

*A Fourth and Twenty Eight Films production  
In association with WME Independent*



# WIDOW CLICQUOT

## PRODUCTION NOTES

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## SHORT SYNOPSIS

After her husband's untimely death, Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot flouts convention by assuming the reins of the fledgling wine business they had nurtured together. Steering the company through dizzying political and financial reversals, she defies her critics and revolutionizes the champagne industry to become one of the world's first great businesswomen.

## LONG SYNOPSIS

In the vineyards of Champagne, a 19-year-old Barbe-Nicole takes in her surroundings with her new husband, François Clicquot, by her side. Thin, boyish, attractive in an unconventional way, he is smiling and elated to show his young bride their new home. An arranged marriage, Barbe-Nicole is just as unsure of him as she is of life on the vineyard, a life she knows nothing about. Nonetheless, François surprises her with his vulnerability on their first night together. His modern philosophies and Voltaire-like approach to marriage and partnership are unusual for the current times, impressing her.

It doesn't take long for her to pick up on his passion and knowledge for winemaking – his desire to create a truly fine product – and for her to quickly realize that wine is not the only temperamental element in the mix. Although François' passion has a habit of manifesting obsessive and manic behavior, his genuine love for his new wife and for his wine vocation are unequivocally apparent. He wants nothing more than to teach Barbe-Nicole what he knows, even seeking her reassurance and approval. She is innately talented in this domain, as if born for this, absorbing all that is transpiring around her.

Their family soon expands with the addition of a baby girl, Clementine. The next few years are spent routinely convincing François' father, Philippe Clicquot, that his investment in the business is worthwhile as the couple faces complications with harvest after harvest. The ultimate challenge comes at the untimely passing of François due to excessive self-medicating. This jolts Barbe-Nicole to her core and leaves her devastated.

Without missing a beat, Philippe immediately looks to sell the vines to neighbor and competitor Jean-Remy Moët. Now aged 27, Barbe-Nicole is determined to see François' dream through. To the point that we wonder, whose dream is it really? Widow Clicquot's character might be summarized with two words: audacious and intelligent. She successfully convinces Philippe to let her assume the reins of the operation, a role she undertakes with incredible determination.

Uncompromising when it comes to the treatment of her vines and the quality of her wines, Barbe-Nicole works tirelessly to perfect new techniques of production to improve the champagne-making process. However, not all those by her side are supportive of her endeavors and take every opportunity to undermine her along the way. Widow Clicquot finds an ally in Louis Bohne, a renowned wine salesman and dear friend of François. He advises her on how to navigate the vineyard staff and gives notes on the wine she is producing, though he doesn't automatically agree to selling her wine.

Barbe-Nicole continues to face her own setbacks as she tries to outsmart her competition amidst the embargos brought on by the Napoleonic war. Her failures bring her to the brink of giving up as she has no money and is surrounded by people who want to see her fail. Her self-confidence waivers.

Through her trials and tribulations, Barbe-Nicole builds a solid connection with Edouard Werler, Philippe Clicquot's accountant, whose patience and kind-hearted nature help her through the low points. He helps her understand the business' financial position and works with her to scheme and find a way forward. With all odds against her, she takes a gamble and illegally ships her best vintage to date, leaving the future of the business hinging on its success. Louis comes and goes during this time, and their relationship takes a romantic turn.

After many agonizing weeks, Louis returns with news that the majority of the shipment has spoiled but he was able to salvage a few bottles and secretly sell them to Russian nobility. They love her champagne, filling her with hope. Barbe-Nicole continues working day and night to improve on the next vintage which now serves as collateral. Despite the ongoing war, her "Comet" vintage becomes a huge success with the Tsar himself.

Her entrepreneurial mindset and devotion to her product continue to pay off when Barbe-Nicole invents the "table de remuage" (riddling table), allowing her to clear champagne in a fraction of the time and get her product to market faster than her competition. Her doubters believe she is degrading a highly regarded process sacred to the Champagne region. They force her into court to face an accusation that she is illegally running a business and is a widow in name only, trying to destroy her personally and professionally.

