

HADEWIJCH

The new film by Bruno Dumont

with Julie Sokolowski

Winner Fipresci Prize Toronto Film Festival 2009

Selected for the forthcoming London Film Festival 2009



France 2009 / 105 minutes / Certificate: tbc

Release date: Summer/Autumn 2010

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Hadewijch

Director	Bruno Dumont
Screenplay	Bruno Dumont
Photography	Yves Cape
Sound	Philippe Lecoœur and Emmanuel Crozet
Editing	Guy Lecorne
Costumes	Annie Morel-Paris and Alexandra Charles
Set	Jean Marc Tan Tan Ba
Producers	Jean Brehat, Rachid Bouchareb and Muriel Merlin
Production company	3B PRODUCTIONS
Co-production companies	ARTE France CINEMA CRRAV Nord Pas de Calais – LE FRESNOY – ZDF – ARTE – HERBSTFILMS Produktion (Germany)

In association with Cofinova 5 With the support of CNC, Région Ile-de-France, Région Nord-Pas de Cala

France 2009 / 105 minutes / 35 mm / Colour / 1.66 / Dolby SRD

Hadewijch / Céline	Julie Sokolowski
Nassir	Karl Sarafidis
Yassine	Yassine Salime
David	David Dewaele

Hadewijch

SYNOPSIS

Céline, a theology student, takes the name of Hadewijch, a 13th century mystic from Brabant, as her name for her novitiate. But shocked by the blind, ecstatic faith of Hadewijch, the mother superior tells her she must leave the convent and find her vocation in the world.

Hadewijch once again becomes Céline, 20, the daughter of a French minister. She meets Yassine, a North African from the banlieues, who introduces her to his brother Nassir, a committed Muslim and religious instructor. Her passionate love of God and her despair at God's invisibility, her rage, and her desire for self-sacrifice lead her, between grace and madness, off along dangerous paths.

Hadewijch

Bruno Dumont

Born in 1958 in Northern France, where his films are often set.

Filmography

1997	La Vie de Jésus Camera d'Or Special mention, Cannes 1997 European Film Awards – Discovery of the Year
1999	L'Humanité Winner Grand Prix , Best Actor, Best Actress Cannes 1999
2003	Twentynine Palms
2006	Flandres Winner Grand Prix , Cannes 2006
2009	Hadewijch Winner FIPRESCI Prize Toronto 2009

Director's note:

Hadewijch is the tale of the dazzling love of a young woman for Christ, her lover.

Hadewijch tells the story of people thirsting for the Absolute yet alienated by it. Apprehending the insignificance and pallor of the modern world, they thrash about in a desperate quest for Strength and Truth. They will go to the End and the Beginning, to the extremes where the forces of Good and Evil intermingle.

Hadewijch is a modern representation of the frantic desire to love and to be loved. Where fury merges with grace.

From the love of God to the military arm of Christ, Hadewijch is a catharsis, a metaphor for the inner soul.