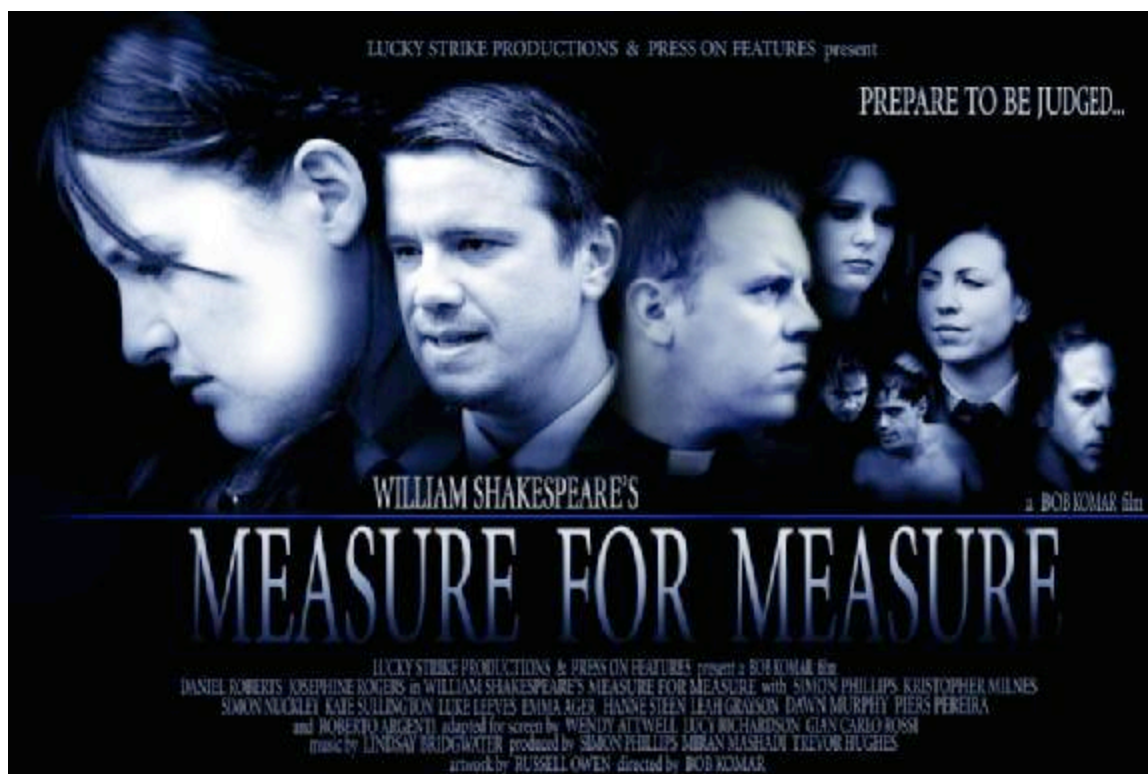




**PRESS PACK**

**"WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S MEASURE FOR MEASURE"**



[www.measureformeasure-movie.co.uk](http://www.measureformeasure-movie.co.uk)

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## **Brief Synopsis**



Our contemporary re-working of William Shakespeare's problem play is set in the British Army, as a clear line of authority and sexual protocol still strongly exist. This setting, in light of today's problems facing the armed forces, also reflects the core themes of the narrative; sex and power. A general breakdown on discipline can be laid heavily at the door of our duke

character, acting as commander of this battalion of troops, but as he realizes what must be done in order to restore respect for his position – he also realizes that his own indiscretions but him in a precarious position with regards to enforcing morale discipline. The Duke decides to pass this responsibility to a deputy, Angelo, whom will happily do the Dukes dirty work in his absence. Angelo, a strict and frustrated young officer immediately sets about making his presence felt. He sentences Claudio for immediate execution for his violation of a senior female officer, and his part in a flag burning drunken stunt. This provokes a series of protests from officers and friends alike, which all falls on Angelo's deaf ears, until word is sent for Claudio's sister to appeal on his behalf. Isabelle approaches Angelo, from a religious background and with a character of complete morale integrity, with the intention of reprieving her wilder brother. Angelo enjoys the immediate power he has over such a beautiful and virginal type character, and a battle of wits ensues. Angelo at one point sexually assaults Isabelle, in a rare lapse of self control, and delivers an ultimatum for her to sleep with him for her brothers life. Isabelle goes to her brother for advice, whom encourages her to fulfill Angelo's requiring. In despair Isabelle returns to religion for council and the Duke, disguised as a priest – whom has been watching from the wings – advises her to entrap Angelo by using a love-sick Marianna, an ex-girlfriend of Angelo. Under cover of darkness Marianna sleeps with Angelo, whilst he thinks it's Isabelle, but the next day orders her brothers execution anyway. Isabelle despairs at this, but the duke secretly intervenes to stop the execution, but allows all to believe that it has taken place... the trap is now set and the Duke makes a very public return to entrap Angelo.



