is guilt in her eyes. He knows that she has slept with Edgar and his outrage fills Cathy with an overwhelming sense of betrayal.

Heathcliff's appetite for revenge grows and Hindley is coerced into selling more land. Heathcliff's courtship of Isabella (**Rosalind Halstead**) leads to a furious argument with Cathy. Edgar's attempt to force Heathcliff to leave is met by Cathy's hostility and Heathcliff's vicious retaliation. Only Cathy's words can persuade Heathcliff to desist. Edgar tells Cathy that if she wishes to remain friends with Heathcliff she must also leave but Cathy reveals that she is pregnant with Edgar's child.

Isabella informs Heathcliff of Cathy's pregnancy and they leave Gimmerton together to marry. Heathcliff knows that he can never be free from his love for Cathy. When they return to **Wuthering Heights**, Heathcliff learns that Cathy has become gravely ill. Cathy and Heathcliff are reunited one night at Penistone Crag amidst a raging storm. A search party find them and Edgar and Nelly take Cathy back to the Grange.

Heathcliff comes violently close to killing Hindley and Isabella leaves him. Isabella tells Edgar that she is pregnant with Heathcliff's child but Edgar refuses to help. Heathcliff persuades Nelly to let him see Cathy and holds her dying body in his arms until Edgar arrives. As Cathy breathes her last breath, Heathcliff waits in the garden. Cathy's baby daughter, Catherine, lives.

Eighteen years pass and Edgar is dying. Heathcliff has forced Catherine to marry his son, Linton, and upon Edgar's death, Heathcliff takes over the Grange. Linton has been sick for months and dies only weeks after their marriage. Catherine lives at **Wuthering Heights** with Nelly and Hareton, the late Hindley's son. Heathcliff continues to be tormented by his memory of Cathy. Catherine grows fond of Hareton and when Heathcliff's life comes to a sudden end there seems to be some hope of happiness for Catherine and Hareton's future together.

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CHARLOTTE RILEY PLAYS CATHY

Where were you when you found out that you would be playing the iconic role of Cathy?

At the time I was in theatre appearing in *The Cherry Orchard* in Chichester. When I spoke to my agent and found out that I would be playing Cathy I was delighted. I remember running outside into the courtyard, where Diana Rigg and Maureen Lipman were stood talking, and I screamed with happiness. I couldn't believe it. I rang my mum and dad and my close friends who had all invested so much in me getting this role, so it felt like an amazing triumph for us all.

What drew you to the role of Cathy?

I adored Peter's adaptation of the drama. Being a northerner and playing such an iconic character was a big appeal. It's the first role I have played where my accent is similar to the character.

Had you read the book prior to your casting?

Although I had an awareness of the story I hadn't actually read the book. I received the scripts 2-3 days prior to the casting so I just rehearsed and read the dialogue given to me.

When I found out that I would be playing Cathy I read the book three times. The first time I read it was on holiday in Spain before filming began. I remember being on a boat in the glorious sunshine, but feeling as though I was somewhere else completely.

Were you nervous at the prospect of playing such an iconic role?

Wuthering Heights is a very special story to many people and everyone has their own interpretation of what Heathcliff and Cathy represent. The writer, Peter Bowker, has adapted the story so it's not the book verbatim. Playing any iconic role you just have to go with your instinct and maintain the confidence that you are creating a character and story the writer and director have envisaged.

Did you make reference to the book when filming?

I referred to the book continually throughout filming as preparation before scenes. A lot of the language that Peter has kept in our adaptation is very true to the novel, so it was always very interesting to find those passages and look at the context it was spoken in.

Tell us about Cathy.

Cathy is the daughter of Mr Earnshaw (Kevin McNally) and the sister of Hindley (Burn Gorman). When her father takes in a young orphan boy, Heathcliff, and her brother is sent away to boarding school, Cathy becomes very close to Heathcliff and they form a strong bond together. The pair together are unruly.

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Cathy seeks adventure outdoors and is very attracted to Heathcliff's wild nature which Nelly (Sarah Lancashire) is unable to control.

Did the wild landscape help get you in to character?