Widow Clicquot emerges victorious, gradually building the Veuve Clicquot property through intuition and acumen to make it one of the foremost vineyards in all of Champagne. Within just a few years, she turns the name Veuve Clicquot into a brand of excellence, a name that is now renowned throughout the world. Barbe-Nicole is remembered as the "Grande Dame of Champagne".

### ABOUT THE FILM

WIDOW CLICQUOT is based on the New York Times bestselling biography, *"The Widow Clicquot"* by Tilar J. Mazzeo.

Shot entirely on location in France, most of the production took place in Burgundy at the historical Chateau de Beru, with its picturesque vineyards and large manoir, a substitute for the real Verzy, home of the Clicquots, where the world-famous Veuve Clicquot champagne was brought to life in the early 1800's.

With personal guidance from the brand's archivist, the cast and crew had an inside look at the life of Barbe-Nicole and gleaned extraordinary insight into her eventual champagne empire. The film's closing scenes were shot in Reims, in the heart of Champagne.

## **THE MAKING OF WIDOW CLICQUOT**

### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

When I first read the script for WIDOW CLICQUOT by Erin Dignam, what jumped out at me was the life of a unique woman, Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot (Haley Bennett), told through a battle between the present (1806) and an invading army of memories (1799). I saw it immediately as a unique and personal Ghost Story, full of emotion and very much tied to the psychogeography of the house and the vineyard where she lived. Fundamentally this is about relationships; one with the past - the husband (Tom Sturridge) and the other with the widow's mentor and distributor in the present - Louis Bohne (Sam Riley). But ultimately, this is about Barbe-Nicole's transformative relationship with herself and her work (the vines), arriving into her own power, her own identity, and creating her own incredible legacy.

Like Sunset Boulevard, the story begins with an unexplained corpse, a young husband, François Clicquot and a newly created widow, aged 26. One strand of the film slowly fills the gaps of a life lived and then tragically lost. If you like, this part of the film is traveling backwards. The present tense of the story navigates the life of Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot as a young widow - her struggle to become the proprietor and then desperately trying to continue the work she had started with her husband; her attempts to build a business in early 19th century France, when she could not sell her champagne nor export it abroad due to the Napoleonic wars and their restrictions; her then resorting to smuggling and, with the help of Louis Bohne, shipping her first vintage to Amsterdam.

WIDOW CLICQUOT is the chronicle of a deeply resourceful and entrepreneurial force being born. Barbe-Nicole was clearly an exceptional and dedicated young woman. She found a way to keep going and produce not only one of the greatest vintages of champagne ever made, but managed to ship it through a blockade to her market in St. Petersburg. We focus the film on her work, her dedication to the vines and counterpoint it with memories of her marriage, which is slowly disintegrating. The movement between the past and present allows us access to the inner life of this extraordinary woman as she arrives into her power, just as her husband is losing his battle with mental illness and opium.

In our story, Barbe-Nicole Ponsardin Clicquot never leaves the vineyard after her husband's passing, she was forever 'married to the vines'. Apart from the final court scene, the entire film takes place within the corridors and rooms of the one house, warehouse, vineyard and the caves of the Clicquot Family estate. I saw within this limitation a strange kind of creative freedom and liberation. The beauty of the Verzy vineyard becomes a psychological prison from which she does not wish to escape, and only in the final courtroom sequence is she forced to venture beyond the walls of her prison.

The film ends on her ultimate decision to remain a widow and to devote herself to the vines alone. It is in this small triumph, where in my mind the past is finally exorcized, that the ghost of her husband has been put to rest. It is a powerful and poignant moment of self-realization and I think incredibly relevant to see a woman from the Napoleonic age hold such staunch values and self-belief. I love all the characters in this

story, and the actors have truly given everything to excavate and deliver these performances, in the rain and the deep mud of a French November.

This film has been a labor of love, a true collective effort. Knowing we were holding the delicate tendrils of this superb story bound us together and I feel very privileged to have been part of this amazing team of creatives and producers. WIDOW CLICQUOT is a truly independent film - we are proud to be premiering at Toronto and cannot wait to share the film with you.

