07.10.2021

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Erthygl i'r Wasg **Press Release**

Y brodyr wrth galon y ddrama drosedd Craith

Mae gan nos Sul hyd yn oed fwy i'w cynnig nawr bod y ddrama dditectif Craith wedi dychwelyd i'n bywydau. Mae'r gyfres Cymru noir yn enwog am ei sinematograffi syfrdanol a golygfeydd godidog. Unwaith eto mae tirwedd drawiadol Eryri, sy'n gymysgedd o harddwch a chreithiau'r gorffennol, yn cadw cyfrinachau dwys a thywyll wrth adlewyrchu profiadau'r cymeriadau.

Ochr yn ochr â DCI Cadi John (Sian Reese-Williams) a DS Owen Vaughan (Sion Alun Davies), mae'r brodyr Siôn (Sion Ifan) a Glyn Thomas (Justin Melluish) yn ganolog i blot cyfres tri.

"Mae Siôn (Thomas) a'i frawd Glyn wedi bod yn hynod o agos ers marwolaeth eu mam." meddai'r actor Sion Ifan. "Gan mai ei gariad at Glyn, sydd â Syndrom Down, yw'r hyn sy'n gyrru Siôn, yr hyn sy'n ei gael e allan o'r gwely yn y bore - rwy'n credu bydd pobl yn teimlo empathi tuag ato."

Ar ôl i gorff ffermwr lleol gael ei ddarganfod mewn nant, daw'n amlwg o'r dechrau fod Siôn o dan bwysau aruthrol. Mae amddiffyn Glyn rhag gweithredoedd eraill, gan gynnwys rhai Siôn ei hun yn frwydr ddiddiwedd.

"Ar bapur, Siôn yw'r gofalwr," ychwanega Sion Ifan. "Ond mewn gwirionedd, mae'r stori gyfan yn ymwneud â chryfder Glyn, ei wytnwch, y ffordd mae'n gofalu am Siôn. Dydy Glyn methu byw heb Siôn a dydy Siôn methu byw heb Glyn. Mae'n berthynas hyfryd a hafal.

"Ar ddiwedd y dydd, mae'r pethau ofnadwy mae Siôn yn eu gwneud yn cael eu gyrru gan y cariad tuag at ei frawd. Emosiwn sydd tu ôl iddo, mae o'r galon. Mae perthnasoedd cymhleth yn rhan annatod o Craith, ond mae'n gymaint anoddach y tro hwn oherwydd mai'r gofal 'na, y cariad am eraill sy'n ganolog i'r cyfan."

Wrth adrodd y straeon arswydus, gall golygfeydd Craith fod yn anodd ei ffilmio, a'u gwylio. Fodd bynnag, roedd cwmni cynhyrchu Severn Screen wedi ymrwymo i sicrhau bod Justin, sy'n chwarae rhan Glyn, yn cael cyfle i ddangos ei gryfderau.

Dywedodd Sian Reese-Williams sy'n chwarae rhan Cadi: "Mae'n wych bod mwy o raglenni nawr y cynnwys actorion gyda Syndrom Down neu anableddau dysgu. Ond yr hyn sy'n gwneud Craith yn wahanol, oedd bod Justin wedi cael cymaint o gyfrifoldeb â phawb arall oedd yn chwarae prif ran. Mae'n gymeriad mor bwysig - byddai peidio â rhoi wedi bod yn gamgymeriad oherwydd roedd e'n hollol wych.

"Fe wnaeth Justin gofleidio'r cyfle ac rydw i mor prowd ohono. Rydw i mor falch fod Severn Screen heb ddianc o roi cyfrifoldeb iawn iddo fe. Profodd nad oedd yn broblem iddo o gwbl. Mae

ganddo dalent ac mae ganddo ddealltwriaeth o'r hyn yw bod yn actor ar set, sydd mor bwysig. Mae o'n lyfli i weithio gydag e, a bod rownd e."

Dyma'r brif rôl deledu gyntaf i Justin, sy'n byw ger yr Wyddgrug. "Roeddwn i wrth fy modd â phob munud o chwarae rhan Glyn." meddai Justin. "Roedd yn wych gweithio gyda Sion – ro ni'n dod 'mlaen yn dda a chael llawer o hwyl ar set. Roedd y cast a'r criw i gyd yn wych."

