

**STUDIOCANAL, SUNNYMARCH, SHOEBOS, AMAZON &  
FILM4 ANNOUNCE**

**LOUIS WAIN**

**START OF SHOOT Mid-August 2019**

**BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH & CLAIRE FOY TO STAR**

**Directed by Will Sharpe**

Paris, London Wednesday 24 July, STUDIOCANAL, SUNNYMARCH, SHOEBOS, AMAZON & FILM4 today announce that principal photography will commence on LOUIS WAIN mid-August 2019 shooting in London and starring Academy-Award nominee Benedict Cumberbatch (*The Imitation Game*, *Patrick Melrose*, *Avengers: Endgame*) & BAFTA Film & Television nominee Claire Foy (*The Crown*, *First Man*, *The Girl in the Spider's Web*). Also starring will be Andrea Riseborough (*Birdman*) and Toby Jones (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*)

Directed by BAFTA nominated Will Sharpe (*Channel 4's critically acclaimed Flowers*) and written by Sharpe & Simon Stephenson. Producing are Guy Heeley (*Locke*, *Denial*) and Adam Ackland (*Patrick Melrose*) with Ed Clarke & Leah Clarke.

Benedict Cumberbatch to star as British artist Louis Wain in the extraordinary true story of a brilliant man inspired by both his love of the world and the love of his life Emily played by Claire Foy. Famous for his distinctive paintings of cats that inspired hearts and minds around the world. Louis Wain is a loveable inspirational hero with a courageous and infectious spirit, who saw the world in a unique and delightful way throughout his long life full of adventure, continually inspiring people to do the same.

Benedict Cumberbatch said *"I am thrilled by the prospect of playing the courageous, playful spirit that is Louis Wain and to be producing such a special film. I have admired Will's work for several years through Flowers and from the moment we first met, knew he was the perfect person to bring Louis' inspirational and odyssean story to life. Together we plan to bring audiences a sincerely*

*uplifting, playful, thought provoking tale of resilience, creativity and the enduring power of love"*

*Will Sharpe said "I feel very excited to be working on this story about the little known but unique and inspiring Louis Wain. Benedict, Claire, Andrea, Toby - it's a dream cast and we have a fantastic team behind the camera too. It's going to be a real pleasure to build this world with such a wonderful group of people"*

Produced by Sunnymarch and Shoebox Films and financed by STUDIOCANAL & Film4. STUDIOCANAL will release in their territories UK, France, Germany, Australia/NZ selling worldwide. AMAZON will release in the USA.

UTA, Independent Film Group alongside Studio Canal negotiated the deal.