

SUSCEPTOR FILMS PRESENTS

A FILM BY MICHAEL WRIGHT



# THE UNDERTAKER

STARRING

PAUL MCGANN  
TARA FITZGERALD

AND

MURRAY MELVIN

SUSCEPTOR FILMS PRESENTS A FILM BY MICHAEL WRIGHT STARRING PAUL MCGANN TARA FITZGERALD AND MURRAY MELVIN 'THE UNDERTAKER'  
WITH SEAN GILDER ROGER BARCLAY LILY FRAZER NICOLAS ROWE BOB CRYER MUSIC BY TESS TYLER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY LUKE FLEMING EDITOR NICHOLAS FIELDEN  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PAUL DRAKE NEIL LUPTON ROGER BARCLAY PRODUCERS ROGER BARCLAY BEN HUGHES MICHAEL WRIGHT WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MICHAEL WRIGHT



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[www.theundertakerfilm.com](http://www.theundertakerfilm.com)



# THE UNDERTAKER

Genre: Period Crime Thriller

Writer Director: Michael Wright

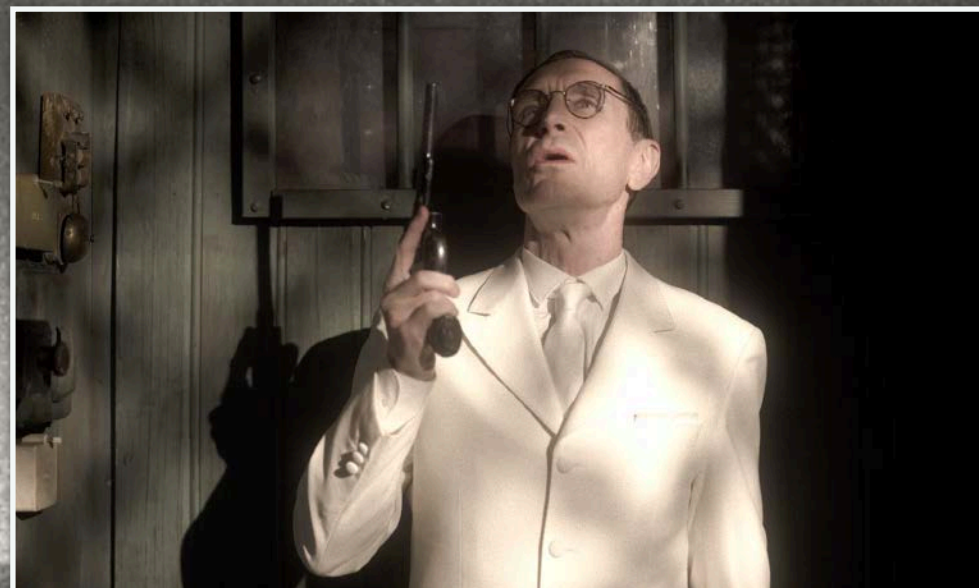
Executive Producer: Roger Barclay

Cast: Paul McGann (Doctor Who, Withnail & I, Aneka)

Tara Fitzgerald (Brassed Off, Game of Thrones) and Murray Melvin (Taste of Honey, Barry Lyndon, The Devils)

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**The Undertaker** is a richly textured period crime thriller starring Paul McGann (*Withnail and I*, *Doctor Who*, *Annika*) and Tara Fitzgerald (*Brassed Off*, *Sirens*).

Written and directed by Michael Wright, the film is set in a shadowy town in 1960s northern England and follows funeral director Arthur Morel (McGann), who is at a moral crossroads after being caught up in a power-grab by local gangster Finlay Unsworth.

Morel is pressured into burying Unsworth's victims off the record, helped by the promise of large amounts of cash that will help him fulfill his retirement dreams.

But as Unsworth's killing spree escalates out of control, Morel realises he must make a stand or he'll be the murderous gangster's next victim.





On screen, Paul McGann is joined by Tara Fitzgerald in the role of Vic, a nightclub singer working at Finlay Unsworth's club, and Roger Barclay (Industry, Johnny English, The Bay) as Unsworth.

Sean Gilder (Shameless, Hornblower) plays Detective Kelly, and Lily Frazer (Saint Maud, Ladhood, Hotel Portofino) is Arthur Morel's assistant, Kat.

The Undertaker is also the last on-screen performance of actor Murray Melvin (A Taste of Honey, Barry Lyndon, The Devils), who plays Morel's former assistant.

The Undertaker was produced by Roger Barclay, Ben Hughes, and Michael Wright, and was shot at The Bottle Yard Studios in Bristol, UK.

## PRODUCTION NOTES



Writer Director **Michael Wright** describes the film as *'a gritty, urban experience, it's a stark character study portraying the moral journey of a man who profits from the deaths of others, but ultimately has to face the consequences of his actions before it is too late.'*

*'Paul McGann was the perfect actor to sympathetically express this deep internal conflict to an audience.'*



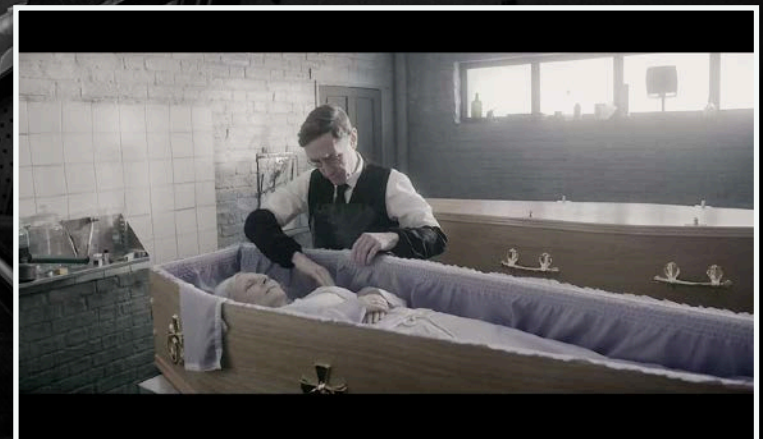
**The Undertaker** uses meticulously crafted sets, dressed locations and even model miniatures to achieve this stylised world, shifting from the claustrophobic confines of Arthur's undertaker's shop, to the shadowy world of Finlay's nightclub, to the stark wastelands of the city cemetery.

