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8 Sun 20.45 NFT2 & 20 Fri 20.30 Barbican 2

AS IN HEAVEN

Svo á Jörðu sem á Himni

Iceland 1992

Dir/Scr: Kristín Jóhannesdóttir

Leading Players: Pierre Vaneck.

Alfrun H. Ornlófsdóttir, Tinna Gunnlaugsdóttir

Rt: 124 mins

London FR
92

Icelandic cinema again comes to the fore in this beguiling and enigmatic exploration of the trials of a rural community in the late summer of 1936. On the west coast of Iceland a family struggles to survive on a desolate farm which they believe has been cursed since the fourteenth century. When a French exploration ship perishes offshore, they are convinced they are witnessing the return of the curse. Hrefna, a young girl at the farm, projects herself with the power of a child's imagination back to the fourteenth century in order to change the course of destiny. Kristín Jóhannesdóttir has returned to the cinema after a nine-year absence in theatre and television work to produce a powerful and visually stunning film. Rich colours and immaculately choreographed camera movements capture the eerie magnificence of the Icelandic coastline landscape that has historically taken centre stage in Scandinavian cinema. An alluring score from Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson, embellishes a chilling and mysterious tale. *Robert Rider*