

NEWS

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NEW DOCTOR WHO SPIN-OFF 'CLASS' - FILMED IN BRISTOL - AVAILABLE ON BBC THREE FROM 22ND OCTOBER

BRISTOL, 19 October 2016: Brand new *Doctor Who* spin-off drama *Class*, which filmed in Bristol this summer, will be available on BBC Three this Saturday 22nd October.

The highly anticipated series, which stars Peter Capaldi as 'the Doctor' alongside exciting young new talents, filmed in July with support from Bristol Film Office at Redcliffe Caves, a series of mine workings that spread beneath Bristol.

The Bristol location doubled as Hell for the new show, in which Coal Hill Academy classmates Charlie (Greg Austin), April (Sophie Hopkins), Ram (Fady Elsayed) and Tanya (Vivian Oparah), along with physics teacher Miss Quill (Katherine Kelly), are charged with a great responsibility by the Doctor, to guard against the creatures of nightmare that want nothing more than to find a way through to Earth and take it for their own.

Class filmed in Redcliffe Caves and used Redcliffe Wharf as a unit base whilst in Bristol. Bristol Film Office supported production by carrying out recces, secure the location and negotiate contractual agreements.

Natalie Moore of Bristol Film Office said: "*Doctor Who* has filmed in Bristol a number of times over the years, so it was fantastic to welcome this exciting new spin off series to the city. Redcliffe Caves is a hugely atmospheric location, steeped in history, that lent itself well to the sci-fi element of the storyline. The location has seen a great deal of filming use in past years – they have doubled as 'the underworld' in BBC One drama *Atlantis*, a secret rave location for E4's *Skins*, and have even been explored by comedian Rhod Gilbert when he tried his hand at paranormal investigation for BBC One's *Rhod Gilbert's Work Experience* last year. BBC One's *The Living and the Dead*, CBeebies' *Art Ninja*, CBBC's *The Sparticle Mystery* and BBC Three's *Being Human* have also filmed there. The caves are just one of a wonderfully diverse range of locations we have here in Bristol, which help us attract some of the biggest shows on our screens to film in the city."

Other productions that have been recently supported by Bristol Film Office include upcoming E4 comedy horror series *Crazyhead*, upcoming Starz Original Limited Series drama *The White Princess*, BBC One drama *Poldark*, Thomasina Gibson's upcoming feature *We Can Be Heroes*, Emmy award winning *Sherlock: The Abominable Bride*, BAFTA award winning drama *Wolf Hall* and BBC Three Online Drama *Thirteen*.

Class is written by Patrick Ness, directed Ed Bazalgette (*Poldark*, *Doctor Who*), produced by Derek Ritchie, and executive produced by Patrick Ness, Steven Moffat and Brian Minchin. The BBC Cymru Wales production, is co-produced with BBC America and BBC Worldwide.

The first two episodes, 'For Tonight We Might Die' and 'The Coach with the Dragon Tattoo' will drop on BBC Three on Saturday 22 October.

– ENDS –

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For more information about *Class*, please contact Ceri Mears on 07825 932565 / ceri.mears1@bbc.co.uk. For images, contact bbcpicturedesk@bbc.co.uk.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Bristol Film Office

Bristol Film Office, a division of Bristol City Council, is a free service to all productions planning to film in the city. Dedicated to making film, television or commercial photography shoots run as smoothly as possible when on location in Bristol, it is the one-stop-shop for all filming enquiries. It can assist at all stages of production, from initial location and crewing advice to reces and logistical support.

In 2015-16, Bristol Film Office issued 370 filming permits and recorded a total of 943 filming days in the city (an increase of 65% from 2014-15). Inward investment from productions working in Bristol continued to remain high with a total figure of £16.7 million.

Bristol Film Office's inward investment figures are calculated using national average production spend figures that have been compiled by Creative England with contribution from all national Film Offices' data.

www.filmbristol.co.uk

The Bottle Yard is a Bristol City Council initiative.

