

THE DANIEL CONNECTION

A Studio Scotland Production
www.thedanielconnection.com

Cannes Film Festival Report

by Deborah Forrest, Tuesday 4 June 2013



There have been some great films this year - but there have been some not so good and downright dire too... My highlights of this festival... Met the 'director' with the dubious soubriquet of worst film maker in the world... Saw the 4K re-mastered 3D version of The Last Emperor in the presence of the great director Bernardo Bertolucci who was in a wheelchair - and wearing his hat as always...

To mark the 50th anniversary of one of the best known and most controversial epics in the history of the cinema, 20th Century Fox, in partnership with Bulgari, presented a restored copy of Joseph L. Mankiewicz's CLEOPATRA (1963, 4h:03 with a short interval).

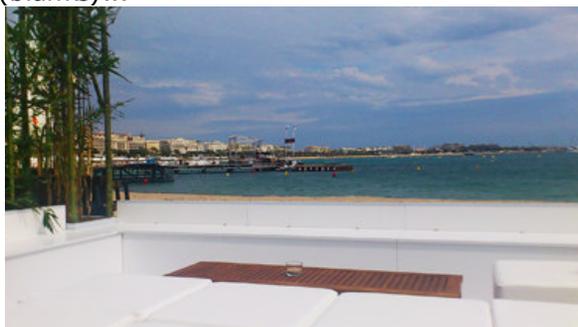
Digital restoration was carried out in 4K by 20th Century Fox. The screening took place in the presence of Richard Burton's daughter Kate, and Chris Wilding, Elizabeth Taylor's son. Jessica Chastain wore a glorious Bulgari necklace that Burton gave to Taylor at the time, and the daughter and ex wife of the director were guests of honour. It was lovely to be in the company of the very down to earth Adrian Brody, Clive Owen and Laura Dern although Jim Gianopulos, the head of Fox Entertainment was hopping mad at the fireworks and music outside which almost entirely obliterated the sound track at one point.



Overlooking Cannes Harbour and Film Festival Pavilions



Between the Palais and the Majestic (18 euro for a glass of wine, 89 euro for the Plat du Jour) we were side stepping Michael Douglas and Matt Damon, Robert Redford and Richard Dreyfuss, DiCaprio, Dunst, Timberlake, Scott-Thomas, Cotillard, Cantona, Gosling, Clive Owen, Rob Lowe - on and on and on and on and on. Directors, producers - oh and hundreds of prostitutes flown in especially for the occasion. We had a diamond robbery or two plus a shooting (blanks)...



Our Office View



Last but not least, we had an impromptu Studio Scotland event with a steak dinner and drinkies into the wee sma' hours with guest of honour Roger Morris, MD of Elstree Film Studios

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who kept us entertained with his stories of the great, the good – and the not so good. Although it was a very select invitation list (you just HAD to be there!), it was the highlight of the Festival for a couple of us... let's just say that my Exec Producer Adele and I will never be able to think of mentoring in quite the same way again. We joined Roger again for drinks at the Martinez a few nights later. A real gentleman – and a great raconteur, we would love to welcome him and his beautiful wife as our guests to Scotland some time soon.



Paparazzi positioned atop ladders to get 'the shot'

As for our own new film??? Called *The Daniel CONNECTION* and based on our best selling documentary The Daniel Project, interest was shown by everybody I pitched it to. With its own dedicated website you can read more shortly when it is officially launched – so keep watching this space for an announcement to be made soon... We have just tweaked the ending and are having the story re-scripted but we are delighted that **Caroline Goodall** has shown interest, subject to script approval. A talented actor and veteran of nearly 40 major movies, she is best known as Emilie Schindler – wife of Oskar played by Liam Neeson and Moira Banning in 'Hook' – the only actress to have appeared in two of Spielberg's films. Soon to appear in Lars Von Trier's 'The Nymphomaniac', the psycho thriller 'The Elevator' and the BBC series 'The White Queen' we hope to add Caroline to our talented cast list.



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