- Director Thomas Napper

## **BIOGRAPHIES – CREW**

### **THOMAS NAPPER – Director**

Thomas' debut feature JAWBONE (starring Johnny Harris, Ray Winstone and Ian McShane) was nominated for 7 BIFAs and a BAFTA Nomination for Best Debut feature in 2018. This year he directed for the BBC series "World On Fire" (Helen Hunt, Lesley Manville, Sean Bean). In 2010 he directed the award winning Paramount feature documentary LOST ANGELS: SKID ROW IS MY HOME. He is also a second unit director for films such as ALADDIN (Guy Ritchie), MARY POPPINS RETURNS (Rob Marshall), THE DARKEST HOUR (Joe Wright) and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Bill Condon).

Currently Thomas is directing "Wheel of Time" for Amazon/Sony Studios. Starring Rosamund Pike, Dan Henney, Kate Fleetwood and Zoe Robins. Thomas recently directed the feature film WIDOW CLICQUOT based on the novel about the first female entrepreneur Madame 'Veuve' Clicquot. The film stars Haley Bennett, Sam Riley and Tom Sturridge. Next Year, Thomas will shoot ARCTIC TERN for EMU Films.

### **CHRISTINA WEISS LURIE – Producer**

After a successful run with Vox3 Films and Screen Pass Pictures, Christina Weiss Lurie founded Fourth & Twenty Eight Films in 2017 to focus on feature film and television series production. Vox3 produced several feature films including GAME 6, BROKEN ENGLISH, NEVER FOREVER, ADAM AND FUR: AN IMAGINARY PORTRAIT OF DIANE ARBUS. Under Screen Pass Pictures, she executive produced SERGIO, INSIDE JOB, INOCENTE, A PLACE AT THE TABLE, BIG MEN, and WE ARE THE GIANT, receiving Oscar awards for INSIDE JOB and INOCENTE. Through Fourth & Twenty Eight Films, her own banner, she executive produced DISHONESTY: THE TRUTH ABOUT LIES with CNBC, the documentary INVISIBLE HANDS, BRUISED starring and directed by Halle Berry, and most recently WIDOW CLICQUOT. She is also partnered with Andrew Lazar, producing RUPTURE starring Noomi Rapace, LAST LOOKS starring Charlie Hunnam and Mel Gibson, and PERSUASION starring Dakota Johnson and Henry Golding.

### **HALEY BENNETT – Producer/Lead Actress**

Haley Bennett most recently starred in MAGAZINE DREAMS opposite Jonathan Majors, which won the US Dramatic Special Jury Award: Creative Vision at the Sundance Film Festival.

Haley can most recently be seen in the MGM/Orion Pictures' project, TILL, opposite Whoopi Goldberg and directed by Chinonye Chukwu. She can also be seen in a lead role in the MGM and Working Title musical film adaptation of the Off-Broadway play, CYRANO, directed by Joe Wright, and reprising her role from the stage play alongside Peter Dinklage, Ben Mendelsohn, and Kelvin Harrison Jr. She also plays a starring role in Ron Howard's adaptation of the renowned memoir, HILLBILLY ELEGY, opposite Amy Adams and Glenn

Close, and in Antonio Campos' DEVIL ALL THE TIME opposite Tom Holland and Rob Pattinson both on Netflix.

Haley was awarded Best Actress at the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival for her extraordinary performance in IFC Films' SWALLOW—in which Haley also had her producing debut and where the film had its world premiere. The accolades for SWALLOW continued with her nomination for Best Actress in a Horror Movie at the inaugural Critics Choice Super Awards.

### **JOE WRIGHT – Producer**

Joe Wright, film director, studied at St Martin's College, London. With a total of nine feature films released to date, his directorial work has received 35 BAFTA, 24 Academy Awards, 12 Golden Globe nominations and wins.

Wright's feature film directorial debut was PRIDE & PREJUDICE in 2005, starring Keira Knightley, Matthew MacFadyen, Rosamund Pike and Donald Sutherland. This won him a BAFTA Award for Best Director.

