



NO REST FOR THE WICKED

a film by KASPER KALLE

2026 // Denmark // Danish, Faroese // 103 minutes

Produced by SF Studios with support from the Danish Film Institute and the Faroese Film Institute
Co-produced with Outlier Projects (Faroe Islands) and Truenorth (Iceland)

Based on the short story *Manor*, written by German author and early queer icon Karl Heinrich Ulrichs (1884).

FANTASIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

WORLD PREMIERE

Wed. July 22nd 2026 | Cinéma du Musée | 6.30PM

Additional screening

Sat. July 25th 2026 | DeSève Theater | 2.00PM

Press Materials:

<https://tinyurl.com/NRFTWmaterials>

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LOGLINE

On the isolated Faroe Islands of 1862, a forbidden love between a fisherman and a whaler survives tragedy and death, unleashing mystical forces to battle against an entire village.

SYNOPSIS

1862. Baldur lives a fisherman's life on the isolated Faroe Islands far to the north in the Atlantic Ocean. His world is turned upside down when a stranger arrives: Helge, a rugged whaler, who awakens deep emotions within him. A mutual attraction starts to grow. When tragedy strikes, their forbidden passion unleashes mystical forces so disturbing that the villagers rally to keep evil at bay. But Baldur and Helge refuse to let their love be buried. They will fight till the end – and after.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE | Kasper Kalle

No Rest For The Wicked brings together the themes I love working with as a filmmaker. Sexuality and the boundaries between genders, which have always been at the heart of my work. The wild, untamed nature that I capture and let become a character in its own right. And the darkness, which I weave into a gay love story, so that sexuality and love walk hand in hand with horror.

No Rest For The Wicked is based on the short story *Manor*, written by the German author Karl Heinrich Ulrichs in 1884. It is one of the first unapologetic stories about gay love. It's a cornerstone in the history of queer people, and yet very few people know it exists.

The story takes place on the Faroe Islands in 1862. The islands' harsh and barren landscape is a perfect fit for the themes of our film. Those isolated rocky islands, at once breathtakingly beautiful and oppressively claustrophobic. Everywhere you turn, you're surrounded by the roaring sea, and the rest of the world feels extremely far away. It must have been very lonely to be gay in the Faroe Islands in 1862.

Although the film is set more than 150 years ago, it remains deeply relevant today. I'm gay myself, and in my small hometown, being gay was about the worst thing you could be. There were very narrow expectations for how a boy was supposed to behave. It was before the Internet, and I didn't know any other gay people. There were no role models, no one to talk to, no one to see myself in. In many ways it felt like living on an isolated island, far from the rest of the world, and I struggled to be accepted by the people around me.

Among almost all of my gay friends, I recognize a shared pain that traces back to childhood and adolescence. A pain rooted in a deep loneliness and the constant fear of being found out, of being cast out. Perhaps that is why I am so drawn to the pairing of queer love and horror. The forbidden desire carries the seed of dread, and for queer people who grew up hiding who they were, horror speaks the language of their anxiety and shame.

Like the wild natural forces of the Faroe Islands that cannot be tamed, *No Rest For The Wicked* is about the force within us that we cannot suppress or control. Sexuality and love is in nature. It is unstoppable, and for some, it is a terrifying force that refuses to be held down.

Even though *No Rest For The Wicked* is a story about gay love, the film is for everyone. Whether we are gay or straight, living in 1862 or today, we all know what it means to long for something we cannot have, or to feel trapped by the expectations of others. The need

to be seen and accepted for who we are is universal, and when we open up and truly try to understand each other, we are really not that different after all.

Kasper Kalle, dir.



FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Kasper Kalle | Director

Kasper Kalle graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2015 with his award-winning film *Darkest Moon*, praised for its stunning visuals and mastery of period storytelling.

In 2018, he directed *Christian IV*, a micro-budget biopic about King Christian IV of Denmark set entirely in a horse carriage. The film earned acclaim for its originality, ambition, and production design, showcasing Kasper's talent for crafting compelling period pieces with minimal resources.