"Rwy'n mwynhau pob math o berfformio ac yn cael gwneud gwaith theatr, dawns a cherddoriaeth trwy fy hyfforddiant gyda Hijinx - ond byddwn i wrth fy modd gwneud mwy o deledu. Rwy'n teimlo'n lwcus iawn oherwydd fy mod yn cael bod ar y teledu ddwywaith - yn gyntaf yn Craith, ac yna yn Hidden. Bydd fy nheulu cyfan yn gwylio."

Mae'r drydedd gyfres, a'r olaf, ar S4C bob nos Sul am 9.00 rhwng nawr a chanol mis Tachwedd. Bydd gwylwyr ledled Prydain yn falch o'r cyfle i wylio Craith a BBC iPlayer, cyn i *Hidden* ddarlledu ar BBC One Wales yn 2022.

Mae cyfresi un a dau o Craith ar gael ar S4C Clic fel Bocs Set, i roi'r cyfle i'r gwylwyr fwynhau hynt a helynt Cadi a Vaughan o'r cychwyn cyntaf.

Craith
Nos Sul am 9.00
Isdeitlau Saesneg
Ar S4C Clic, BBC iPlayer a llwyfannau eraill
Cynhyrchiad Severn Screen ar gyfer S4C

S4C

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The brotherly bond at the heart of crime drama Craith

Sunday evenings have even more appeal now that detective drama Craith has returned to our screens. Signalling the return of Welsh noir, Craith is renowned for its stunning cinematography and breathtaking locations. Once more, the beautiful but scarred Snowdonia landscape keeps unthinkable secrets, mirroring the inner turmoil of its characters.

Central to the plot of series three, alongside DCI Cadi John (Sian Reese-Williams) and DS Owen Vaughan (Sion Alun Davies), are brothers Siôn (Sion Ifan) and Glyn Thomas (Justin Melluish).

Sion Ifan said: "Siôn (Thomas) and his brother Glyn have been thick as thieves since the death of their mother. I think people will feel empathy for Siôn - his love for Glyn, who has Down Syndrome, is what drives him. It's what gets him out of bed in the morning."

After the body of a local farmer is found in a stream, it quickly becomes apparent that Siôn is under immense pressure. He struggles to protect Glyn from his own, as well as others, actions.

"On paper, Siôn is the carer," adds Sion Ifan. "But in reality, the whole story is about Glyn's strength, his resilience, the way he looks after Siôn. Glyn can't live without Siôn and Siôn can't live without Glyn. It's such a beautiful, equal relationship.

"At the end of the day, the terrible things Siôn does are driven by the love for his brother. There's emotion behind it, it's from the heart. Craith has always been about complicated relationships, but it's so much more difficult to process this time because caring is at the centre of it all."

Known for its haunting storylines, Craith scenes can be tough to make, and watch. However, production company Severn Screen were committed to ensuring Justin, who plays Glyn, was given the opportunity to show his strengths.

Sian Reese-Williams who plays Cadi said: "It's great that more programmes are including more actors with Down Syndrome or learning difficulties. What Craith did different, was give Justin as much responsibility as everyone else in a lead role. He is such an important character – not giving him that would have been the wrong decision because he is absolutely brilliant.

"Justin got into it head-first, he grabbed the opportunity and I'm so proud of him. I'm so glad Severn Screen didn't shy away from giving Justin proper responsibility. He proved it wasn't a problem for him at all. He has talent and he has an understanding of what it is to be an actor on set, which is so important. He's lovely to work with and to be around."

This is the first leading TV role for Justin, who lives near Mold. "I loved every minute of playing Glyn," Justin said. "It was great working with Sion – we got on well and had a lot of fun on set. All the cast and crew were brilliant.

"I enjoy all kinds of performing and get to do theatre work, dance and music through my training with Hijinx - but I would really like to do more television work. I feel lucky because I get to be on TV twice – Craith first, and then Hidden. My whole family will be watching."

The third, and final, series airs on S4C every Sunday evening at 9.00 between now and mid-November. Viewers across the UK will be able to watch Craith on BBC iPlayer, before *Hidden* airs on BBC One Wales in 2022.

Series one and two of Craith are available on S4C Clic as Box Sets, to give viewers the opportunity to enjoy Cadi and Vaughan's journey from the beginning.

Craith
Sundays at 9.00
English subtitles available
On S4C Clic, BBC iPlayer and other platforms
A Severn Screen production for S4C