

A Haunting in Venice

PLANET POSITIVE AWARD ENTRY

A 20TH CENTURY FOX PRODUCTION

Sarah Crooks, Environmental Coordinator

James Underwood, Environmental PA

Production Designer, John Paul Kelly

Supervising Art Director, Peter Russel

Set Decorator, Celia Bobak

Unit Production Manager, Liza Carmel

Senior Manager of Environmental Sustainability at The Walt Disney Company, Lisa Day



A
HAUNTING
IN
VENICE

ONLY IN THEATERS
SEPTEMBER 15

A HAUNTING IN VENICE OVERVIEW

- A Haunting in Venice is a 20th Century Studios production; the latest Agatha Christie mystery starring Kenneth Branagh as Hercules Poirot.
- A Haunting in Venice was filmed mostly at Pinewood Studios, Iver. The shoot took just under three months, starting 31st October 2022 and finishing 26th January 2023. As well as Pinewood Studios, the shoot took place on location in Venice for two weeks and at White Waltham Airfield for one week.
- This production received a gold Environmental Media Association seal. This means that it scored over 125 out of 200 points for how well the production complies with EMA's program honouring progress in sustainable production.
- A Haunting in Venice is being entered because of the sustainability steps taken to reduce the environmental impact of the production. 20th Century Studios are committed to ensuring that sustainability representative is part of every production crew. Therefore, a full-time Environmental Coordinator and Environmental PA were hired.
- The Environmental Department were able to implement a number of different practices; most of note was the set materials they were able to salvage and donate to charities to avoid the materials ending up in a skip. In the context of a large Studio production, this is more impressive, as often IP protection and turnaround times create too much of a barrier to achieve this.

SET SALVAGE AND DONATION

- The majority of the film takes place in a decaying and haunted Venetian palazzo. Each floor was built as a separate set.
- **End-of-life for the sets was decided early on** in production, and therefore, the Environmental Department had time to influence this process to make it more sustainable. The end-of-life that was planned was a skip strike.
- However, **the Environmental Department saw an opportunity to salvage and donate materials and elements from the set to organisations that might be able to use them!** The first step was to walk around the sets with the Construction Department to establish which materials could be easily removed without damage, which parts of the set were non-descript enough and which materials might be of use to someone else.
- The items being non-descript was very important because it meant that any threat to IP was avoided, this is often a significant barrier to donation during this process because with productions from large Studios, there is a need to destroy anything that is recognisable to the film in order to protect any IP.
- Once a list of materials that could be donated had been established, the next step was to find organisations to donate to. This had to be done before the set strike because there was a quick turnaround time and no possibility to store materials. The organisations that were contacted and interested were the London Screen Academy and Pumpkin's Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre.
- London Screen Academy took items that could be used to build sets for student projects, and Pumpkin's Wildlife Hospital was able to build an outdoor area for their injured ducks with the materials! The materials donated also had a value of over £8,000!

DONATIONS



Polyurethane beams



Wooden flooring



Wooden flooring



Metal railing

Organisation	Donation	Usage
London Screen Academy	60 square meters of scenic wooden flooring (£1,800 approx value) 4 meters of polyurethane beams (£100 approx value) 3 meters of metal railing (£2,925 approx value)	Student set builds.
Pumpkin's Wildlife Hospital	35 sheets of plywood (£1,072 approx value) 430 meters of timber (£2,349.50 approx value)	Outdoor duck area.



PALAZZO SET CONCEPT ART



OTHER EXAMPLES OF REUSE AND RECYCLE

- A set for the palazzo boathouse was also built at Pinewood Studios, involving a huge concrete tank which was big enough to hold multiple 35-foot gondolas plus the water needed for them to float. However, the third-party company who constructed the concrete tank, **built with end-of-life already planned**: upon strike, this tank was taken to an aggregate site where it was crushed and sold on as crushed concrete, **avoiding landfill and recycling the material instead**.
- The Art Department took care to **save scrap materials from being thrown away by donating** them to Watford Recycling Arts Centre (WRAP). Materials such as scraps of wood and hard-to-recycle foam board.
- The Props Department avoided buying new or creating new in most instances because they **hired props, but also incorporated antiques and used old materials to make items**.
- The Costume Department **repurposed fabric and other material scraps** to make masks and hats for a scene that involved a group of children in halloween costumes.



