



THE WALK



Wayfarer Productions 2007

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**IN 1807, THERE WERE 4,000,000 PEOPLE IN
SLAVERY WORLD-WIDE.
IN 2007 THERE ARE AROUND 20,000,000.**

THE WALK is a short film (27 minutes) which dramatizes one of the greatest moments in world history — but it is also about the huge challenges and hopes for the next generation.

THE WALK centres on the moment when William Wilberforce made his crucial decision to visit John Newton, writer of the hymn ‘Amazing Grace’ and former captain of slave ships. It was this encounter, in 1785, that helped to persuade Wilberforce to devote his entire life to a seemingly impossible cause: the abolition of the slave trade.

THE WALK is a film which marks the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade by the British Parliament in February 1807, a law which was given royal assent on March 25th, 1807. **THE WALK** is the third collaboration between Murray Watts (The Miracle Maker) and Norman Stone (Shadowlands, Man Dancin’, Beyond Narnia) using a single actor on film. The first was The Dream, which began life as a stage play, written and directed by Murray Watts on the London Fringe in 1979. The production was described as ‘**Remarkable**’ (Time Out) ‘**Profound, illuminating stuff**’ (Daily Telegraph). This tale, originally told by Dostoyevsky, became the BBC film starring Jeremy Irons, written by Murray Watts and directed by Norman Stone. The Dream was critically acclaimed and was nominated for the Cable Ace Awards in the US (1991).

The Dream gave birth to the BBC series for Easter, Tales of the Madhouse, with writers including Arnold Wesker, Sergio Casci, Tony Robinson and Murray Watts. Tales from the Madhouse was described as ‘**Mesmerising**’ (The Times), ‘**Brilliant, moving**’ (The Express) ‘**Touching drama**’ (The Mail), ‘**Gripping, imaginative...inspired**’ (The Daily Telegraph) ‘**Really powerful and deeply, deeply human**’ (Benchmark, BBC Radio 4).

THE WALK brings Murray Watts and Norman Stone together again, with an outstanding production team:

Murray Watts · writer and director

Norman Stone · executive producer

Roger Murray-Leach · production designer
(The Killing Fields, Local Hero, A Fish Called Wanda)

Mike Fox · director of photography
(Man Dancin’, Beyond Narnia, The Hogfather)

Andrew Harrison · Actor
(An Ideal Husband, 12,000 Acres of Sky)

The whole drama is set in the mysterious setting of Freswick Castle in Caithness.

Wayfarer Productions is based at Freswick Castle and the company is involved in a number of productions ranging from theatre to television and from short films to feature films. One of the aims of Wayfarer Productions is to encourage film-making of all levels in the far north of Scotland.