

The Power of the Pen



A children's film project inspired by the old Chronicle writer Saxo Grammaticus, tells the story of a boy who learns that the pen is mightier than the sword. The film is set in the medieval period, and based on historic facts, but built up as a modern day drama. In the story we first meet the boy Rune, who works in a Monastery. When Rune meets Saxo, he becomes involved in a political plot, where he has to choose between his dreams of becoming a warrior, or help to save the Danish Chronicle.

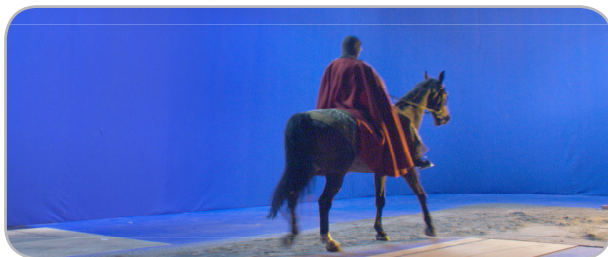
The Actors

No Parking had to cast more than 20 children in order to find the right person to play Rune. Many of the film's other roles are led by well-known Danish actors, for example Nis Bank Mikkelsen as Saxo, Morten Lützthøft as the knight, and Ole Thestrup as the villain Brother Olav, who leads the riot against Saxo.



Virtual Staging

Most of the story takes place at the Monastery of Sorø, which burnt down in 1247. The development teams visual challenge in how to reconstruct the Monastery was resolved by building it in 3D-animation. The actors were filmed on a blue screen, and superimposed in the digital settings. The result was a film with a staging that showed the magnificent Monastery, as historians believed it looked back in real time, together with convincing medieval action taking place.



Originale studio recording



Finished image from film

The Production

Power of the Pen was made in co-production with Danish Television and Radar Film. The Ministry of Education and the European Programme "Media New Talents" supported the project. The film was recorded on High-Definition video. Thomas Borch Nielsen was the producer, and Philip La Zepnik the script editor. Morten Ranmar who also directed the film created the final script.

Educational Media

One of the ideas behind the project was to create interest for Saxo's Danish Chronicle, which is one of Denmark's most important historical assets. The film has been released on DVD for educational purposes, and the idea is to expand the project onto the Internet.

