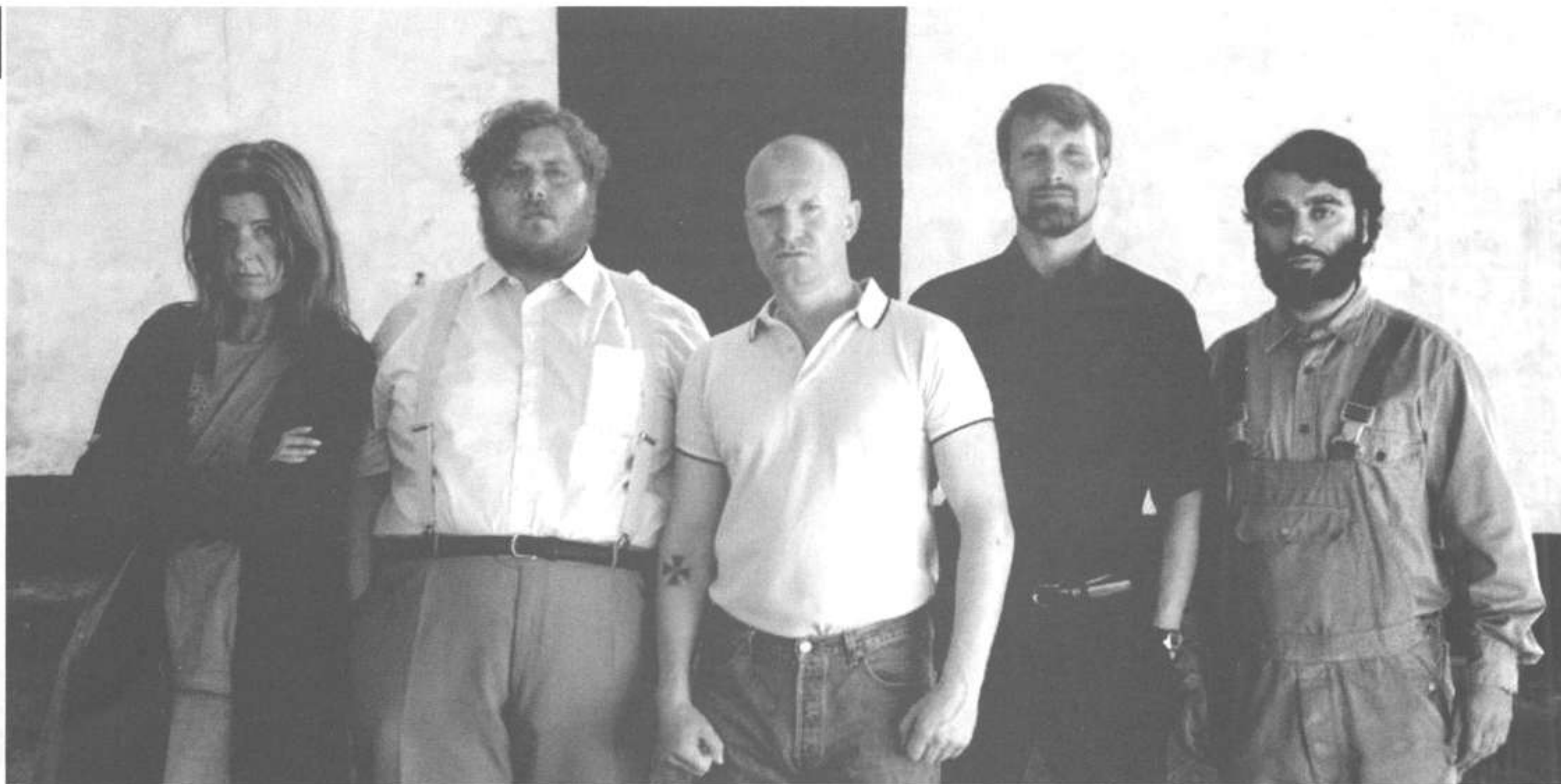


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ADAM'S APPLES

ADAM'S REBLER

DENMARK

2005

94 MIN.

DIR: ANDERS THOMAS JENSEN

PRD: TIVI MAGNUSSON, MIE ANDREASEN

SCR: ANDERS THOMAS JENSEN

CAM: SEBASTIAN BLENKOV

ED: ANDERS VILLADSEN

MUS: JEPPE HAAS

CAST: MADS MIKKELSEN, ULRICH THOMSEN, NICOLAS BRO,

ALI HAZIM, PAPRIKA STEEN, OLE THESTRUP, GYRD LØFQUIST

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PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH NORDIC 5 ARTS.

Fresh from prison, middle-aged neo-Nazi atheist Adam (Ulrich Thomsen) is sent to live in a country church for a stint of community service. Ivan (Mads Mikkelsen), the priest charged with his reform, maintains a delusional optimism as a defense against darker truths in his past and all around him. (To Adam: "It says here you are evil. It's crude to write that on a person's C.V.") Asked to set a goal for his stay, Adam nonchalantly sets the bar pretty low: he'll bake an apple cake. But when the church's beloved lone apple tree is beset, in short order, by crows, worms and lightning, and fallen bibles keep opening to "The Book of Job," it's clear that the thunderclouds above the parish have blown in straight from the Old Testament, and a test of faith is at hand. The pitchest of black comedies, Anders Thomas Jensen's wickedly funny film reverberates with profane dialogue, appalling behavior and strategic use of the Bee Gees, as Adam only somewhat maliciously sets out to dismantle Ivan's sunny armor. But while Ivan, who bleeds from the ears when he's forced to confront upsetting realities, seems blind to how little reformed are the other wayward souls in his care (an obese alcoholic former tennis star/rapist and a violent gas station robber), Adam underestimates how much they depend on the priest's Pollyannaish perspective. Assuredly filmed in frosty blues and suitably stormy weather, **Adam's Apples** is a sly religious parable by a writer/director with a bracing talent for dark, astringent humor.

—Steve Mockus



ANDERS THOMAS JENSEN

Anders Thomas Jensen was born in Fredericksværk, Denmark in 1972. His previous features as writer/director include **FLICKERING LIGHTS** (2000) and **THE GREEN BUTCHERS** (SFIFF 2004). He has been nominated for three Academy Awards for Best Live Action Short Film as writer and/or codirector, winning for 1998's **ELECTION NIGHT**. His screenwriting credits include **IN CHINA THEY EAT DOGS** (2002) and two award-winning Dogme films: **THE KING IS ALIVE** (2001, selected for Un Certain Regard, Cannes) and **MIFUNE** (1998, Grand Prix and Silver Bear winner, Berlin).

SFIFF '06

SAT APR 22	1:30	HABUKI	ADAM22H
MON APR 24	9:45	HABUKI	ADAM24H
TUE MAY 2	9:30	AQUARIUS	ADAM02A

DOLBY