

AKSEL
HENNIE

NIKOLAJ
COSTER-WALDAU

SYNNØVE
MACODY LUND



JO NESBØs
HODEJEGERNE
EN FILM AV MORTEN TYLDUM

YELLOW BIRD · FRILAND FILM · PRODUKASJON OG PRODUKSJON MED NOROSK FILM · DESOTO FILM · JO NESBØS "HODEJEGERNE" · MORTEN TYLDUM
AKSEL HENNIE · SYNNØVE MACODY LUND · NIKOLAJ COSTER-WALDAU · EVIND SANDER · JULIE HILGAARD · CASTING: JANNIØCKE BERVELL
"DU KADEN FABRITUS GRAN" · "SIS TINA HELMØGK" · "JES PÅL RØED" · "SIS BINA BIERCH-ANDRESEN" · "LIVET JOHN ANDREAS ANDERSEN ENF"
"SIS VIDAR FLADÅKAN NY" · "SIS TORRIS RINGNES" · "SIS TROND BIERCH-ANDRESEN" · "SIS JEPPE KAAS" · "SIS LONE KORSLUND" · "SIS HANS WOLFGANG JORGAN"
"SIS JØRRI ANNI FAABRYE FERNANDEZ" · "SIS OLE SANDBERG" · "SIS MIKAEL WALLEEN" · "SIS CHRISTIAN FREDRIK MARTIN" · "SIS ULF RYBERG" · "SIS LARS CUDDESTAD"
"SIS JO NESBØ" · "SIS ASLE VITN" · "SIS MARIANNE GRAY" · "SIS MORTEN TYLDUM" · "SIS LONE KORSLUND" · "SIS HANS WOLFGANG JORGAN" · "SIS JØRRI ANNI FAABRYE FERNANDEZ" · "SIS OLE SANDBERG" · "SIS MIKAEL WALLEEN" · "SIS CHRISTIAN FREDRIK MARTIN" · "SIS ULF RYBERG" · "SIS LARS CUDDESTAD"

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HEADHUNTERS

Roger Brown appears to have it all. He is Norway's most successful Headhunter, married to a beautiful gallery owner and owns a magnificent house. But, he is living above his means and is stealing art on the side.

At a gallery opening, his wife introduces him to Clas Greve. Not only is Greve the perfect candidate for a position that Roger is recruiting for; he is also in possession of "*The Calydonian Boar Hunt*" by Rubens, one of the most sought-after paintings in modern art history.

Roger sees his chance to become financially independent, and starts planning his biggest theft ever. But soon, he runs into trouble and it's not financial problems that are threatening to knock him over this time...



ACTORS

“With this cast, I get to work with all my first choices: Nikolaj Coster-Waldau and Aksel Hennie are two of Scandinavia’s foremost actors: we now have the foundation to create a film with fistfuls of nerve.” – Morten Tyldum, Director

Aksel Hennie (Roger Brown)

Aksel is one of Norway’s most popular and profiled actors, last seen in *Max Manus* (2008) and *A Somewhat Gentle Man* (2010). Aksel Hennie has received the Best Norwegian Actor award at both the Amanda Awards and the Kosmorama Film Festival, and has made his mark at a number of international festivals as well. He’s had an impressive career in theatre and film, most recently in the upcoming British film *Age of Heroes*, directed by Adrian Vitoria.

Aksel has played the lead in a number of Norwegian films, including *Jonny Vang* (2003), *Buddy* (2003), *Hawaii, Oslo* (2004) and *Uno* (2004), on which he also served as screenwriter and director. His career took off in earnest after *Jonny Vang*, and with the blockbuster *Buddy*, directed by *Headhunters*-director Morten Tyldum, he established himself as the most popular young actor in Norway. Attracting excellent reviews and a selling 280 000 tickets during its theatrical run, *Buddy* became a huge success in Norway. It went on to win the audience award at the Karlovy Vary Film Festival, and was the best selling Norwegian film internationally the same year.

“To me, Aksel was the only candidate for the lead in “Headhunters”. We’re making a breathtaking suspense thriller in Jo Nesbø’s spirit, and needed an actor with an exceptional register. Aksel is an extremely skilled actor, and has all the necessary qualities to shape the role. Ever since we made “Buddy” together, we’ve been looking for a project we both could work on, and with “Headhunters”, we finally succeeded.” – Morten Tyldum, Director

Nikolaj Coster-Waldau (Clas Greve)

Nikolaj is one of Denmark’s most successful international actors. He gained international recognition when he played the lead in the American TV series *New Amsterdam* (2008). Along with his role in *Headhunters*, he also stars in the critically acclaimed HBO hit series *Game of Thrones*, where he plays Jaime Lannister.



Nikolaj Coster-Waldau grew up in a small village in southern Zealand before being bit by the acting bug at Næstved College. He pressed forward with his acting dream at the National School of Theatre in Copenhagen, and his film debut came with the lead in Ole Bornedal's *Nightwatch* (1994), which led to an immediate breakthrough both in Denmark and internationally. His ambition of acting in international productions was realised with parts in major films like *Black Hawk Down* (2001), *Wimbledon* (2004) and *Kingdom of Heaven* (2005), before the role of John Amsterdam in the Fox TV series happened.

Synnøve Macody Lund (Diana Brown)

Synnøve is a journalist and former model. *Headhunters* marks her debut as an actor. A very extensive round of casting was required before realising that Synnøve would be perfect for the part.