ATONEMENT, based on Ian McEwan's novel, was released in 2007. Written by Christopher Hampton, it starred Keira Knightley and James McAvoy. It won an Oscar for the best original music score.

2009 saw the release of THE SOLOIST, starring Robert Downey Jr. and Jamie Foxx, which was followed by HANNA in May 2011, starring Cate Blanchett and Saoirse Ronan.

ANNA KARENINA was released in September 2012, starring Keira Knightley, Jude Law and Aaron Taylor-Johnson which took home a BAFTA and an Oscar for best costume design. Soon afterwards, Joe made his debut in the theater world with TRELAWNY OF THE WELLS at the Donmar Theatre, followed by A SEASON IN THE CONGO at the Young Vic starring Chiwetel Ejiofor.

In 2015 Joe collaborated with Warner Brothers on PAN. A love letter to the writings of JM Barrie, this follows a young Peter as he journeys to Neverland and stars Hugh Jackman.

DARKEST HOUR was released in 2017 and starred Kristin Scott Thomas, Lily James and Gary Oldman. Oldman won an Oscar for his performance as Sir Winston Churchill.

In May 2021 WOMAN IN THE WINDOW was released on Netflix. The cast includes Amy Adams, Julianne Moore and Gary Oldman.

Wright's latest movie is CYRANO, a musical based on the play 'Cyrano de Bergerac' by Edmond Rostand and stars Peter Dinklage, Haley Bennett, Kelvin Harrison Jr. and Ben Mendelsohn.

Currently in Post-production on M. SON OF THE CENTURY, the new Sky Original series based on the Premio Strega-winning and international bestselling book by Antonio Scurati, which chronicles the birth of fascism in Italy and the Duce Benito Mussolini's rise to power.

#### **CAROLINE CHAMPETIER, AFC – Cinematographer**

Cinematographer Caroline Champetier was behind the lens. Known for her talent beyond borders, Caroline Champetier has garnered numerous awards, notably the César for Best Cinematography, the Gianni di Venanzo Prize for *Of Gods and Men* by Xavier Beauvois in 2011, and the Silver Frog at Camerimage 2012 for *HOLY MOTORS*. She was nominated four more times at the César for *Holy Motors* (2012), *LES INNOCENTES* (2016), *LES GARDIENNES* (2017) and *ANNETTE* (2021). The latter earned her the Lumière Award in 2022. In February 2023, she was also honored with the Berlinale Camera award at the Berlin Film Festival in recognition of her special contributions to filmmaking. Caroline's most recent work includes Fyza Boulifa's *THE DAMNED DON'T CRY*, shown at the Venice Film Festival 2022.

#### **BRYCE DESSNER - Composer**

Bryce Dessner is a vital and rare force in new music. He has won Grammy Awards both as a classical composer and with the band The National, of which he is founding member, guitarist, arranger and co-principal songwriter. He is also an increasingly high-profile presence in the world of film score composition. The breadth and level of Dessner's creative output is remarkable.

Dessner's rapidly expanding body of works is commissioned by the world's leading ensembles, from Orchestre de Paris and London Philharmonic Orchestra to the New York Philharmonic, Kronos Quartet and Carnegie Hall.

Few artists are able to bridge diverse creative worlds with such virtuosity, and he regularly collaborates with some of the world's most respected artists. These include Philip Glass, Alejandro González Iñárritu, Katia and Marielle Labèque, Paul Simon, Sufjan Stevens, Caroline Shaw, Johnny Greenwood, Bon Iver, Justin Peck, Ragnar Kjartansson, Kelley O'Connor, Nico Muhly and Steve Reich, who named Dessner "a major voice of his generation." His arrangements can be heard on new albums by Taylor Swift, Paul Simon and Bon Iver among others.

Dessner was named one of a collective of eight "extraordinary artists, thinkers and doers" to help steer the artistic leadership of Esa-Pekka Salonen when he took over as San Francisco Symphony Orchestra's Music Director in September 2020.

