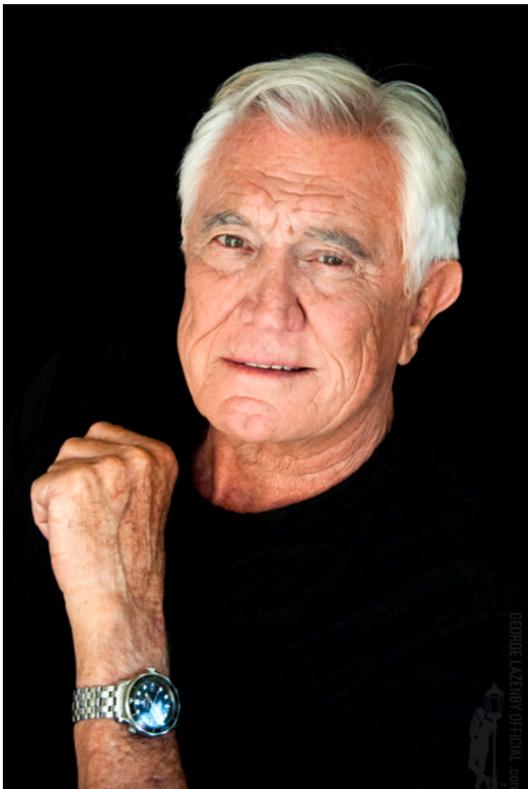


Former 007 George Lazenby heads back into the world of MI6
in the spy drama 'Passport to Oblivion'

He heads an all-star cast that also features
Glynis Barber Nickolas Grace Michael Brandon
and Terence Stamp as 'C' the Head of MI6



Artwork by Tim Keable

George Lazenby, who 50 years ago succeeded Sean Connery to become the youngest ever 007 James Bond in 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service', is plunging back into the world of M16 as reluctant spy Dr. Jason Love in 'Passport to Oblivion'.

An audio spy adventure based on a series of internationally bestselling books (published in 19 languages) by James Leasor, 'Passport to Oblivion' features an all-star cast that also includes Glynis Barber, Nickolas Grace, Michael Brandon and Terence Stamp as 'C' the Head of MI6.

'Passport to Oblivion' is the first of 10 planned audio recordings by award-winning Spiteful Puppet and based on books first published in the 1960s. The novels, which sold in their millions, have a worldwide fan base. This is the first time they have been adapted as audio dramas.

On his first appearance in print, Dr. Jason Love was hailed as 'the natural successor to James Bond' and Leasor was the first author contacted to continue the 007 novels when Ian Fleming died, but he passed on the assignment, which went to Kingsley Amis.

Spiteful Puppet have been granted the license for all 10 of James Leasor's Dr. Jason Love books.

'Passport to Oblivion' (2-disc audio set) will be released 29 November 2019.

'Passport to Oblivion', set in 1964, has astonishing parallels with today's allegations of Russian interference in politics of the West, unrest in the Middle East, and seems very fresh and relevant.

Who was 'K' and why was he killed? Who is the mysterious girl in Rome? Why are the Russians basing their covert operations in Iran? And why is the Deputy Head of MI6 sifting through filing cabinets for the name of a man he knew in Burma twenty years ago? None of these questions should concern quick-witted Dr. Jason Love (who made his home in the UK from Australia after seeing action in WWII and now resides in Somerset as a contentedly middle-aged country practitioner) until - with the promise of a rare sports car as his reward (his passion outside of medicine) - he undertakes a seemingly insignificant rendezvous for MI6 that changes his quiet country life forever.

The Sunday Times said in the 1960s: "Dr. Love is, like John Buchan's Richard Hannay in 'The 39 Steps', the ultimate amateur spy, out of his depth but determined to complete his mission."

This first audio production is expected to lead to adaptations of the remainder of the novels – which see Dr. Jason Love age in real time until he properly retires in the last book, at 65 years old.