There is something very specific and unique about the Yorkshire moors and how the landscape makes you who you are, especially for Cathy and Heathcliff who live in complete isolation. The director, Coky Giedroyc, was very inspired by westerns, drawing upon their vast bleak landscapes which are an integral part of Cathy and Heathcliff's relationship.

Charlotte Riley continues...

Were you able to relate to Cathy?

It's important when developing a character to try and find similarities. Being from the north east I was able to relate to the vast beautiful countryside. For me, climbing trees and being a bit of a tomboy in my younger days are what I have in common with Cathy.

How does your interpretation of Cathy compare to your predecessors?

I wanted my portrayal of Cathy to be grounded and have an earthy feel about her. From memory no one seems to have played Cathy as a northerner, so I felt I could explore this aspect of her character. You have to believe you will bring something to the role the audience will like and identify with.

At what point in the story does Cathy realise she can't continue her relationship with Heathcliff?

For me it's when Cathy is bitten by the dog at Thrushcross Grange and she is taken in and cared for by Edgar Linton (Andrew Lincoln) and his sister Isabella (Rosalind Halstead). Both Edgar and Isabella are very well educated, refined and accepted by society. Spending time in their company makes Cathy realise she and Heathcliff can't continue to exist together now they are coming of age.

Why does Cathy agree to marry Edgar if her love for Heathcliff is so strong?

Cathy strongly believes by marrying Edgar she will become the provider in her relationship with Heathcliff. Marrying Edgar will give her the wealth to take care of Heathcliff and without this she has no way of providing for him. Naively, Cathy believes she can still be with Heathcliff, but sadly they can't and she's unable to leave Edgar.

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ANDREW LINCOLN PLAYS EDGAR LINTON

What attracted you to the role?

I really enjoyed reading the scripts when I received them. I thought Peter's adaptation was a very modern take and I wanted to work with the director, Coky Giedroyc. When I first met Coky said she wanted to make *Wuthering Heights* similar to a western. I really liked her direction and the idea that you have the wildness of the Heights and the beautiful landscape, and the cyclical psychology of these two men living on bordering estates warring over one woman, both refusing to back down.

Tell us about Edgar.

Edgar is a beautiful part to play. He's a very respectable man and a viable suitor for Cathy, so I wanted to portray him as a challenge to Heathcliff. In any other circumstances, Edgar and Cathy would have been happily married, but she's inextricably linked to Heathcliff, locked into a primal love which she can't release herself from.

Tell us about Edgar's relationship with Cathy and how it develops.

It's at the point when Cathy is attacked by a dog, when spying on Edgar with Heathcliff at Thrushcross Grange, when their relationship develops. Edgar and his sister, Isabella, take Cathy in and it soon transpires that he is besotted by Cathy in the same way Heathcliff is. Stirring jealousy, Heathcliff leaves town. Cathy and Edgar become close and marry, but when Heathcliff returns three years later Edgar realises nothing has changed between them. He tells Cathy her relationship with Heathcliff must end as he can't withstand the humiliation anymore. Edgar asks Cathy to leave, but because she is carrying his child she stays and they live a lie until her death - she was never his, she was always Heathcliff's.

Had you read the novel?

I read it during my late teens and remember it being a very powerful book. The landscape is so important to the story and I was struck by how evocative the narrative is. I re-read it before filming and had forgotten how brutal it was. It's a dark book and I find it extraordinary that it was written by a teenager.

***Wuthering Heights* is a very intense drama. How did you find filming?**

Every scene is absolutely high stakes, it's unrelenting. All of my scenes were about being cuckolded, or finding out my wife is not in love with me, or that I'm dying - it was a tough shoot for all of us. It was beautiful, though.

Do you enjoy doing period dramas?

Yes, I really enjoy doing research and reading around the relevant period and I love art and history, so culturally I find it fascinating. It helps with the imaginative process when you do period pieces, because you are working on sets in beautiful houses which have been dressed to be factually correct. That's the lovely thing about playing a different period because you're surrounded by sights and smells and hopefully you absorb everything and it informs your performance.

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Andrew Lincoln continues...

Were there any memorable moments from filming?