Dessner was Grammy and Golden Globe nominated for the soundtrack of Alejandro González Iñárritu's Oscar-winning *THE REVENANT* co-written with Ryuichi Sakamoto and Alva Noto. Film score credits also include Oscar-nominated *THE TWO POPES* by Oscar-nominated director Fernando Meirelles, the musical



CYRANO for director Joe Wright and MGM, C'MON C'MON starring Joaquin Phoenix for director Mike Mills and A24, and Alejandro González Iñárritu's BARDÓ.

Major classical works include Concerto for Two Pianos (2018) written for Katia and Marielle Labèque and premiered by London Philharmonic Orchestra and recorded for release on Dessner's album El Chan on Deutsche Grammophon in 2019; Voy a Dormir (2018) written for mezzo-soprano Kelley O'Connor and St. Luke's Orchestra; Skrik Trio (2017), commissioned by Steve Reich and Carnegie Hall; No Tomorrow (a ballet by Ragnar Kjartansson, Margrét Bjarnadóttir and Bryce Dessner, 2017 and winner of Iceland's Gríman Award); and Wires (2016), commissioned for Ensemble Intercontemporain and Matthias Pintscher.

In 2019, Gautier Capuçon and his seven-cello ensemble premiered Dessner's The Forest, newly commissioned by Fondation Louis Vuitton; Australian Chamber Orchestra toured Dessner's iconic work Réponse Lutoslawski across Australia; and Los Angeles Philharmonic and Roomful of Teeth premiered the major new theater piece by Dessner integrating the work of photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, Triptych (Eyes for One on Another). Meanwhile the Metropolitan Museum in New York, for one of its first ever contemporary installations, featured the song Death is Elsewhere co-written by Dessner.

Dessner's other albums include St. Carolyn by the Sea on Deutsche Grammophon (2014); Music for Wood and Strings (2015); and Aheym, commissioned by Kronos Quartet (2009). Further releases in 2019 include When We Are Inhuman, a collaborative album between Dessner, Bonnie 'Prince' Billy, and Eighth Blackbird; and an album of Dessner's string compositions performed by Ensemble Resonanz.

Dessner is very active as a curator and is regularly called upon to program festivals and events around the world. He has crafted weekend residencies in his name at Barbican London, Philharmonie de Paris and Hamburg's Elbphilharmonie. He co-founded and curates the festivals musicnow in Cincinnati, HAVEN in Copenhagen, Sounds from a Safe Harbour in Cork, and PEOPLE.

Dessner is principal songwriter for The National along with his brother Aaron, in collaboration with singer/lyricist Matthew Berninger. In 2023 the band released their latest studio recording, First Two Pages of Frankenstein, including appearances from Sufjan Stevens, Phoebe Bridgers, and Taylor Swift.

## **RICHARD MARIZY – Editor**

Editor Richard Marizy was nominated for Best Editing for LA VIE EN ROSE, directed by Olivier Dahan, at the Cesar Awards and the Satellite Awards in 2007. He then began to work worldwide on films such as Jérôme Salle's LARGO WINCH, Christian Dugay's JAPPELOUP, Eran Riklis's A BORROWED IDENTITY from Sayed Kashua's novel, Pepe Danquart's RUN BOY RUN from Uri Orlev's novel, and most recently on the international series "Marie-Antoinette" created by Déborah Davis, and Olivier Dahan's film SIMONE: WOMAN OF THE CENTURY, about the life of Simone Weil.

### **MARIE FRÉMONT – Costume Designer**

Marie Frémont is a french costume designer. She's well known for designing the costumes of the TV series "Marie-Antoinette".

She learned her job as an assistant costume designer on the films JACKIE, THE LAST DUEL, and the series "Versailles". She attaches great importance to details, the choice of materials and colors. She loves to gather talented people as part of her crew, whether it's the cutters, the sewers, embroiderers, dyers, milliners and guides them to imagine and create costumes that will help make the characters come alive and be an integral piece of the story's narration.