George Lazenby said: "When I was asked by Barnaby Eaton-Jones to make a return to MI6 and the spying game, via this audio production of Passport to Oblivion by Spiteful Puppet, I decided I'd give it another go. It's my first foray into audio acting and, although I'm stood behind a microphone, I might suggest we do the fights for real. I'm still pretty active for a just turned 80-year old!

"What's interesting about this character is he's a reluctant spy rather than a Double-O-Agent, recruited by MI6 as a civilian. Oh, and he's Australian. I reckon I can play Australian rather well! I've been surrounded by a pretty amazing cast, who it will be a pleasure working with. I mean, with Glynis Barber, Terence Stamp, Michael Brandon and Nickolas Grace involved, for a start, that's a top-notch line-up anyway. It will be interesting to step into the world of audio and declare it another first for me, making my debut in that discipline.

"Apparently, there are another nine thrilling novels featuring this character, so – if it's successful – maybe I'll do more than one this time?

"2019 is the 50th anniversary of my Bond film, 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service'. I've been told directors like Steven Soderbergh and Christopher Nolan figure my Bond movie to be the best one. It really holds up. This year I even went back to Piz Gloria in Switzerland where we shot the film. I'm grateful new generations have come to celebrate my time as 007. And I'm thrilled that David Walliams will be interviewing me about it all at an upcoming event at BFI Southbank, London on Sunday 29 September. As the youngest actor to play the role - I was 29 at the time - I guess Bond, like diamonds, seems to be forever."

GEORGE LAZENBY

Born in Goulburn, Australia in 1939, George Lazenby's peripatetic life led him to London and international stardom as Ian Fleming's James Bond in 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service' (1969) taking over from Sean Connery. Although a worldwide critical and financial success, George forsook the role of 007 to carve out his own spiritual adventure in life in the Far East and the United States working with filmmakers as varied as Peter Bogdanovitch, Cy Endfield, John Landis and Raymond Chow. George was also supposed to work with Bruce Lee but sadly that never happened due to Lee's sudden death. Still much in demand on TV and film, Lazenby starred as Civil War General J Johnson Pettigrew in 'Gettysburg' (1993) and in 'Superboy' (2000) as Superman's father, Jor-El, a role initially essayed by Marlon Brando. Recent work includes a voice role in the DC Batman animated series, Jim Jefferies' father in 'Legit' (2014) and in critically acclaimed independent films such as 'A Winter Rose' (2016) directed by Riz Story and 'Death Game' (2017) directed by Gregory Hatanaka. George is based in Los Angeles and is managed by Anders Frejdh.

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Glynis Barber, Nickolas Grace, Michael Brandon, Terence Stamp

SPITEFUL PUPPET presents

James Leasor's **PASSPORT TO OBLIVION**
Audio Adaptation by **PAUL BIRCH & BARNABY EATON-JONES**
Producer/Director **BARNABY EATON-JONES**
Executive Producer Andrew Swaisland

DR. JASON LOVE George Lazenby, **SIMONE** Glynis Barber, **MACGILIVRAY** Nickolas Grace, **PARKINGTON** Michael Brandon, **'C' (Head of MI6)** Terence Stamp, **PERKINS** Barnaby Eaton-Jones, **DR. SIMMIAS** Terry Molloy, **VALERY** Philip Pope, **JOSEF** Ben Perkins, **EHSAN** Dana Haqjoo, **PROFESSOR K** Clive Mantle, **THE OPERATOR** Missy Malek, **JOYCE RUCK** Carla Mendonca and featuring Gary Andrews, Andrew James Spooner and Kim Jones.

Glynis Barber

Glynis Barber's big break came in 1984 when she was cast as the cop, Makepeace, in the major British and American co-production of the TV series 'Dempsey & Makepeace'. It was a worldwide hit, shown in over 30 countries and ran for three series. Her co-star was American actor Michael Brandon. Much to the delight of the press and public, they became a couple off-screen. In the theatre, Glynis achieved one of her dreams and played Lady Macbeth in 'Macbeth'. She also very much enjoyed playing Mrs Robinson in 'The Graduate' and appearing in 'Separate Tables'. She has just finished playing Glenda Mitchell in 'EastEnders'... or has she?

