



TROUBLED WATER

Directed by Erik Poppe

“Absolutely the best movie I have seen in years!”
-Michael Moore, Academy Award® winning director



**Norway / Norwegian with English Subtitles / 2008 /
Thriller-Drama / In English / 120 min. / 1:2.35 / Dolby DTS**

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SYNOPSIS

Jan, recently released from prison after serving time for the murder of a child, has always maintained his innocence and is ready to put the past behind him. A gifted organist, he takes a job at an Oslo church under his middle name, Thomas. His talent and gentle manner quickly earn him the respect of his superiors, as well as the love of the pastor, Anna. Thomas even overcomes his initial panic to return the affection of Anna's young son, Jens. But his past catches up with him when Agnes, a local teacher, comes to the church on a school visit and recognizes the organist as Jan, the young man who was convicted for the murder of her son.

FESTIVALS AND AWARDS

WINNER – Best Film, **Norwegian Film Critics**

WINNER – Best Narrative Feature & Audience Award, **Hamptons FF**

WINNER – Ecumenical Prize, **The Norwegian Int'l FF**

WINNER – Best Actor (Jan Thomas), **Norwegian Film Awards 2009**

WINNER – Best Editing & Best Score, **Amanda Awards (Norwegian Academy Awards)**

WINNER – Audience Award, **Libertas FF**

WINNER – Best Film, **Film & Art Festival Summer** (Poland)

Nominated – Best Actress, Best Cinematography, Best Sound & Best Direction, **Amanda Awards (Norwegian Academy Awards)**

Opening Night Selection – **Traverse City FF**

Official Selection – **Seattle Int'l FF, Int'l FF Rotterdam, Guadalajara Int'l FF**

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Erik Poppe

This is an extremely powerful story, which involves key roles that could only be performed by actors who possess an exceptionally high degree of personal courage. Actors who dare to bare their souls on a psychological level, while their physical appearance evokes feelings a typical viewer might associate with a sunny day. And yet the actors were also able to portray one of life's greatest tragedies in a credible manner. The opportunity to work with such gifted and brave actors was a rare experience.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY & FILMOGRAPHY

Erik Poppe

'Troubled Water' is the third and final film in Erik Poppe's trilogy which started with **Schpaaa**, a story about a gang of young criminal boys, and continued with **Hawaii, Oslo** (also a Film Movement release), which was chosen as Norway's contribution to the Oscars® in 2004. Erik has won a number of awards for his first two feature films, including several Critics' Awards for Best Film at various international festivals, as well as an Amanda for Norwegian Feature Film of the Year in 2005. Erik studied at the University College of Film, Radio, Television and Theatre in Stockholm.

Prior to making feature films, he directed commercials, short- and documentary films and worked as Director of Photography on Bent Hamer's first feature film, 'Eggs' (1995).

Filmography

- 1998 Schpaaa
- 2002 Brigaden (TV series)
- 2004 Hawaii.Oslo
- 2008 Troubled Water

ACTORS' BIOGRAPHIES & FILMOGRAPHIES

Pål Sverre Valheim Hagen

Pål Sverre is one of the great new talents of theater and on the screen. In **Troubled Water**, he plays the leading role as Jan Thomas. Pål Sverre is from Stavanger and graduated from the Norwegian National Academy of Theatre in 2003. He had his debut at The Norwegian Theater in *Bikubesong*, by Frode Grytten, and was most recently on stage as the Prince of Wales in Stein Winge's production of *Henrik IV*. He received the Hedda award for best male supporting role last year for his roles as Hanen in *Ingen skriv til obersten* and as Bjørn Disel in *Verdas mest forelska par*. **Troubled Water** is Valheim's biggest film role thus far. Pål Sverre also appears in the film **Max Manus**, which is to be released in cinemas in December.

Ellen Dorrit Petersen

After completing her studies at the Norwegian National Academy of Theatre in 2005, Ellen Dorrit Petersen got started at the Rogaland Theater where she performed such roles as Maja in *Når vi døde våkner*. In 2006 she came to The Norwegian Theater where she is now employed. Ellen Dorrit plays opposite Pål Sverre in **Troubled Water** as the priest Anna. The role of Anna is her first major film role. She will also appear on the big screen next fall in Annette Sjørnsen's feature film **Pax**.

Trine Dyrholm

Danish Trine Dyrholm plays Agnes. Trine was selected as Denmark's best actor in 2007 and most recently appeared in Norwegian cinemas as Charlotte in the Danish feature film **En Soap** (2006). She has her education from the Danish National School of Theatre and Contemporary Dance in Copenhagen, has performed in numerous short-films and feature films, including the dogma film **Festen (Celebration)** in 1999. Trine participated in the Danish Eurovision Song Contest in 1987, when just 15 years old, and later released the album *Danse i måneskin* under the name Trine & Moonlighters. Trine Dyrholm is one of Denmark's biggest stars!

Trond Espen Seim

Trond Espen had the supporting role in Erik Poppe's **Hawaii.Oslo** (Film Movement 2004). Based on his performance in this film, he was selected as Norway's "Shooting Star" at the Berlin Film Festival in 2005. In 2004 Trond Espen had major success in the TV series *Svarte penger, hvite løgner*. He has become known to Norwegians as the character Varg Veum in the film version of Gunnar Staalesen's books about the private investigator from Bergen. In **Troubled Water** he plays Agnes' husband, Jon M.

CREDITS

CREW

Director: Erik Poppe

Producers: Finn Gjerdrum, Stein B. Kvae

Executive Producers: Erik Poppe, Torleif Hauge, Jim Frazee, Mads Peter Ole Olesen

Screenplay: Harald Rosenløw Eeg based on a story by Harald Rosenløw Eeg, Finn Gjerdrum, Erik Poppe

Director of Photography: John Christian Rosenlund

Editor: Einar Egeland

Music: Johan Söderquist

CAST

Jan Thomas: Pål Sverre Valheim Hagen

Agnes: Trine Dyrholm

Anna: Ellen Dorrit Petersen

Jon: Trond Espen Seim

Jens: Fredrik Grøndahl

Malin: Angelou Garcia

Selma: Henriette Garcia

Menighetforvalter: Terje Strømdahl

Sissel: Anneke von der Lippe

Tommy: Frank Kjosås

Isak: Jon Vågenes Eriksen

Fengselsprest: Stig Henrik Hoff

Dansk Sjef: Bjarne Henriksen

Dansk Kone: Bodil Jørgensen

Liss: Tone Danielsen