### **FULVIO POZZOBON – Hair Designer**

Mr. Fulvio Pozzobon is a key hairdresser and wigmaker who has been working in the movie industry for 30 years in France and internationally. He is specialized in period and contemporary hairstyles, and works in the world of cinema and fashion. Mr. Pozzobon was trained by the great professionals such as Vidal SASSOON in the UK and Jean-Marc Maniatis in France.

He has worked on a number of major films, including MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 7 by Christopher McQuarrie, INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS by Quentin Tarantino, LE PASSÉ by Asghar Farhadi, ASTERIX ET OBELIX MISSION CLÉOPÂTRE by Alain Chabat, INCEPTION by Christopher Nolan, THE TOURIST by Florian Henckel Von Donnersmarck, MARIE ANTOINETTE by Sofia Coppola, LES 3 MOUSQUETAIRES D'ARTAGNAN ET MILADY by Martin Bourboulon, ALIBI.COM2 by Philippe Lacheau, MR. AZNAVOUR by Grand Corps Malade and Mehdi Idir.

### **NOA YEHONATAN – Make Up Designer**

Noa Yehonatan is an International Film and Fashion Makeup and Hair Designer, working professionally since 2007. During this period, Noa worked as a makeup artist for Juliette Binoche, Susan Sarandon, Leonardo Dicaprio, Lea Drucker, Dylan Penn, Nathalie Baye, Laure Calamy amongst other French and International artists.

Makeup designer for several award-winning films: CUSTODY by Xavier Legrand, 5 French César wins 2017. SYNONYMES by Nadav Lapid, Golden Bear award, Berlinale Film Festival 2019. AHED'S KNEE by Nadav Lapid, Prix du Jury, Festival de Cannes 2021. LA PASSION DE DODIN BOUFFANT by Tran Anh Hung, Prix de la Mise en Scène, Festival de Cannes 2023.

In addition to filmmaking, Noa works in the fashion industry. She contributed as a makeup artist to fashion and couture shows for houses such as Dior, Louis Vuitton, Saint Laurent, Max mara and Acne

shows. She also works on fashion shoots, red carpets and Galas for film festivals. Noa has also collaborated on several TV projects for ARTE, Netflix, NBC network, Canal +, TF1. ARTE's "Under Control" was awarded the 'Best Series' award at the 2023 Serie Mania Festival.

#### **CHRISTINE RASPILLÈRE – Line Producer**

Christine Raspillere is a Paris-based Line-Producer with a long and wide experience in Feature Films and Television. She has worked in France and abroad in numerous countries and is equally at ease with French and foreign Productions and crews.

Her main credits include MARIE-ANTOINETTE by Sofia Coppola, Suite Francaise by Saul Dibb, THE FLIGHT OF THE STORKS by Jan Kounen, and MISTER BOB by Thomas Vincent. She's also worked on THE GRAY MAN by the Russo Brothers and THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM by Paul Greengrass.

She completed WIDOW CLICQUOT in 2023.

## **BIOGRAPHIES – CAST**

### **HALEY BENNETT – Barbe-Nicole**

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### **TOM STURRIDGE - Francois Clicquot**

Tom can currently be seen starring as the lead role in the highly anticipated Netflix series “The Sandman”, which debuted at #1 on Netflix and is based on Neil Gaiman’s widely acclaimed comic book series.

Tom can also be seen in the HBO series “Irma Vep”, written and directed by Olivier Assayas, starring Alicia Vikander, which is currently at 95% on Rotten Tomatoes.

Prior to that, Tom could be seen on his sold-out runs of *Sea Wall / A Life* opposite Jake Gyllenhaal on both Broadway and The Public Theatre which garnered rave reviews. His previous run on Broadway was in the stage adaptation of 1984, George Orwell’s dystopian novel produced by Scott Rudin and Sonia Friedman. Tom played Winston Smith alongside Olivia Wilde and Reed Birney.

Tom also starred in *VELVET BUZZSAW* alongside Jake Gyllenhaal, Rene Russo, John Malkovich, and Toni Collette, directed by Dan Gilroy.

