Exclusive video: Christopher Smith on "Black Death," Part One

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The 14th century never looked so bad. Today Fangoria.com presents an exclusive video chat (see below the jump) with acclaimed British director Christopher Smith (CREEP, SEVERANCE, TRIANGLE), who previews his new movie, BLACK DEATH. The medieval horror thriller opens this Friday in New York, LA and Minnesota from Magnet Releasing and is currently available on demand. In part one of our four-part interview, Smith talks with Fango's Tony Timpone about BLACK DEATH's plot and the development of the script by WILDERNESS' Dario Poloni, as well as the story's parallels to today and potential religious controversies.

BLACK DEATH takes place in 1348. Europe has fallen under the shadow of the Bubonic Plague. As the deadly epidemic decimates all in its path, fear and superstition run rampant. In this apocalyptic environment, the church is losing its grip on the people. There are rumors of a village, hidden in marshland, which the Black Death cannot reach. There is even talk of a necromancer who leads the village and is able to bring the dead back to life. Fearsome knight Ulric (LORD OF THE RINGS' Sean Bean) is charged by the church to investigate these rumors. He enlists the guidance of a novice monk, Osmund (Eddie Redmayne), to lead him and his band of mercenary soldiers to the marshland, but Osmund has other motives for leaving his monastery. Their journey to the village and events that unfold take them into the heart of darkness and to horrors that will put Osmund's faith in himself and his love for God to the ultimate test.

BLACK DEATH co-stars genre great David Warner (THE OMEN, WAXWORK, TIME AFTER TIME), REPO MEN's Carice van Houten and Kimberly Nixon. Look for more on this period horror epic at this site all week long, see our review here and read our feature story on the film in Fango #301, on sale now.

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