Eivind Sander (Ove Kikerud)

Eivind has previously participated in films such as *Varg Veum VII – Writing on the Wall* (2010), *Hidden* (2009), *Trigger* (2006), *Restless* (2006), *Buddy* and *Jonny Vang*. He has also had major roles in Norwegian TV drama and comedy series.

BEHIND THE CAMERA

Jo Nesbø (writer)

Jo Nesbø is second translated fiction writer ever to go straight to number one in the UK hardback sales chart. The first was Sweden's Stieg Larsson.

With his internationally acclaimed crime novels about Police Inspector Harry Hole, Jo Nesbø has had an astounding success, captivating everyone from critics to booksellers and readers. He has received a number of awards for his books, which have been translated to 35 languages, published in 140 countries and sold more than 8,5 millions copies internationally and 2 million copies in Norway alone. Nesbø has been lauded by international critics for having expanded framework of the modern crime novel, and is today regarded as one of the foremost European writers in the genre.

With a background as a Norwegian pop artist, football player and financial analyst, one can wonder where Nesbø's horrifying stories originate from. Nesbø believes his fear of the dark when he was a child has fueled his imagination, and given him the extra edge and sense of horror.

(source: www.jonesbo.com).

HEADHUNTERS is Nesbø's first thriller outside the Harry Hole series. It has also done well abroad, and has been sold to 40 countries, including Canada, Germany, Italy, Russia, France and the UK. When the book was published in 2008, it got an enthusiastic reception from critics:

... a brilliant and highly entertaining crime novel, where Nesbø unleashes his entire narrative register in a story that also is wilder and more lunatic than anything he's written earlier. Kurt Hanssen, Dagbladet
... a safe investment for anyone looking for captivating and solid quality summer reading. Sindre Hovdenakk, VG

You have had to read this book... The story makes James Ellroy seem like a boy scout, and Bret Easton Ellis like a Sunday school student. Helsingin Sanomat, Finland

Nesbø is a better writer than most of his Scandinavian colleagues... Headhunters is skilfully written and efficiently composed, and it's easy to swallow in one go. Nordjyske Stiftstidende, Denmark
Tarantino meets the Coen brothers in Nesbø's crime novel. Politiken, Denmark

Morten Tyldum (director)

“I wish to both entertain, move and spark reflection with ‘Headhunters’. It’s a film with a huge story to tell, but remains unafraid to make you laugh or gasp in suspense. It’s a genre movie that wants to do more than be forgotten as soon as the popcorn has been eaten and you’ve left the theatre.” – Morten Tyldum, Director



Morten Tyldum is a graduate from the School of Visual Arts in New York, and worked at the youth desk of the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK) for several years, where he was one of several new TV directors who helped define the new visual language of television in the early 1990s.

His first film was the short *Fast Forward* (2000) with Aksel Hennie and Nicolai Cleve Broch in the leading roles, but his real breakthrough as director came with *Buddy* in 2003. The film reached an impressive 280 000 admissions in Norway alone. *Buddy* introduced a new generation of actors to younger audiences, and was a turning point in recent Norwegian film history.

Morten’s second film, *Fallen Angels*, was meant to be the last chapter in the *Varg Veum* film series. *Fallen Angels* was nominated for five Amanda Awards in 2008, and impressively, with almost 130 000 admissions, attracted a bigger audience than the first film in the series.

Morten is a highly sought-after commercial director, and is a partner and director in the production company *Einar film og fortellinger* (see einarfilm.no for a selection of his films). His confident style and talent for action and humour has made him the director of choice for some of the most influential commercials to be produced in Norway.

John Andreas Andersen (cinematographer) John is a well-established film cinematographer, and received an Amanda Award for his work on *Upperdog* in 2010. Other notable films on his CV include *The King of Devil's Island* (2010), *Babycall* (2011), *Restless*, *Next Door* (2005), *Uno* and *Buddy*.

Lars Gudmestad and Ulf Ryberg (screenplay) Lars Gudmestad is a screenwriter for film and television. He has written several feature films, including *Buddy*, *Mirush* (2008), *Fatso* (2008) and *Cold Prey III* (2010). Ulf Ryberg, based in Sweden, is also a screenwriter for film and television. His scripts include the third film in the *Millennium* trilogy, *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*, the Swedish TV series *Lasermannen* and the *Wallander* episode *Darkness*.

Headhunters is a joint project of the production companies Friland and Yellow Bird with Nordisk Film and ARD Degeto film as co-producers

About Friland

In less than ten years, Friland has become a major player in feature film production in Norway. Their most recent film, the 2009 hit *Upperdog*, received five Amanda Awards, including best film and best director. The company has also produced titles like *Restless*, *Tommy's Inferno* and *Kissed by Winter*. In addition to *Headhunters*, the company is due to release Jens Lien's *Sons of Norway* in September 2011.

About Yellow Bird

Yellow Bird was established in 2003, and is today one of Scandinavia's most prolific companies in film and TV drama. Their works include the acclaimed *Millennium* series, and both the Swedish and English versions of *Wallander*.

About Nordisk Film

Nordisk Film is part of the Egmont group, the leading developer, producer and distributor of creative content for film, music and games in Scandinavia. Nordisk Film holds the regional distribution rights for Sony PlayStation, and owns movie theatres across Norway and Denmark. Nordisk Film also supplies production and post production facilities to a wide range of film production companies. Nordisk Film has previously co-produced and distributed Stieg Larsson's *Millennium* series in cooperation with Yellow Bird. They have also been involved in major productions like *Max Manus*, *Easy Money* and *Antichrist*.

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