



Cinema International

Country : Denmark

Bastarden

The Promise Land

2023 / Colour / 127 minutes / Danish



Director : Nikolaj Arcel

Producer : Louise Vesth

Cinematographer : Rasmus Videbaek

Editor : Olivier Bugge Couttee

Music : Dan Romer

Cast : Mads Mikkelsen, Gustav Lindh

Synopsis : With seemingly unattainable ambition of establishing a colony in the honor of the King, the poor captain Ludvig Kahlen sets out to conquer the harsh, inhospitable Danish heath in 1755. He wishes to earn Royal wealth and honour in return. But the region's lone ruler, Frederik de Schinkel, is haughty enough to think that the territory belongs to him. The aristocratic and vindictive monarch Frederik swears retribution when he finds out that the maid Ann Barbara and her servant husband have fled for refuge with Kahlen. He thus uses his power to drive the captain off the land. When Kahlen refuses to be intimidated, he indulges in an unfair fight, endangering not only his own life but also the families of outsiders grown up around him on the heath.



Director's Biography : Nikolaj Arcel is a Danish filmmaker and screenwriter. The Danish Film School awarded him a degree. Through screenplays for movies like *Island of Lost Souls* and *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, he has achieved breakthrough success as a writer in the United States. Among the films he directed, *A Royal Affair* is the most acclaimed, winning two awards at Berlin International Film Festival.