

4 x 60'
HD
5.1 sound



Multi-Award Winning Historical Mini-series Docu-Drama

Secret Files of the Inquisition tells a story of epic proportions and powerful themes of Holy Wars and Crusades, of torture and terror, of the struggle for human rights and dignity. Based on previously unreleased secret documents from European Archives including the Vatican, Secret Files of the Inquisition unveils the incredible true story of the Catholic Church's 500-year struggle to remain the world's only true Christian religion. For over half a millennium a system of mass terror reigned. Thousands were subject to secret courts, torture and punishment.

Filmed in High Definition, this production spans medieval France in Episode 1, 15th century Spain in Episode 2, Renaissance Italy in Episode 3 and mid-nineteenth century Europe in Episode 4.

The 4 x 60 mini-series reveals how the most powerful church on earth created the Inquisition to attack its enemies and preserve the unquestioned authority of the Pope. Historians, experts and Church authorities advise on the handling of this controversial subject matter.

Episode One: Root Out Heretics

High in the Pyrenees in the southwest of what is now France, in a time when the Church of Rome proclaims itself the one true religion, heresy has taken hold. The Pope send the Inquisitors of Heretical Depravity to exterminate the heresy. Unbelievers are hunted down, condemned and burned. In 1308 the entire village of Montailou is taken prisoner of the Inquisition. No one is safe – not even the village priest and the chatelaine of its castle. From the secret files, the extraordinary revelations of village life under the Inquisition.

Episode Two: The Tears of Spain

Spain. 1468. A land where Christians, Muslims and Jews have lived in tolerance for centuries. But that time is ending. A young King and Queen bent on immortality proclaim themselves the Catholic Monarchs and start an Inquisition. Jews who had converted to Christianity are accused of secretly sabotaging the Christian faith. They become the pawns in a game of chess with dire consequences. Thousands perish in a ritual called the act of faith. In Zaragossa, the Inquisitor is assassinated - setting off a wave of reprisals. Mothers will die to protect their children - and the highest in the land will pay the ultimate price. It is the beginning of the Spanish empire and a long dark night that will last for centuries.

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SECRET FILES OF THE INQUISITION

Episode Three: The War on Ideas

Italy, 1522. The decadence of a Medici Pope in Rome outrages the devout priest in Germany named Martin Luther. In the face of the Protestant Reformation, a fanatical monk sets out to exterminate the heresy. On his path to power he will create the Roman Inquisition. And he will become the most hated Pope in history. Powerful leaders of the Catholic Church are arrested and imprisoned, accused of reading books banned by the Church. Free-thinking students are silenced. Darkness descends on the centers of learning and Renaissance. The Roman Inquisition leaves a legacy that lasts into the twentieth century.

Episode Four: The End of the Inquisition

The secret files of the Inquisition are locked away for centuries. A Spanish priest devotes his life to exposing the brutal records of the Inquisition. Napoleon spreads the ideas of the Enlightenment. He conquers Italy, abolishes the Inquisition and orders its files sent to Paris. Spain's greatest painter, Goya, will depict the Inquisition for the first time - and then run for his life. The kidnapping of a young Jewish boy secretly baptized will be one of the desperate last attempts at exerting the power of the Inquisition. A devoted father fights to get back his son. The boy becomes a symbol for a Pope who is about to lose his dominion on earth.

CHARACTERS FROM HISTORY COME ALIVE IN THEIR OWN WORDS...

Beatrice de Planisoles
The 13th century noblewoman whose affair with the village priest puts her under suspicion with the Inquisitor.



The Good Men
Priests of an alternative Christian sect hunted down as the most prized fugitives of the Medieval Inquisition.



Juan Llorente
Spends 17 years as a mole in the Spanish Inquisition and exposes its files to the world for the first time.



Jaime de Montessa
The highest judge in Aragon, accused of conspiracy to assassinate the Inquisitor.



Giovanni Carafa
The fanatical monk who creates the Roman Inquisition and leaves a legacy as the most hated pope in history.



Momolo Mortara
A Jewish father who devotes his life to getting back his son who has been kidnapped by the Inquisition in the 19th century.



Baldo Lupetino
The spiritual Friar whose Protestant teachings land him in the cells of the Venetian Inquisition.



Cinfa Cacavi
A desperate young wife and mother whose family will be torn apart by the Spanish Inquisition.

