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## **KENNETH BRANAGH TO DIRECT AND STAR IN AGATHA CHRISTIE REMAKE**

### **MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS FILM**

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**USPA NEWS** - Five-time Academy Award nominee Kenneth Branagh will star as Belgian detective Hercule Poirot in a new adaptation of Agatha Christie's mystery 'Murder on the Orient Express' for 20th Century Fox, bringing together a number of talented people to try and bring the classic story back to the big screen.

Five-time Academy Award nominee Kenneth Branagh will star as Belgian detective Hercule Poirot in a new adaptation of Agatha Christie's mystery 'Murder on the Orient Express' for 20th Century Fox, bringing together a number of talented people to try and bring the classic story back to the big screen.

Not only do they have Ridley Scott and Simon Kinberg producing courtesy of their companies Scott Free and Genre Films, respectively, but they're bringing Kenneth Branagh on-board to direct too, working with a script from Blade Runner 2 screenwriter Michael Green.

Variety reported in 2013 that Fox was developing the project for a remake of Sidney Lumet's 1974 movie, which starred Albert Finney as the genius detective investigating the murder of an American tycoon aboard the train. The all-star cast of suspects included Lauren Bacall, Ingrid Bergman, Jacqueline Bisset, Colin Blakely, Sean Connery, John Gielgud, Anthony Perkins, Vanessa Redgrave and Michael York.

Murder On The Orient Express revolves around a murder onboard the famous titular locomotive. It's up to heroic Belgian detective Hercule Poirot to solve the case, but the only problem is there are a number of candidates who could potentially be the murderer.

Kenneth Branagh's confirmation is only the beginning for 'Murder On The Orient Express', because now that he's getting on-board, we can expect a cavalcade of esteemed acting talent to follow him, especially since the film is packed with intriguing, charismatic and complex characters for each of them to play.

James Prichard, Chairman of Agatha Christie Ltd. and Christie's great grandson, said, 'The extraordinary thing about my great grandmother's stories is just how timeless they are and how perfectly they lend themselves to the cinematic experience. Eighty years after the publication of the novel, Fox and its creative team will bring "Murder on the Orient Express," a classic Christie tale, to new audiences across the world. We are genuinely excited about this partnership and with 33 Poirot stories to be told, we look forward to this being the first of many collaborations.' (Variety)

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