Examples of halloween mask and headdress made from Costume Department fabric and other material scraps.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES

- A **training presentation** was created by the Environmental Department, this was sent to all crew who were encouraged to take time to read it and familiarise themselves with how waste should be segregated and how they can improve their environmental impact at work.
- Food waste, compostable packaging (Vegware), mixed waste (collected by Powerday who sort recycling into different waste types at their facility), soft plastics, PPE (e.g. covid masks), coffee pods, hazardous waste, and batteries all had **separate recycling channels** organised.
- Crew were asked to correctly segregate their waste on stages and in offices. If this wasn't done correctly, the **Environmental PA** would correctly sort the waste before disposing of it.
- Crew and background actors were asked to bring a **reusable water bottle and coffee cup** to reduce the number of single-use items used. This was done via an email memo and a message on the call sheet. Catering and craft used compostable packaging for food and drinks.
- Emissions were reduced by using **grid power** at Pinewood Studios and on location in Venice. They were also reduced by encouraging the crew to follow a **no-idling policy**. In addition, five Unit Drivers had **hybrid or electric cars**, and an electric gator was used by the Covid Department.
- The Environmental Coordinator met with someone from each department during prep or the start of shoot to introduce the department and **open up the conversation about sustainability**.
- Each month an '**Environmental Newsletter**' was sent to all cast and crew. This covered information about what happens to the recycling, other climate related news and also the 'Green Award' winner.
- The '**Green Award**' was given to crew who went above and beyond in the name of sustainability. They were awarded a poster signed by the cast and they were featured in the newsletter.

Séance
Issue no.1

Environmental Newsletter

Hello! Welcome to your first instalment of the Environmental Newsletter! This is a sporadical newsletter that will keep you updated on the latest sustainability news on Séance, the world outside, and the most recent Green Award winner. Please take a few minutes of calm to sit down and enjoy reading about the things we're doing for the planet!

The first Green Award Winner

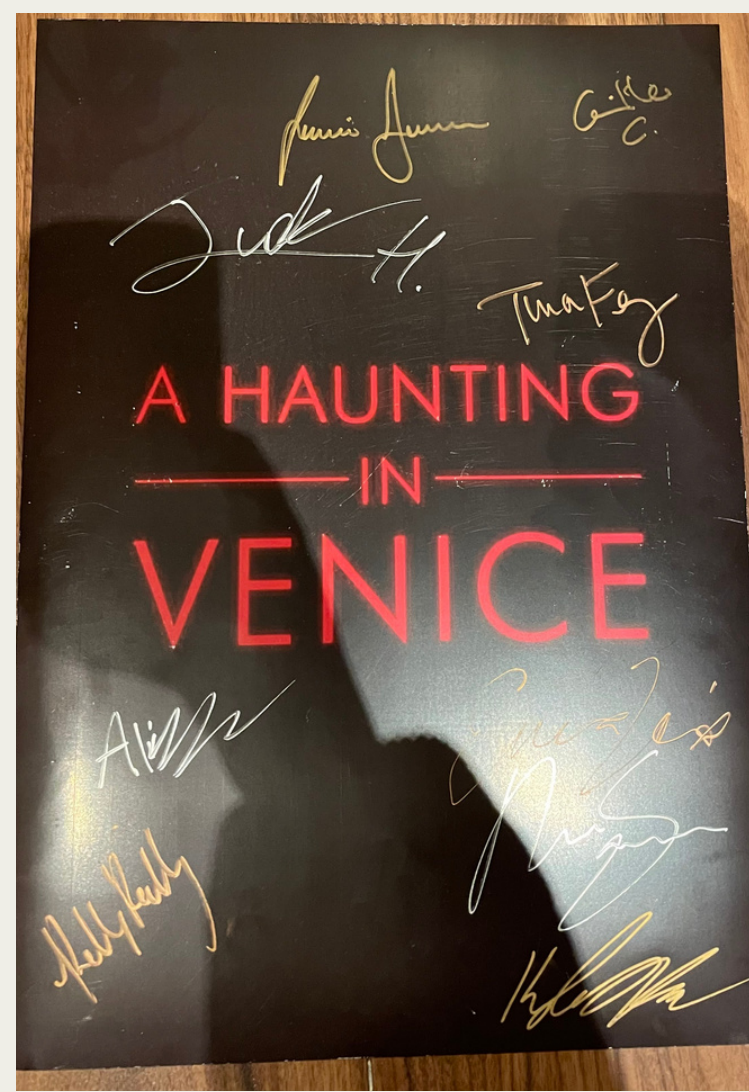
Perhaps a moment for the history books, who can say, but we are happy to announce that the winner of our first Green Award is James Cleave. We decided on our winner by entering everyone who correctly answered the training questions into a random generator. Thank you if you took the time to read through the training presentation and for the suggestions we received as part of the survey.

P.S. there were 18 little Poirots and THE PRIZE IS A SIGNED POSTER BY THE CAST.

Screenshot of one page from first Environmental Newsletter



Bins on set at Pinewood Studios



Green Award poster

ON SET RECYCLING

PPE

Masks, PPE packaging, gloves

VEGWARE

Food scraps, all compostable packaging

MIXED WASTE

Glass, paper and card, tissue, cartons, cans, plastic, wipes

Séance

Environmental Department

SUSTAINABILITY: START SMALL

01 BRING A WATER BOTTLE AND RESUABLE CUP

Drinking an average of 8 cups/4 bottles of water a day amounts to nearly 1500 bottles per year!

02 RECYCLE CORRECTLY

It takes 10 seconds to read our signs! If you're unsure about something ask us, we are here to help!

03 PLEASE TALK TO US!

Speak to the Environmental Coordinator, Sarah, she's a right laugh!

Séance

Environmental Department

Screenshots of two slides from training presentation



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION!

