

# FRANCESCA LOUISE WHITE

By M W Daniels

Francesca Louise White is an internationally award winning actress from Oxfordshire known for films such as King of Crime, Walk Against the Rain and Reaching Troy, she also practices Martial arts. Francesca's new film Jekyll and Hyde is released on Boxing Day this year.

## **When did you begin martial arts?**

I started learning martial arts – particularly Jujitsu and Judo - from about two years old, as my dad used to teach Jujitsu. My first appearance in press was actually when I was photographed at five years old in a martial arts tournament. My main martial art these days and for the last few years is Jeet Kune Do – or JKD – most widely known through the late Bruce Lee's work.

## **In violence in cinema where is the line drawn for you?**

So five years ago I was personally victim to a severe sexual assault whilst I was studying acting out in LA; this was actually why I picked up JKD again. Because of this, I'm very careful when it comes to glamorising or portraying violence and extremity as titillation.

## **If you made a film of your own and played the villain what would it be?**

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I came across an old newspaper article talking about a real gang of women crooks and blackmailers known as 'Forty Elephants' & whose leader was called the 'Diamond Queen' which I thought was fascinating, so I'd love to make a film about them & play her. Or someone like the supposed German spy, Mata Hari.

### **What's next?**

I've just been booked on a science-fiction film shooting next year, in the vein of 'The Midnight Sky' – and, as a major sci-fi nerd, I cannot wait to begin filming that. I'm also waiting for a recent Period thriller film 'Jekyll and Hyde' by Steve Lawson for Creativ Studios & High Fliers films, in which I play character Penny Keaton, to drop on Boxing Day so that's exciting too.

Thank you Martin and the Integrity magazine team for your interest in my thoughts, acting and martial arts. Have a wonderful holiday, everyone.