## **Themes**

Our Feminist adaptation of the play, turns the focus heavily onto the decisions that Isabelle makes throughout the play. Her refusal to accept man's self appointed status, cuts through the chain of command that exists in the armed forces with complete disregard for

the environment that she stands in. Her refusal to accept the court martial decision, puts Isabelle in the driving seat of the narrative – with all the male characters trying to force or influence her actions.

### **Target Demographic**

Our productions key target demographic will be 14-16 year old children currently studying the works of Shakespeare for English GCSE examinations. Measure for Measure has now be included as one of the core texts for children studying GCSE English, with no current Film version of the play available. It is being targeted as a teaching tool for schools, with clear education benefits. The average character age has been lowered to try and increase the relevance for our younger audience, and the text edited to give a punchy pace to the film narrative. The language has been kept intact.

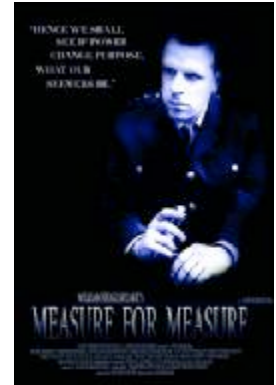
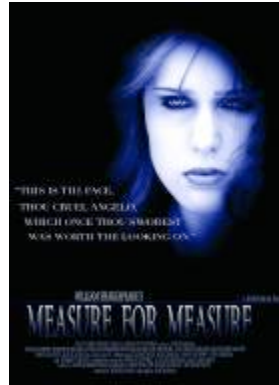
### **Key People**

The Project has been put together with the help of a vast cast and crew, but to summarise I have listed the principal members and their roles below.

<b>CAST</b>	<b>CREW</b>
Daniel Roberts (Angelo)	Bob Komar (Director)
Josephine Rogers (Isabelle)	Lindsay Bridgwater (Composer)
Simon Phillips (Duke)	Paula Baker (Editor)
Simon Nuckley (Claudio)	Miran Mashadi (Producer)
Emma Ager (Marianna)	Simon Phillips (Producer)
Kris Milnes (Provost)	Wendy Attwell (Adaptation)
Kate Sullington (Juliet)	Lucy Richardson (Script Edit)
Hanne Steen (Overdone)	Gian Carlo Rossi (Script Edit)
Luke Leeves (Lucio)	Russell Owen /Peter Ryan (Artwork)
Dawn Murphy (Escalus)	Sabre Sales (Costume)
Leah Grayson (Pompey)	Farzana Islam (Make-up)
Robert Anderson (Froth)	Richard Muhammad (1 <sup>st</sup> Camera)
Roberto Argenti (Priest)	Alan Ronald (2 <sup>nd</sup> Camera)
Piers Pereira (Elbow)	Trevor Hughes (Co-Producer)

### **Publicity Themes**

When creating the look for *Measure For Measure* we decided to go with a cool blue, dark theme for the posters – moody and atmospheric to give the audience the expectation of a dark narrative. The Decision to remove the comedic scenes from the film has now left the narrative as a whole very dark and gritty. This will be supported by the grade and music score for the picture. Some individual publicity posters designs for the four leads are as follows:



However, we have also designed a 'rouger' and more lively look for our website and DVD cover:



### Distribution



Pinnacle Vision is the distributor in connection with this title, and indeed the distributor that will follow all of Press on features titles coming in the next two years. Pinnacle have an unquestionable experience in the market and look forward to a successful partnership.