I fell off a horse on the first day of riding! I do love horses, but he was a steeple jumper. Everyone thought I looked like I knew what I was doing in the saddle, but the poor horse had been stood there for hours and was a bit twitchy with a lot of pent up energy. He just popped me over his front shoulder which is quite a long way to fall, but I think my pride was dented far more than my bottom although there were a few bruises.

What did you think about the moor land locations used for filming?

It was beautiful. The landscape was one of the greatest things about filming. When you're in the middle of wild moors and the wind is blowing, you feel this energy. A lot of filming was shot long lens which meant the camera crew could be very discreet, so we felt very isolated, and very much part of the nature and the wilderness. In my opinion you can't make the drama anywhere else - the landscape, the world they inhabit, the isolation, the ruggedness and the beauty of the landscape is the core of the story.

How did you find working with Charlotte Riley?

Charlotte is terrific and a great actress to work with. It was perfect casting and she's so beautiful – it's a magnetic performance.

Did you enjoy the period costume?

Yes I did. There was a beautiful period before it became Victoriana and restrained, it was very flamboyant and we had romantic billowing sleeves. It was stunning and elegant, and really flattering for the men and the women because it changes the way you stand and move. Wearing waistcoats which are very tight affects your posture and the clothing tells you a lot about the culture.

SARAH LANCASHIRE PLAYS NELLY

What drew you to the role of Nelly?

I thought the drama was perfectly executed and beautifully written by Peter Bowker. I'd worked with the director, Coky Giedroyc before on *Oliver Twist*, who is undoubtedly one of our finest directors, and I really wanted another opportunity to work with her again. In some of the previous adaptations they don't follow the second generation but we do in Peter's, and I really liked the fact he had included this within his scripts.

Were you familiar with the story?

I'd seen the 1939 film starring Laurence Olivier and knew the book so I was aware of the characters, in particular Heathcliff and Cathy as they are at the forefront of this story.

Did you refer to the book during filming?

Wuthering Heights is such an epic story, brilliantly engineered by Peter and condensed for two ninety minute films. In order to ensure the full context of the story was correct, I needed to look at the narrative of the book.

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Tell us about Nelly.

Fundamentally, Nelly is the go between for Cathy and Heathcliff and she feels terribly protective of them. What we don't see in our adaptation, but is written in the book, is that Nelly grew up with Cathy. It was Nelly's mother who was in service at Wuthering Heights, so the two of them almost have a sibling relationship separated by their status. Nelly also raised Heathcliff so she has maternal feelings towards them both. Nelly's life is undoubtedly Cathy, because she herself has never married or had children of her own. She's very much a woman in service bound to the family.

Does Nelly have any control over Cathy and Heathcliff's relationship?

I don't think Nelly has any influence or control over how they feel for each other. Brutally bound by her status in life, Nelly is incapable of intervening to prevent their relationship. All she can do is stand back from it all.

Wuthering Heights was filmed in Yorkshire on the moors. Did this help you to identify with the story?

The landscape is another character in its own right and there's nothing else quite like it. It can look incredibly beautiful, but then in a matter of hours be very bleak which in a way reflects Heathcliff and Cathy's relationship.

Wuthering Heights has an incredible cast. How did you enjoy working with your fellow actors?

It's a tremendous cast. I feel very privileged to have worked with them all on such a wonderful adaptation. In my own opinion, Tom Hardy and Charlotte Riley are sensational as Cathy and Heathcliff.

John Cowpe plays Church Organist

How did you get the role in the new production of *Wuthering Heights*.

My agent knew I was available for film work as my run in a new play in the West End, as crowd member number six, was unexpectedly cancelled at short notice and so I took it on. I like to keep busy as you know and unusually there was nothing else in the pipeline.

What were the main challenges of the role?

Well, you have to understand that villager number 17, my part, is pivotal to the whole film. He is a complex character to start with and I have to say that I had a few sleepless nights working out just how to approach the role at such short notice. I always like to get inside the head of any character I play and it can take a lot out of one.

Pivotal?

Oh yes! It's easy to make the mistake of thinking that Heathrow and Kitty are ...

Heathcliff and Catherine?

