



## Natalie Dormer shines in this edge of your seat revenge thriller!

Defiant Screen Entertainment is proud to present the riveting, psychological thriller *In Darkness*, starring *Game of Thrones* icon Natalie Dormer.

When blind pianist Sofia (Dormer) overhears a struggle in the apartment above that leads to the death of her neighbour Veronique, it sets her on a journey into a dangerous world of corruption, war criminals, hitmen and the Russian mafia. It's a world with links to Sofia's own past and a path of revenge she has kept hidden until now. The film co-stars Ed Skrein (*Deadpool*), Joely Richardson (*Red Sparrow*) and Emily Ratajkowski (*Gone Girl*).

Director Anthony Byrne says it was his love for Hitchcock movies like *Vertigo*, *Marnie* and *Rear Window*, that inspired him and made *In Darkness* the challenge he was looking for as a film maker. His idea was: "to make a sophisticated, intelligent thriller for a modern audience", said Byrne.

When discussing the storyline, Byrne said: "Sofia's journey through *In Darkness* forces her to confront her past, her own darkness, both literally and figuratively, the reckoning that has shaped her entire existence and ultimately whether she can take revenge at the very moment it is presented to her. Revenge is obviously a key theme of the film but there are also universal themes of redemption, forgiveness, familial love and, crucially, identity."

When Byrne began developing the script, he couldn't move past a certain point and that's when he asked Natalie to come on as co-writer. "She's very pragmatic and very aware of where she was in her career at the time, so she very much wanted to write a great female role for someone and in doing so become a writer", said Byrne.

Dormer explained that while writing the script for *In Darkness* it was never her intention to play Sofia. "It was out of my grasp. I was just enjoying the process of being a writer, creating something. It wasn't until the bump that *Game Of Thrones* and *The Hunger Games* gave me, that we realised I could be the lead. What can I say? It was an incredibly gratifying day", said Dormer.

She adds: "Writing Sofia's character made it easier to play her because I knew her inside-out. I didn't have to allocate specific prep time to the psychology of Sofia. I would normally do diagrams and charts and emotional arcs and so forth, and I didn't have to do that because it was in there, deeply settled."

When asked about choosing Emily Ratajkowski for the role of Veronique, Byrne says: "I remembered her from 'Gone Girl' where she was great, so she did a tape and just killed it. She was fantastic. She brings something to the film that is really unique. She brought Veronique to life in a way that neither myself or Natalie expected."

*In Darkness* is a compelling, intelligent, psychological thriller. Intense, stylish and tightly plotted in its execution.

***In Darkness* launches on Blu-ray, DVD & Digital  
Wednesday September 5th, 2018**

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