

Who Can He Be?

A new film on the Shroud by our Editor, David Rolfe.

If you care to look at my British Film Institute page: (<https://bit.ly/DWRBFI>) you will see a list of well over a hundred films and TV programmes I have made from 1972 onwards. The subjects have been diverse to say the least. None of them, however, have been so challenging and fulfilling as the three films I have made on the Shroud. Despite the shadow cast over it by the C14 test it is a subject that, a bit like the person depicted on it, for me at any rate, refuses to lie down and die. Imagine my delight then, in my semi-retirement, to be given an opportunity to revisit the subject with an independent budget equivalent to my original and BAFTA-winning film, *The Silent Witness*, which some of you may remember.



David Rolfe lining up a shot for his new film “Who Can He Be?”
(Photograph by Paula Franklin)

It was always going to be a challenge and my first approach was almost de-railed by the pandemic. However, it is an ill wind etc. I was forced to re-think and approach the subject in a completely different way. The result is...well you will soon be able to judge for yourselves. Research into the subject has not stopped and we also know a lot more about what was going on behind the scenes of the C14 test. There is also the fact that, because of that test, and the way the result was announced, there are now several generations who have never heard about the Shroud or, if they have, only as an eccentric aberration of wishful Christian thinking. They are my target audience, and I can only

hope the excitement of discovery that most of us have felt as we got to know more about the subject over the years, will be one of the results.

My plan is to do the same as I did with *The Silent Witness* and that is to put the film on independently in a central venue in London at Easter next year and, effectively, see what happens*. Last time, within ten days of it opening I had sold the film around the world and the BBC gave it the cover of the Radio Times. Could the same thing happen again, nearly half a century on? For many, it will be the greatest story never told.

As always, production of the newsletter has been a team effort and I have never been more grateful for the wonderful support I have had from the whole team at this very busy time.

There are two papers from Josep Fernández Capo from Madrid, who helped me with some research for the new film which, incidentally, will be dedicated to the late Peter Rinaldi S.D.B.

I would also like to draw your attention to our new masthead which has been created by our assiduous proof-reader, Philippa Foster, and also to the article "*Children and the Shroud of Turin*". We know a picture is worth a thousand words and never has this been more apparent than in the comments from the Children you will read in this.



David Rolfe (centre) discusses a shot with Director of Photography David Crute
(Photograph by Paula Franklin)

* *You will be able to keep in touch with developments by visiting the film's website: whocanhebe.com.*