These sets and miniatures take Wright full circle as a film maker as he began his career in film at multi Academy Award winning Aardman, working as designer on Wallace & Gromit 'A Grand Day Out' and Peter Gabriel's Sledgehammer promo (1985).

However, bringing this world to the screen posed a challenge for the film makers as they launched into pre production. Wright and his team knew that the dark and forbidding world of ‘The Undertaker’ didn’t exist on any location or in any real town, and they were going to have to build it.

Wright says: *‘I wanted to pull the audience into this moral and physical maze and get them lost in the twists and turns and back alleys, following Arthur as he frantically searches for some way out.’*

Working with a specific colour palette from the washed out tones of Morel’s shop to the lurid blood red of the nightclub the sets were constructed at Bottleyard Studios in Bristol, and through a combination of detailed studio sets and miniatures, carefully selected period costumes and noirish lighting the unique world of Arthur Morel, the small town undertaker with big problems, made its way to the screen.



# 'THE UNDERTAKER' - THE CAST



'ARTHUR' - PAUL MCGANN  
(Withnail & I, Doctor Who,  
Annika)



'VIC' - TARA FITZGERALD  
(Brassed Off, Sirens, Game of  
Thrones)



'FINLAY' - ROGER BARCLAY  
(Industry, Jonny English, Pride and  
Prejudice)



'KELLY' - SEAN GILDER  
(Starve Achre, Poldark, Hornblower)



'LENNY' - MURRAY MELVIN  
(A Taste of Honey, Barry Lyndon,  
The Devils)



'KAT' - LILY FRAZER  
(Saint Maude, Hotel  
Portafino)

Some secrets won't stay buried.

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TARA FITZGERALD

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## CAST AND CREW CREDITS

Written and Directed by Michael Wright

Producer - Roger Barclay

Producers - Ben Hughes Michael Wright

Executive Producers - Paul Drake Neil Lupton

Roger Barclay

## CAST

Paul McGann - Arthur Morel

Tara Fitzgerald - Vic

Murray Melvin - Lenny

Sean Gilder - Detective John Kelly

Roger Barclay - Finlay Unsworth

Lily Frazer - Kat

Nicholas Rowe - Reverend Lomas

Bob Cryer - Pullman

Robert Whitelock - Norris

Sarah Eve - Swinton

Peter Temple - Mick Garvey

Ray Emmet Brown - Ken

Marc Danbury - Roach

Eoin Slattery - Palmer

Dan Winter - Gordon Morel

Carlotta Morelli - Fiorella

Ikay Agu - Keyes

Gracie Lupton - Flis

Associate Producers - Kate Terence Jay Wooley  
Bob Cryer Tom George

1st Assistant Director - Nathan Mills

Director of Photography - Luke Fleming

Editor - Nicholas Fielden

Music - Tess Tyler

Hair & Make up Designer - Katherine Warren

Costume Designer - Pia Pispá

Gaffer - Sebastian Kudanowski

Production Manager & 2nd Assistant Director - Tash  
Cordeaux

Sound Recordist - Jonathan Blagrove

Make up assistant - Katrina Battershill  
Costume assistant - Imogen Bennett  
Costume assistant - Deborah de Lloyd  
Production supervisor - Tom Oakley  
Production coordinator - Rhys Freeman  
Technical adviser - Jim Dowle  
Production assistant - Grace Thomas  
Production assistant - Holly Parfitt

Talent driver - Paul Tomasso Jefferies  
Unit drivers - Will Fielding Alice Roberts  
Floor Runners - Bailey January Waard Rihan Oliver Sampson  
Tom Foster John Percival Max Irens Savannah Holmes  
Sound Trainee - Oliver Shadbolt  
Camera Trainees - Ralph Martin, Eleanor Kear, Daniel  
Liversidge, Jasmine Spencer, Finn Williams.

Runners - Jack Wandsworth, Charlie Deadly, Leanne Bond,  
William Jardine, Dan Harris.  
Accountants - Nyman Libson Paul  
Legal Team - Archerfield Partners  
Production accountant - Nurgul Musabekova

Camera lighting rental - V1 Hire Bristol  
Supporting Artists - Phoenix Casting

**SOUND DESIGN by PARADIGM POST PRODUCTION**

Dialogue Editor - Owen Peters  
Sound Effects Editor - Owen Shirley  
Foley - Ben Jones & Bell Jones  
Assistant Camera /DIT - Charlie Wood  
Boom operators - Bogdan Mecea Laura Izzard  
Stand in Gaffer - Luis Santos  
Electrician - Terry Smith  
Graphics Designer /Stills Photography - Richard Laing  
Digital VFX - Matt Harris Freeth

Art department Supervisor - Stuart Bunce  
Standby Art department - Tom Crossley Thorne  
Standby Props - Jack Merritt Webster  
Scenic Painter - Jed Rutherford  
Main Set Construction - Antonios Nielsen  
Unit Scenic Construction - Jeff Cliff

Filmed entirely at Bottleyard studios, Bristol UK

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