Yes indeed. Easy to think they live in a vacuum but "No Man is an Island" as Miss Kate Bush so cleverly pointed out and in order to see and understand them in context and to empathise with their predicament it is necessary to have a context, as one might say, and villager 17 provides that context. He is more than just a local member of the peasantry and when we realise, in scene 26, that villager 17 is the Church organist we suddenly realise "These are real people and they live in the real world. They appreciate music, they enjoy

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good food, they love and are loved, they have opinions about the nature of the Holy Trinity and they have finer feelings". Heathwright and Kat suddenly come into focus...

Heathcliff and Catherine? And I think no man is an island may have been John Donne?

Yes indeed. I have to say that the other players left it all to me. They just milled about looking like extras in a film and I had to carry the whole affair but then I have had the experience you see.

Were your early years influential in the development of your art?

Rossendale was still independent in those days and life was hard. My father worked in the mines or the mill or some such. I forgot to ask him which and he wasn't a talkative type so he never mentioned it.

Did he come home covered in coal dust or was he deafened by the machinery?

I am an actor not a painter! Such questions are pointless addressed to me as I live only in the world of make believe and fantasy. It is the only way to develop the necessary skills to present the real world in sharp focus which is the lot and the raison d'être of an actor's existence, as M Marcel Marceau might have said.

Or not said perhaps?

I think you are making a joke but I'll let it pass. Comedy is such a corrupted art!

How did you get into acting in the first place?

I did not so much as get into acting as it got into me if you see what I mean. I was born to act and fate took over. I first trod the boards as a boy in Nether Crawshawbooth at the local Am Dram festival (so very droll! – more "am" than "dram" I'm afraid). They still talk about me in Hamlet to this day.

I believe you played Ophelia?

I wanted to play the Prince but my voice hadn't broken and a girl called Angela Arkwright got that part. It later turned out she was the producer's cousin's granddaughter and there was a heck of a row. That's how I learnt my trade – disappointment and backbiting and so on. All part of the job I fear in this line.

What does the future hold for you, professionally?

Disappointment and backbiting ...

I think we'd better leave it there. Thank you so much for your time.

You don't happen to know Melvyn Bragg do you?

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SCREEN YORKSHIRE

DRAMATIC LANDSCAPE DRAWS PRODUCERS BACK TO YORKSHIRE TO RETELL HAUNTING LOVE STORY

A stunning adaptation of Emily Bronte's world famous literary classic *Wuthering Heights* is the latest in a succession of recent high profile drama productions to showcase Yorkshire's diverse landscape on screen. Vast areas of bleak untouched moorland alongside beautifully preserved stately homes made the region the perfect backdrop for ITV's upcoming version of the gothic love story, which was shot at a number of locations across West Yorkshire and The Yorkshire Dales.

Producers at Mammoth Screen were determined to base their production in the region following the success of their critically acclaimed drama series *Lost in Austen*, which filmed there in 2007. *Wuthering Heights* also renewed Mammoth Screen's partnership with Screen Yorkshire, who invested in the drama through its Production Fund and provided locations and crewing support.

Mammoth Screen commissioned leading contemporary screenwriter **Peter Bowker** (*Blackpool, Flesh and Blood, Buried Treasure, Occupation*) to adapt the literary classic, named after the manor on the Yorkshire moors where it is set, for the two-part television drama directed by **Coky Giedroyc**. **Tom Hardy** (*Bronson, Stuart: A Life Backwards*) stars as Heathcliff alongside newcomer **Charlotte Riley** who plays Cathy. Acclaimed television actress **Sarah Lancashire** takes on the role of housekeeper Nelly, while **Andrew Lincoln** is Edgar, Cathy's forlorn husband. **Burn Gorman** stars as Cathy's brother Hindley, and **Kevin R. McNally** plays Mr Earnshaw.

Wuthering Heights is executive produced by **Michele Buck** and **Damien Timmer**, and produced by **Radford Neville** for Mammoth Screen. **Hugo Heppell** is executive producer for Screen Yorkshire.