Nickolas Grace

Nickolas Grace is best known for his roles on television, including Anthony Blanche in the acclaimed ITV adaptation of 'Brideshead Revisited (1982 Nomination - BAFTA Award for Best Actor)', and the Sheriff of Nottingham in the 1980s series 'Robin of Sherwood'. He had a recurring role in Doctor Who audio stories, produced by Big Finish as a Time Lord ally; Straxus, of the Eighth Doctor and Lucie Miller, (Paul McGann and Sheridan Smith) in the stories Human Resources, Sisters of the Flame and Vengeance of Morbius. He portrayed Albert Einstein in the Doctor Who short "Death is the Only Answer". In 2012, he starred in 'Chariots of Fire', the stage adaptation of the film as the Master of Trinity College at Cambridge University, the role originated on screen by John Gielgud.

Michael Brandon

Michael Brandon is best known for his role as James Dempsey in the British drama series 'Dempsey and Makepeace' (1985–86). His theatre credits include the original Broadway production of 'Does a Tiger Wear a Necktie?' (1969), and playing Jerry Springer in 'Jerry Springer: The Opera' at the National Theatre and in the West End transfer.

Terence Stamp

Terence Stamp has appeared in more than 60 films. His performance in the title role of 'Billy Budd', his film debut, earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor and a BAFTA nomination for Best Newcomer. His other major roles include butterfly collector Freddie Clegg in 'The Collector', archvillain General Zod in 'Superman' and 'Superman II', tough guy Wilson in 'The Limey', Supreme Chancellor Valorum in 'Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace' and transgender woman Bernadette Bassinger in 'The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert'. For his acting he has won a Golden Globe, a Mystfest, a Cannes Film Festival Award, a Seattle International Film Festival Award, a Satellite Award, and a Silver Bear. He has written three volumes of memoirs: 'Stamp Album' (1987), 'Double Feature' (1989) and 'Rare Stamps: Reflections on Living, Breathing and Acting' (2012).

Barnaby Eaton-Jones (Producer/Director)

Barnaby Eaton-Jones has acquired the licence to all 10 James Leasor Dr. Jason Love novels and is currently producing, directing and writing the new 'Robin of Sherwood' audios for ITV Studios Global and Spiteful Puppet, as well as winning a New York Festivals Audio Award for Best Drama Special. He has recently revived the iconic comedy series 'The Goodies' for Audible, with the return of Graeme Garden, Bill Oddie and Tim Brooke-Taylor in a brand-new episode, and is about to record a 50th anniversary audio revival of 'Up Pompeii' with an all-star cast. He also adapts, directs, produces and performs in 'I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again... Again!' on stage and for a new series on BBC Radio 4 Extra.



spiteful puppet

SPITEFUL PUPPET

Spiteful Puppet Entertainment Limited began life as audio producers in 2013 (now also book publishers and theatre producers) by a small group of radio people who simply loved audio; there's something truly magical about closing your eyes and letting the sound transport you to another time and place

Best known for reuniting the original cast the 1980's ITV hit 'Robin of Sherwood', including Jason Connery and Ray Winstone, Spiteful Puppet has won a BBC Audio Drama Award and multiple New York Festival Radio Awards and had an original series broadcast on Radio 4 Extra. One of the 2016 New York Radio Festival Awards was for 'Magna Carta' (a piece commissioned by Salisbury Cathedral to mark their 500 celebrations and narrated by Gareth Thomas).

We always count ourselves very lucky that we get to work with great voice actors, composers, studio engineers and sound designers who enable us to bring our stories to life and 'Passport to Oblivion' is no exception.



'Passport to Oblivion' (2-disc set)
£14.99

It will be released 29 November 2019

It can be pre-ordered with this link

www.spitefulpuppet.com/product/passport-to-oblivion-2-disc-set/