

LES  
DENNIS

APRIL  
PEARSON

NATHAN  
CLARKE

AND

ANTHONY  
HEAD

MAGIC, MAYHEM, MURDER...

# SIDESHOW

NOT EVEN A PSYCHIC COULD PREDICT A NIGHT LIKE THIS

"Had me laughing  
out loud, I highly  
recommend it"

HORRORBUZZ.COM

★★★★  
"Haunting, hilarious  
and thoroughly  
entertaining"

SILVERSCREENSLACK

PERFECT SPHERE AND STERLING PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH CYMRU FILMS PRESENTS A FILM BY ADAM OLDROYD SIDESHOW LES DENNIS APRIL PEARSON NATHAN CLARKE AND ANTHONY HEAD MUSIC BY MICHAEL CSANYI-WILLS COSTUME DESIGNER KRISSIE OLDROYD  
HAIR AND MAKE UP CHARLOTTE POWLES PRODUCTION DESIGNER TOMMIMA LLOYD-WINDER EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PHILIP PALMER & JULES BARTON HILL PRODUCED BY MICHAEL RILEY WRITTEN, EDITED AND DIRECTED BY ADAM OLDROYD  
PERFECT SPHERE AND STERLING PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH CYMRU FILMS



IN UK CINEMAS 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

## PRESS PACK

UK entertainment legend, Les Dennis, celebrates an extraordinary 50<sup>th</sup> year in show-business with his first lead role in a feature film.

New British black comedy film *Sideshow*, which opens in cinemas across the UK on the 19<sup>th</sup> November, sees the *Extras* & *Coronation Street* star take on the role of Stuart Pendrick (a.k.a. The All-Seeing Stupendo), an aging, alcoholic psychic, alongside a cast of top comedic talent, including Anthony Head (*Ted Lasso*, *Little Britain*) and April Pearson (*Skins*).

[WATCH THE TRAILER NOW - CLICK HERE](#)



# SIDESHOW

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

After breaking into the home of a washed-up psychic, two criminals get much more than they bargained for, because 'The All-Seeing Stupendo' is a genuine master of the dark mystic arts – at least that's what it says on his poster and he's sticking to it.



## LONG SYNOPSIS

Stuart Pendrick a.k.a. The All-Seeing Stupendo (LES DENNIS) is an aging, alcoholic psychic, resigned to spending the rest of his career performing to half-empty theatres in grotty seaside resorts, much to the dismay of his long-suffering agent Gerald (ANTHONY HEAD). But when would-be robbers Eva and Dom (APRIL PEARSON & NATHAN CLARKE) follow him home one evening, intent on breaking in to find his rumoured secret stash of cash, the lives of all four are changed in ways not even a clairvoyant could have predicted.

Because Pendrick is not the easy mark they were expecting; a lifetime performing the mystic arts means he knows a thing or two about misdirection and manipulation and maybe... just maybe, his psychic powers extend further than the stage of the local fleapit theatre.

Then there's the mysterious Eva, why is she more interested in what Pendrick was doing in Great Yarmouth thirty-five years ago, than on getting her hands on his loot? And her sidekick Dom has worries of his own too, all this talk of the paranormal is starting to dredge up some very disturbing memories from his childhood. Not to mention, Gerald has his own plans for the All-Seeing Stupendo.

As the night rolls on, events slowly begin to spiral out of control, curses are cast, an unexpected guest arrives and voices speak from beyond the grave... but what is genuine and what is trickery? Can supernatural forces really be at work?

By dawn, Pendrick, Gerald, Eva and Dom will all have their darkest secrets revealed, but which of them will still be alive to see the sun rise?



# THE CAST

## LES DENNIS (Stuart Pendrick / The All-Seeing Stupendo.)



Les celebrated an incredible 50 years in show business this July. Since first appearing on television talent show Opportunity Knocks, in 1971, he has maintained his position as one of the UK's best loved entertainers, constantly reinventing himself, from stand-up comedian to gameshow host and musical performer to soap star. Sideshow, his first starring role in a feature film, continues that remarkable career, following hot on the heels of a stint with the Royal Shakespeare Company and alongside a first lead role in an opera, as Sir Joseph Porter in HMS Pinafore at the English National Opera.

### LES QUOTES ON SIDESHOW:

*"I loved the script as soon as I read it. It made me laugh out loud, it also enthralled me; it made me keep guessing right to the end. So, as soon as I read it, I thought yes, and said to my agent 'I really want to do this, I love it!'"*

*"I could identify with Stuart, even though he's a psychic and I'm not, I was playing an entertainer who was a little disillusioned, a little fed up with the way the industry had treated him and I've gone through that at certain points in my career."*

## ANTHONY HEAD (Gerald)

Since achieving worldwide fame with his role in cult U.S. series Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Anthony has gone on to appear in many international film and TV hits. Recently he has won acclaim for his portrayal of the villainous Rupert Mannion in the acclaimed Apple TV+ comedy Ted Lasso. The part of Gerald in Sideshow, a long-suffering, scheming theatrical agent, adds another great comedic role to his CV.



