

The Man Within

Antoine Veldekens & Pierre de Mûelenaere

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Summary

Ever since Antoine hung a monumental portrait in his living room, his grasp on reality has been slipping, rendering him incapable of leaving his apartment. Now Antoine must confront the sinister forces lurking within the painting. "The Man Within" is the story of a possession, capturing the moment of the enactment. "The Man Within" marks Pierre de Mûelenaere and Antoine Veldekens debut as a directing duo. It is the first chapter of a larger story called "The Deep" which revolves around a series of demonic paintings.

Directors' biography

In 2010, Antoine Veldekens and Pierre de Mûelenaere, both musicians, along with a collective, co-founded Spank Me More Records, a now-defunct label. Veldekens pursued his passion for cinema by attending the Cours Florent in Paris and later the New York Film Academy, where he learned about cinematography and audiovisual production. In 2022, de Mûelenaere directed 'Call Sign Valhalla' an experimental documentary in the form of a fictional war film, composed of thousands of footage clips by soldiers from the Ukrainian battlefield. With a radical approach to documentary and storytelling that elevates the found footage genre to a new level, it quickly made its way into the international film festival circuit, including the International Experimental Film Festival (Athens), Premis Zoom (Barcelona), SF International New Concept Film Festival, FECIMU (Buenos Aires), Film Maudit 2.0 (Los Angeles) and the North Film Festival in Stockholm, where it won the Best Documentary Short Award.

In 2023, sharing a strong interest in genre cinema, where they find the freedom to explore the darkness of the human psyche, Pierre de Mûelenaere and Antoine Veldekens started creating "The Deep" mythology. "The Man Within" is the first chapter of it coming to light. Two other chapters are already in pre-production.