Publicist David Moore is also heading up a direct mail shot marketing campaign that we get flyers to English Departments in every secondary school in the country. To increase awareness of the film we've also made a submission for the film to be screened at the Raindance Film Festival in September of this year. Exact details available on the Raindance official website (schedule to be announced in July 2007).



[www.raindancefilmfestival.org](http://www.raindancefilmfestival.org)

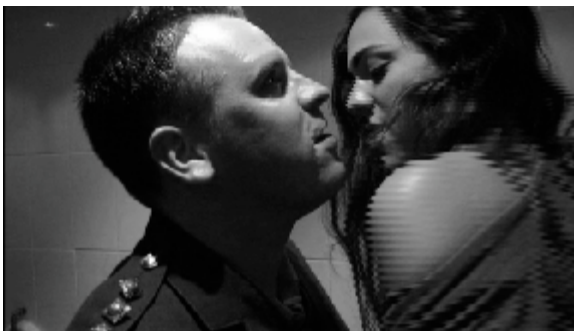
**STILLS:**



Daniel Roberts, as Angelo, waiting to be seduced by Isabelle.



Simon Phillips, Duke, and Josephine Rogers, Isabelle, meet for a final showdown with Angelo.



Duke and Overdone, played by Hanne Steen, embrace in the explosive opening scenes to the film.



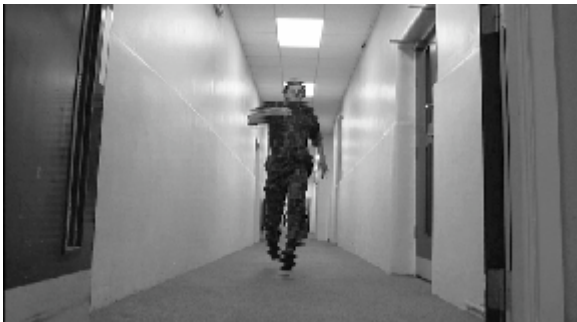
Angelo attempts to Rape Isabelle as she pleads for her brothers life.



Isabelle Huddles in the shower after being attacked by Angelo.



The Duke seeks help from the church, but specifically his old priest and friend, played by Roberto Argenti, to disguise himself as a blind priest to mix amongst people without being recognized, in true puppet master fashion.



Luke Leeves, Lucio, Rushes to inform Isabelle that her brother has been arrested by Angelo.



Kris Milnes, Provost, Confronts Angelo about his decision to Execute Claudio. Isabelle waits tentatively in the background to hear what Angelo says.

## Principal Cast



### Josephine Rogers

As Isabelle

Josephine finally makes her feature film debut starring as the female lead in *Measure For Measure*. Josephine takes the lead in the film after performing the play several times with Metra Theatre, and taking a production of the play to the Shakespeare International Festival in Gdansk, Poland. Although she makes her feature film debut with *Measure For Measure*, Josephine has made several short films and music videos – as well as several theatre runs with theatre company Metra Theatre. Recently she has appeared in *Lysistrata*, *Three Sisters*, *Comedy of Errors*.



### Daniel Roberts

As Angelo

Daniel Roberts comes to the cast as a seasoned professional, having appeared in *Casualty*, *Medical Mavericks*, *Lemmings*, *Comedy Lab* and *Edith's Finger*. Dan was the last cast member to be confirmed, after several actors had to be let go for not being able to give the character depth. Dan was a real find for the production team – and the film had to be re-scheduled around Knee Surgery that he had during the filming shoot. Despite his surgery, Dan was on set just four days later and gave the Angelo character the depth we needed.



## SIMON PHILLIPS

AS DUKE

Simon takes on the Role of Producer and Actor in the producer in the production. As an actor Simon Toured with Metra Theatre, under the direction of Gian Carlo Rossi and Lucy Richardson, for the theatrical production of Measure For Measure. As an actor he has also appeared in theatre productions; Comedy of Errors, Imaginary Invalid, King Arthur, The Lesson and Measure for Measure. Has also appeared in films and Television series; *My Family, The Sanctuary, Honeypot Killers, Friends Reunited, Jesus Versus the Messiah, Between Brothers, Tiny Town, Killing Paradise and Jack Says (filming this June).*