Tom was nominated for the Olivier Award for his outstanding performance in *American Buffalo* on the West End in London opposite John Goodman and Damian Lewis. He was previously nominated for a Tony for his role in *Orphans* on Broadway, opposite Ben Foster and Alec Baldwin.

Other notable performances include playing Allen Ginsberg in Walter Salles' ON THE ROAD opposite of Kristen Stewart, starring opposite Carey Mulligan in Thomas Vinterberg's FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD, SONG TO SONG directed by Terrance Malick, MARY SHELLEY opposite Elle Fanning, JOURNEY'S END with Paul Bettany and Sam Claflin, REMAINDER directed by Omar Fast, and PIRATE RADIO opposite Phillip Seymour Hoffman.

In Television Tom starred in the acclaimed and award-winning BBC series "The Hollow Crown", playing HENRY IV opposite Benedict Cumberbatch.

### **SAM RILEY - Louis Bohne**

Sam stars as Thomas Seymour alongside Jude Law and Alicia Vikander in Karim Ainouz's new film FIREBRAND which premiered at Cannes in 2023. Other recent film credits include RADIOACTIVE, directed by Marjane Satrapi in which he plays "Pierre Curie" opposite Rosamund Pike, and Ben Wheatley's Netflix feature REBECCA starring alongside Lily James. In 2022 Sam also starred opposite Freddie Highmore in WAY DOWN directed by Jaume Balagueró.

Sam made his first screen appearance playing Joy Division's Ian Curtis in Anton Corbijn's film CONTROL. His extraordinary performance earned him many awards including Best Actor at the Edinburgh International Film Festival, the Newcomer Award at the British Independent Film Awards, the British Breakthrough Award at the London Film Critics' Circle Awards 2008 as well as a BAFTA Orange Rising Star 2008 nomination.

In 2019 Sam starred in Carl Hunter's film SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER with Bill Nighy and Ben Wheatley's action thriller FREE FIRE alongside Cillian Murphy and Brie Larson. Also in 2019, Sam appeared in Disney's MALEFICENT: MISTRESS OF EVIL, returning in the role of Diaval opposite Angelina Jolie.

Past major films also include PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES directed by Burr Steers, in which Sam starred as Mr Darcy, SUITE FRANCAISE directed by Saul Dibb, Rowan Joffe's BRIGHTON ROCK and ON THE ROAD directed by Walter Salles. Additionally, Sam was the lead role in the BBC1 mini-series "SS-Gb" directed by Philipp Kadelbach and released in 2017.

**WIDOW CLICQUOT - CREDITS**

Director

**Thomas Napper**

Screenplay by

**Erin Dignam**

Story by

**Christopher Monger and Erin Dignam**

Producers

**Christina Weiss Lurie**

**Haley Bennett**

**Joe Wright**

Executive Producers

**John Bernard**

**Fabien Baron**

Co-Executive Producers

**Janine Yass**

**Bill Helman**

Cinematographer

**Caroline Champetier, AFC**

Editor

**Richard Marizy**

Production Designer

**Jean-Hughes de Chatillon**

Costume Designer

**Marie Frémont**

Hair Designer/Make Up Designer

**Fulvio Pozzobon**

**Noa Yehonatan**

Music by

**Bryce Dessner**

Line Producer  
**Christine Raspillère**

Cast

**Haley Bennett as Barbe Nicole**  
**Tom Sturridge as Francois Clicquot**  
**Sam Riley as Louis Bohne**  
**Leo Suter as Georges**  
**Natasha O’Keeffe as Anne**  
**Anson Boon as Edouard**  
**Ben Miles as Phillipe**  
**Cecily Cleeve as Clementine**  
**Paul Rhys as Droite**  
**Ian Cunningham as Paquet**  
**Christopher Villiers as Nicolas Ponsardin**  
**Cara Seymour as Anne-Marie Ponsardin**  
**Phoebe Nicholls as Catherine Clicquot**  
**Joseph Rapp as The Priest**  
**Nick Farrell as Jean-Remy Moet**  
**Chris Larkin as Muller**  
**Mark Tandy as Magistrate #1**  
**Antoine Blanquefort as Magistrate #2**