### ANTHONY QUOTES ON SIDESHOW:

*"What drew me to this project? Script, undoubtedly. I get sent quite a few scripts and it's an old adage that you know within a couple of pages. This had me straight in there. It was funny and it was dark."*

*"I like when comedy and drama combine and when it takes you by surprise. It's a clever script, in that, at the moment you feel it's going to open out, it stays in there and watches everything under a microscope. It reminded me of Shallow Grave and I like films like that, when it doesn't do what you expect it to do."*



## APRIL PEARSON (Eva)



April is best known for her role as Michelle in the ground-breaking Channel 4 teen-drama *Skins*. In *Sideshow* she portrays a would-be femme fatale, harbouring a dark secret. She celebrated her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday on the set of *Sideshow*.

### APRIL QUOTES ON SIDESHOW:

*"I found the script really funny and that's always a good sign if it's funny when you're just reading it."*

*"I love playing a bad ass, even if Eva is more of a bad ass in her head than in reality."*

## NATHAN CLARKE (Dom)



Rising star, Nathan, has already appeared in *Plebs*, *The Duchess*, *Alex Rider* and up-coming PBS Masterpiece series *Magpie Murders*. In *Sideshow*, he portrays hapless amateur crook Dom, a role which he claims he was born to play.

### NATHAN QUOTES ON SIDESHOW:

*"It was a dream character for me, a little bit of seriousness, a little bit of comedy, Great writing, so, so funny."*

*"As soon as I read Dom's first scene in the car with Eva, I was like, yeah, I'm involved."*

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## SIDESHOW FACTS

*Sideshow* was filmed over 3-weeks in Bristol, Clevedon, Portishead and South Wales, during January and February 2019. Filming locations included the historic Curzon Cinema in Clevedon – opened in 1912, one of the UK's oldest, continuously running cinemas; the Redgrave Theatre in Bristol and the cliff-tops of Nash Point in South Wales, which have also served as a backdrop for *Doctor Who* and *His Dark Materials* in recent years.

The first night of filming was interrupted by an unscheduled bell-ringing practice and an angry couple in their underwear complaining about the crew's lights shining through their bedroom window!

A debut feature, black comic thriller *Sideshow* is a change of direction for writer director Adam Oldroyd. He is better known for his work with the BBC's Natural History Unit, most recently on David Attenborough's, *Seven Worlds One Planet* series and BAFTA nominated children's adventure show *Andy's Prehistoric Adventures*.

Cinematographer Stephen J. Brand used vintage 1960s camera lenses to capture *Sideshow's* retro look.

The film's haunting Hungarian Romani inspired score was composed by Michael Csányi-Wills and performed by some of the UK's leading musicians. The soundtrack will be released by Movie Score Media.

*Sideshow* was selected for the 2020 Cairo International Film Festival, where *Vogue Magazine* picked it was one of their "Top five films to see."

*Sideshow* is a Perfect Sphere, Sterling Pictures and Cymru Films production. The UK distribution rights were acquired by Munro Films and the North American rights were picked up Gravitass Ventures.



# MORE INFO.

TRAILER

[SIDESHOW | UK TRAILER | IN CINEMAS NOVEMBER 19, 2021 - YouTube](#)

POSTER

[SIDESHOW / POSTER - DOWNLOAD](#)

STILLS

[SIDESHOW / STILLS - DOWNLOAD](#)

BEHIND THE SCENES

[SIDESHOW / BEHIND THE SCENES FEATURETTE](#)

OUTTAKES

[SIDESHOW / OUTTAKES](#)

MAGAZINE ARTICLE

[SIDESHOW / BRITISH CINEMATOGRAPHER MAGAZINE ARTICLE](#)

Distributor: Munro Films

Director & Writer: Adam Oldroyd

Producer: Michael Riley

Cert:



Duration: 94 mins



## ADAM OLDROYD – WRITER & DIRECTOR ON SIDESHOW:

*"Sideshow is my modern take on the black humour of the old Ealing Comedies and the seedy underworlds of Graham Greene and Ted Lewis novels.*

*The inspiration to write Sideshow was a story my gran told me about a fortune-teller in the Second World War. Her friend visited the mystic to discover what had happened to her soldier husband, who was missing in action, but the predictions proved less than reliable.*

*Les was the perfect pick to play aging psychic Stuart Pendrick, his years of experience as one of the nation's best-loved entertainers was the ideal material to draw from for the role and also provided us with plenty of amusing anecdotes in the green room."*



For more details, or enquires about cast & director interviews & promotional appearances

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