

THE NUN Gets Her Star Turn in THE CONJURING Franchise



[Images courtesy [The Conjuring 2.com](http://TheConjuring2.com)]

I was not a fan of *The Conjuring 2* - it was the “One Dishonorable Mention” in my “Five Great Horror Movies of 2016” linked below. But I acknowledge being in the minority on this one. With an **80% Fresh** rating on Rotten Tomatoes and a worldwide gross of **320 million dollars** (from a budget of 40 million), *The Conjuring 2* had plenty of positive reviews and moviegoers worldwide who chose to pay good money to see it.

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The Conjuring (2013) didn’t just spawn a sequel, but also a 2014 spinoff starring Annabelle, the creepiest doll since Chucky. And like its parent, *The Conjuring 2* has its own breakout supporting prop - a *Night Gallery* worthy portrait of an unquiet Sister menacing paranormal investigators Ed and Elaine Warren. As noted by the *Hollywood Reporter* last year, *The Nun* will be leaping off the canvas and into theaters in 2018.

More recent news about the director and at least one of the stars of *The Nun* indicate that this latest addition to the *Conjuring* family may turn out to be a spinoff (like *Annabelle* was to *The Conjuring*) that’s actually scarier than the movie it sprang from.



Elaine Warren vs The Nun in the mirror.

In February of this year, Corin Hardy was **announced as the director** of *The Nun*. If you're asking "Corin Who?" you're not alone. Hardy is best known for *The Hallow* (2015) - a "Nature Strikes Back" story set in rural Ireland. *The Hallow* is a small indie movie that uses atmospheric locations, practical effects, and Irish folklore to create a sense of dread to go with the scares. Check out Hardy's **website** to see his other work, including the short film "Butterfly."

If nothing else, *The Nun* has a director who knows how to create a unique look and atmosphere - in a horror movie that is more than half the battle.

Another promising sign is the **recent announcement** of *The Nun*'s leading man. Mexico City-born Damien Bichir, besides appearing in television series *Weeds* and *The Bridge*, also earned a Best Actor nominee in 2012 for *A Better Life*. He'll be playing Father Burke, "dispatched by Rome to investigate the mysterious death of a nun."



The Nun - Another delightful resident of the Ed & Elaine Warren Souvenir Room.

Anabelle grossed 257 million worldwide (against a budget of 6.5 million) and created a fun, scary “evil doll” movie from another movie’s prop. With the creative talent announced so far, *The Nun* may do the same with an equally creepy supporting player from the *Conjuring* franchise.

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