## Emma Agerwald

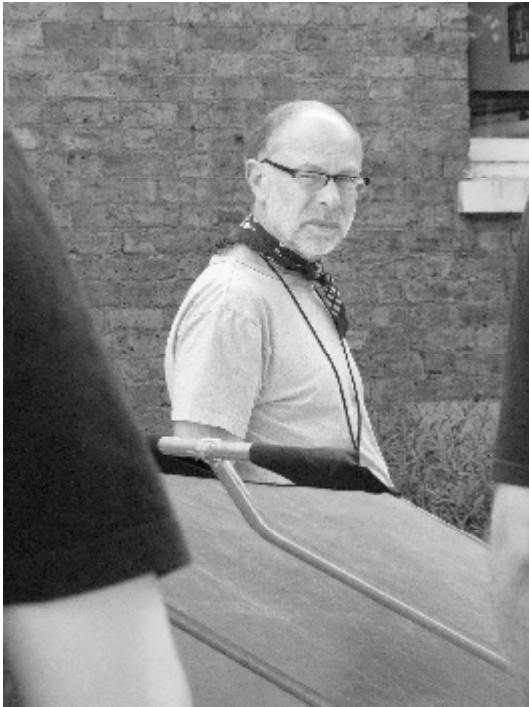
As Marianna

Emma is a Swedish actress who takes on the role of the emotionally disturbed Marianna. Emma's striking appearance makes her transition into wild lover easy – in true single white female style. Emma has also appeared in film and television series; *Cannes, Halsning Fran Smaland, Passion and The Angel*. Emma delayed her move to LA to accomodate the filming schedule.

*'Filming on this project was a great experience for an actress whose first language was not English, I hope everyone thinks I did Shakespeare justice.'*



## Principal Crew



### Bob Komar

Director

Bob Comes to the team after establishing a great producer / director relationship with Simon Phillips. Together they have produced two other films *Friends Reunited* and *Seven letters*. Bob uses his photographic and lighting background to co-produce this feature film. Bob's past commercial clients have included; Aston Martin, Ford, Peugeot, Renault, Triumph and Honda. On working on Measure for Measure Bob says '*Always a pleasure working with Simon and the team that we built up over the past three years. The whole process was a wonderful creative exercise – and I sincerely hope that children benefit with greater access to the world that Shakespeare creates.*'



### Simon Phillips

Producer

As mentioned before Simon takes on the role of both producer and principal cast member. On putting the project together Simon amalgamates production crews from his three previous productions, *GO*, *Friends Reunited* and *Seven Letters*. Simon also producer a theatrical fringe theatre tour of the production early 2006 – and is also the place where he decided that the education market would benefit from a film version of the play. When asked about the production he states:

*'The team that I built from previous films meant that this whole process was enjoyable, creative and finally commercially viable. Ever since I was involved in the theatrical adaptation I knew that I had to bring this play*

*to a wider audience.'*



## Lindsay Bridgwater

Music

Measure For Measure will be Lindsay's 3<sup>rd</sup> film with production partners Simon Phillips and Bob Komar – and probably the most challenging of three. Lindsay worked closely with director and editor on the feel of the music and the pace which it should deliver to the narrative. Lindsay is an accomplished musician in his own right, and is currently lead organist for the London Philamonia Orchestra. Lindsay has also composed / assisted in the composition for many films/ video games over the last ten years including; *Harry Potter(VG)*, *James Bond(VG)*, *GO*, *Seven Letters*, *The Madness of king George*, *Goya's Ghost*, *The Orient Express*, *The Highland Express* aswell as many theatrical compositions.

## Paula Baker

Editor

Paula comes into the production as the newest addition to the post production team, although probably the most experienced in her field. Paula has 15 years experience of editing TV/ film documentary and drama under her belt. She comes straight from editing the hit TV series *Sugar Rush*, but has also edited or assisted in the following; *The Apprentice*, *Child of our time*, *The Real CSI*, *Born Idle*, *DNA the promise or the price*, *Science of Wizardary*, *Risking it all*, *Build a New Life*, *Stephen Lawrence*, *Secrets and Lies*, *Paddington Green*, *Naked Secrets*, *Passport to the Sun*, *Masterchef Goes Large*, *Blakes 7 DVD release*, *It's a Mind Thing*, *The Making of HEX* and *Berenice*.