Michele Buck, Mammoth Screen says:

*"We have a very successful and ongoing relationship with Screen Yorkshire and the Yorkshire region, most recently with our critically acclaimed production *Lost in Austen* which was shot and partially post produced in the region. Together with the wonderful diversity of landscape and locations all within a reasonable travelling distance, that made it the natural home for filming our new adaptation of *Wuthering Heights*.*

Screen Yorkshire's valuable investment and production support along with the fantastic crew and facilities in the region enabled us to deliver a production of which we are extremely proud."

Hugo Heppell, Head of Production, Screen Yorkshire, says:

*"We're delighted to have had another opportunity to work in partnership with Mammoth Screen so soon after the success of *Lost in Austen*, to produce this stunning interpretation of *Wuthering Heights*. We hope it will*

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further cement Yorkshire's reputation as the top destination in the UK for location drama, alongside other recent acclaimed productions such as *Red Riding*, *Unforgiven* and *The Damned United*".

Screen Yorkshire continues...

Distinguished Swedish cinematographer Ulf Brantas adds:

"We had the opportunity to shoot in some amazingly beautiful locations in and around the moors, and it is hard to pick one day or a specific location that was my favourite. There were quite a few moments, though, when I was sincerely telling myself to try and do justice to it all."

Wuthering Heights was commissioned for ITV by **Laura Mackie** and **Sally Haynes**. ***Wuthering Heights*** is a Mammoth Screen Production supported by Screen Yorkshire through its Production Fund.

EDITORS NOTES

Wuthering Heights filmed at several locations across Yorkshire, including **Oakwell Hall (Birstall)**, **Bramham Park**, **Stockeld Park (near Wetherby)**, **East Riddlesden Hall (Keighley)**, **Arncliffe** and **Halton Gill (Yorkshire Dales)**.

Screen Yorkshire is the Regional Screen Agency responsible for inspiring, promoting and supporting a successful and sustainable film, television, games and interactive media sector for the region. We offer a variety of funding and support initiatives to screen media companies based in the region, supported by our two key partners, Yorkshire Forward and the UK Film Council.

Screen Yorkshire's Production Fund invests in film, television production and games in the region. Recent drama credits include: ***The Damned United***, ***Red Riding***, ***Unforgiven***, ***Wuthering Heights***, ***Lost in Austen***, ***Brideshead Revisited*** and the BAFTA award winning ***This Is England***. Screen Yorkshire is committed to developing regional talent and supports low budget feature slate **Warp X**, in partnership with the UK Film Council, Film4 and Optimum Releasing. Warp X's first two films ***A Complete History of My Sexual Failures*** and ***Donkey Punch*** were released in the UK in Summer 2008. Their third film, ***Hush***, a thriller from writer/director Mark Tonderai was released in spring 2009 and ***All Tomorrow's Parties*** will have its premiere at Edinburgh International Film Festival in June. ***Bunny and the Bull*** and ***La Chinoise*** are currently in post production.

Screen Yorkshire also has a Business Investment Fund, distributes Lottery and Grant in Aid awards on behalf of the UK Film Council and runs a series of broadcast training schemes in partnership with Skillset. For further information, visit: www.screenyorkshire.co.uk

Screen Yorkshire media enquiries

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WUTHERING HEIGHTS

**SCREEN
YORKSHIRE**



PRODUCTION CREDITS

Executive Producers

Executive Producer and Writer

Executive Producer for Screen Yorkshire

Director

Producer

Director of Photography

Production Designer

Editor

Line Producers

Creative Director, Mammoth

Head of Production

Composer

Costume Designer

Makeup and Hair Designer

Sound Recordist

Casting Director

Script Executive

Art Director

1st Assistant Directors

2nd Assistant Director

3rd Assistant Director

Location Manager

Unit Manager

Script Supervisor

Production Coordinator

Michele Buck

Damien Timmer

Peter Bowker

Hugo Heppell

Coky Giedroyc

Radford Neville

Ulf Brantas

Grenville Horner

Mark Thornton

Celia Duval

David Cherrill

Rebecca Keane

Jon Williams

Ruth Barrett

Amy Roberts

Marella Shearer

John Pearson

Susie Parriss

Jennie Scanlon

Fleur Whitlock

Peter Freeman

Vinny Fahy

Ben Sweet

Dan Gill

Luc Webster

Karen Milner

Non Eleri Hughes

Suzie Hanson