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# THE GHOST GOES WEST

Great Britain (1935)

Murdoch Glourie	Robert Donat
Donald Glourie	Robert Donat
Peggy Martin	Jean Parker
Joe Martin	Eugene Pallette
Lady Shepperton	Elsa Lanchester
Mrs. Martin	Everly Gregg
The MacLaggan	Hay Petrie
Old Glourie	Morton Selten
Mrs. Macniff	Elliot Mason
Shepherdess	Patricia Hilliard

## Sons of MacLaggan

Jack Lambert	Richard Mackie
Colin Leslie	J. Neil Morè

## Neil Lester Creditors

Herbert Lomas	Arthur Seaton
Quentin McPherson	David Kerr

Scenario by Robert Sherwood and Geoffrey Kerr, based on Eric Keown's Punch story "Sir Tristram Goes West." Assistant directors, Imlay Watts and Albert Valentin. Photographed by Harold Rosson. Supervising editor, William Hornbeck, edited by Harold Earle-Fischback. Sets by Vincent Korda. Costumes by René Hubert. Mr. Donat's costumes by John Armstrong. Music by Misha Spoliansky, directed by Muir Mathieson. Sound by A. W. Watkins. Produced by Alexander Korda for London Films, released December 1935.

Directed by RENE CLAIR

Profoundly disturbed by the initial reaction to LE DERNIER MILLIARDAIRE, Clair accepted an offer from Alexander Korda to come to England to make a screen version of a popular ghost story he had read and enjoyed some years before. The somewhat controversial Korda brothers had fastened their eyes on the international market, following the completely unexpected world success of THE PRIVATE LIFE OF HENRY VIII (1933), and were busily bringing in talent from Europe and America to beef up their increasingly elaborate productions. Alexander served as general producer; Vincent as set designer; and Zoltan

as a sort of paid spy to make sure the director was carrying out the boss's orders. The Korda machine worked smoothly until it was scuttled by the combined forces of Charles Laughton and Josef von Sternberg in production of the never completed spectacle I, CLAUDIUS.

The Kordas had a certain prediliction for supernatural subjects, and after tonight's film continued a successful trend with THINGS TO COME (1936) and THE MAN WHO COULD WORK MIRACLES (1937). In making THE GHOST GOES WEST, Clair worked for the first time in his career with another author, in this case the American Robert Sherwood, and it was a most happy collaboration. In addition to Sherwood, the imports from the United States included cameraman Robert Rosson (at one time the husband of Jean Harlow), and the popular comedian Eugene Pallette (1889-1954). Clair was able to obtain his favorite costume designer, René Hubert and a number of French technicians. THE GHOST GOES WEST was an immediate hit on both sides of the Atlantic, and for the first time Hollywood began to take an interest in Clair's work.

Because the film has always been regarded as simply "light entertainment", it is not seriously treated in standard film histories. But the French critic Jean Auriol looked beneath the facile surface when he remarked, "Clair's caricature of people's general behavior revealed profound observation; curiously enough, in some of the comic episodes his sense of life's tragedy was more directly apparent than in his previous films."

THE GHOST GOES WEST has been shown on American television, but in much-cut form. Our print tonight is complete and includes certain scenes which will be new to those who have seen it before only on the small screen.

David Stewart Hull