

## DVD press release



# Ghost Stories

## Classic adaptations from the BBC

### A View From a Hill / Number 13

The fifth and final volume of films from the BBC's *A Ghost Story for Christmas* series will be released by the BFI on 29 October. The release of *A View From a Hill* and *Number 13* brings this much anticipated collection to a total of a dozen films across five volumes, which will also be released together in a 5-disc DVD box set, *Ghost Stories for Christmas*, on the same date.

These two relatively recent adaptations of classic MR James stories perfectly complement the vintage films on the previous volumes. They were broadcast as part of a BBC revival of the much loved seasonal *A Ghost Story for Christmas* series during the last five years.

#### **A View From a Hill (Luke Watson, 2005)**

When young museum curator Fanshawe is sent to catalogue a debt-laden squire's archaeological collection, he uses a pair of homemade binoculars borrowed from his genial host to survey local 'Gallows Hill'. The glasses seem to give him a strange new ability and, ignoring all warnings about their necromantic creator, Fanshawe carries out his historical researches. But the bloody past of the area is best left undisturbed.

Adapted from a short tale by MR James, the master of the English ghost story, *A View From a Hill* remains faithful in spirit to its literary creator, with an excellent lead performance from **Mark Letheren** as the uptight, doomed Fanshawe.

#### **Number 13 (Pier Wilkie, 2006)**

Dissatisfied with his hotel room, Professor Anderson (played by **Greg Wise**) demands to be moved to number 12 where he can work undisturbed. But, infuriated by the ghoulish noises made nightly by his neighbour, he is soon driven to investigate the diabolical secrets of the old hotel and its mysteriously vanishing room 13.

MR James' spooky tale was shot in the grounds and library of Winchester Cathedral, lending a rich period atmosphere to this terrifying adaptation.

#### **Special features**

- *Ghost Stories for Christmas with Christopher Lee* – 'Number 13' by MR James (2000): Ronald Frame's adaptation is brought to life by horror maestro Christopher Lee
- Illustrated booklet with newly commissioned essays by Jonathan Rigby and Simon McCallum

#### **Product details**

RRP: £19.99 / cat. no. BFIBVD963 / Cert 12

UK / 2005 + 2006 / colour / English language / 39 mins + 40 mins / DVD9 / Original aspect ratio 1.78:1 (16x9 anamorphic) / Dolby Digital mono audio (320kbps)

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Images are available at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI DVD 2012

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