

# THE DARK (15)



## These woods are cursed

### Fast Sell:

*The Lovely Bones* meets *Let The Right One In*, with a dash of the *The Blair Witch Project*, in a startling debut shocker that turns the horror genre on its head.

### Synopsis:

An undead young woman, Mina, stalks the 'Devil's Den' woods where she was killed. If anyone enters the woods, she kills them and feasts on the body. But when she stumbles upon a young blind boy named Alex in the back of a car, who shows signs of horrifying abuse, she can't bring herself to kill him. As police and locals close in, searching for Alex, Mina's growing relationship with him changes her in ways she never thought possible.

### We like it because:

The first film to be released under the FrightFest Presents label, the new venture from leading independent distributor Signature Entertainment and leading genre festival FrightFest, **THE DARK** received its UK premiere at this year's prestigious FrightFest in London, and is perfect for genre fans who love nothing more than a backwoods shocker featuring ghouls, gore and flesh eating, but one done with panache and poignancy.

The feature debut of writer/director Justin P Lange (expanded from his 2013 short film), **THE DARK** features an outstanding performance from rising star Nadia Alexander as Mina - a ghoulish creature, her face a mess of rotting wounds, she still manages to evoke sympathy, despite her penchant for swinging axes and tearing out throats. Also appearing is acclaimed Austrian actor Karl Markovics (*The Counterfeiters*), as the nervy, murderous criminal Josef, who appears in the incredibly taut and eerie opening twenty minutes, seeking sanctuary in the woods.



**FRIGHTFEST**  
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**S I G N A T U R E**

### RELEASE DATE

On DVD & Digital HD    22nd October

### KEY TALENT INFORMATION

- **Nadia Alexander** (*The Sinner, Seven Seconds*)
- **Toby Nichols** (*American Horror Story, Iron Fist*)
- **Karl Markovics** (*The Counterfeitors, Babylon Berlin*)

### Director:

- **Justin P. Lange**

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With brilliant sound and production design (Mina's backwoods home makes the house in *The Texas Chain Saw Massacre* look positively palatial), shocking bursts of bloody violence, **THE DARK** is an unnervingly original chiller, that simultaneously pulls at the heartstrings and makes the skin crawl. Admirers of recent rustic indie horror gems like *I Am Not A Serial Killer* and *Pyewacket* will eat it up.

#### Hot quotes:

"A remarkably assured picture" *Kim Newman*

"Bold and imaginative" - *Eye For Film*

"Well crafted and well acted" *Variety*

"Reminiscent of the Coen brothers in their darker moments" *The Movie Waffler*

"Strong directorial flair, believable make-up work, a tragic tale, and powerful performances" *The Hollywood News*

"Some very dark adult themes of horrific depravity"  
★★★★★ *Anton Bitel, SciFiNow*

"A rather special horror tale... bleak and fascinating" *Stuart Wright, Britflicks*

"Brings true heart to the horror genre, while providing just enough of the blood and guts to keep harder-core fans satisfied" *Michael Gingold, Rue Morgue*

**THE DARK** is released ON DVD and DIGITAL HD on 22 October, courtesy of FrightFest Presents

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#### About Signature Entertainment:

Launched in 2011, Signature Entertainment is one of the leading names in UK film distribution. The team combines a wealth of film expertise with a fresh commercial outlook, delivering diverse quality entertainment to a broad audience in cinemas and at home. Signature has released over 600 titles into the UK market since inception, leading the way with innovative, bold ways of releasing and quality productions. Signature's recent releases include *Bad Samaritan* starring David Tennant, *The Negotiator* staring Jon Hamm and Rosamund Pike and *Jungle* starring Daniel Radcliffe. Their impressive upcoming slate includes Charlie Hunnam's *Papillon*, Sam Rockwell's *Blue Iguana* and acclaimed Scandi thriller *The Guilty*.

#### About FrightFest:

Dubbed "the Woodstock of Gore" by director Guillermo Del Toro, **FrightFest**, set up 19 years ago, has grown in size and stature since its cult roots at the Prince Charles Cinema and today is internationally renowned for discovering exciting and original horror fantasy genre films and for supporting the talent behind them. Over the years the festival directors, Greg Day, Alan Jones, Paul McEvoy and Ian Rattray, have developed FrightFest into a brand leader for horror film, expanding its footprint in the UK by hosting special events throughout the year and joining forces with the Glasgow Film Festival, where they run an established three-day event. It has helped launch the careers of directors such as Simon Rumley, Christopher Smith, Eli Roth, Neil Marshall and Simon Hunter and recently teamed up with FAB Press to publish a series of 'The FrightFest Guide To...' books.