Lars Bredo Rahbek | Producer

Lars Bredo Rahbek started working at SF Studios Production in 2016 as Head of Production but continued as film producer from 2022. Rahbek graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 1997 and began his career at Nimbus Film. Rahbek has produced a wide range of feature films by acclaimed directors like Charlotte Sieling, Søren Kragh-Jacobsen, Ole Christian Madsen, Thomas Vinterberg, Henrik Ruben Genz, Pernille Fischer Christensen and Bille August. Several of his films have been box office hits, such as *Margrete - Queen of the North* (2021), *Superclásico* (2011), *What No One Knows* (2008) and *Flame & Citron* (2008). Rahbek's recent production, the Faroe Islands set romantic horror *No Rest For The Wicked* by Kasper Kalle, is set to premiere across the Nordics during September 2026. On top hereof Rahbek produces Charlotte Sieling's *The Closed Book* which is presently in post and which will be ready for world release during the first half of 2027.

SF STUDIOS

SF Studios, established in 1919, is one of the world's oldest and still existing film companies. Frequently referred to as 'the house of Ingmar Bergman' and 'the cradle of Greta Garbo', today SF Studios is the leading film studio in the Nordic region with its headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden and branches in Oslo, Copenhagen and Helsinki. The company is

producing and distributing feature films and TV series as well as providing the streaming service SF Anytime. SF Studios is part of the leading Nordic media company Bonnier.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

EGOR VENNED | “Baldur”

Born on the Faroe Islands Egor’s modelling career took off during his teens launching him onto front pages for fashion magazines such as Vogue and catwalks for Versace, Armani and Tom Ford while being connected to modeling agencies in Milan, Paris, NYC and Copenhagen. During his career as a top model Egor has been taking acting lessons on a regular basis in order to improve his skills, making him ready for the day the right project would come his way. Securing the lead role of “Baldur” opposite international star Pilou Asbæk, *No Rest For The Wicked* is Egor’s acting debut. His laid-back acting style, and innocent but melancholic look is a perfect match for the role of Baldur which will bring Egor home to his native Islands where it all began. Pilou Asbæk is on record with the tongue-in-cheek quote “Egor Venned is an even better kisser than Scarlet Johansson”.

PILOU ASBÆK | “Helge”

Pilou Asbæk is a leading Danish actor who has received acclaim and awards for his remarkable performances both nationally and internationally. He has, among other achievements, won the Bodil (Danish Critic’s Award) for Best Supporting Actor in *Silent Heart* and both the Bodil and the Robert (Danish Academy Award) for Best Actor for his leading role in *R*. Starring opposite Scarlett Johansson in *Ghost in the Shell* (2017) and Luc Besson’s *Lucy* (2014) he garnered further international acclaim though his role as Euron Greyjoy in the epic series *Game of Thrones*, earning him an Honorary Award. His impressive list of awards attests to a career marked by dedication and talent. In 2015 he led the Oscar nominated Danish feature *A War* propelling him into international roles in film and tv.

SOFIA NOLSØE | “Ásla”

Educated from The Danish National School of Performing Arts in 2011. She has performed at the Royal Danish Theater and joined Aarhus Teater ensemble in Denmark 2015. In 2021 Sofia received the Danish Theater Critic’s most prestigious award “Teaterpokalen” for her performance in *Når vi døde vågner* and *A Clockwork Orange*. Sofia has also played the lead role in several short films, among them the Faroese horror short *Skuld* nominated for best film at the Danish short film awards “Ekko Shortlist”.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director	KASPER KALLE
Writers	RASMUS BIRCH KASPER KALLE
Producer	LARS BREDO RAHBK
Actors	EGOR VENNET (Baldur) PILOU ASBÆK (Helge) SOFÍA NOLSØE (Ásla) JÓHANNES HAUKUR JÓHANNESSON (Jákup) KJARTAN HANSEN (Suni) BRIMHEIM (Beinta) BÚI EGASON DAM (Harald) NOOMI KUNOY HERADÓTTIR (Vígdis) KLAUS SØNDERGAARD (Præst)
DoP	JACOB MØLLER, DFF
Production Designer	SABINE HVIID
Supervising Art Director	SÁMAL BLAK
Costume Design	LOUIZE NISSEN
Set Design	LOUISE BRUUN
Editors	MADS MICHAEL OLSEN, MARK BUKDAHL
Sound-design	MORTEN GROTH BRANDT ANNE GRY FRIIS KRISTENSEN SIGRID DPA JENSEN
Composer	HETTARHER
VFX Supervisor	ALEXANDER SCHEPELERN ANJA PHILIP
Associate Producer	RASMUS SANDØ HANSEN
Line Producer	JACOB SVENSSON
Post Producer	LINA WICHMANN
Co-Producers	JÓN HAMMER KRISTINN THORDARSON LEIFUR B. DAGFINNSSON
Executive Producer	LARS BJØRN HANSEN