

# First Look: Timothy Spall as Northern Irish Religious Leader Ian Paisley in 'The Journey'



'The Journey,' starring Timothy Spall (left) and Colm Meaney (right)

by Alex Ritman

**The film, which has started shooting in Belfast, is being financed by IM Global.**

Northern Irish religious and political leader **Ian Paisley** and his sworn enemy **Martin McGuinness** are shown walking side-by-side in the first image (above) from the new film about their unlikely friendship, *The Journey*.

Oscar-nominated British actor **Timothy Spall** plays the late firebrand Paisley, with **Colm Meaney** playing republican leader McGuinness. The two would go on to help shape the future of British and Irish history.

Shooting has begun in Belfast on the dramatic comedy written by Irish novelist and screenwriter **Colin Bateman** and directed by **Nick Hamm** (*Killing Bono*).

*The Journey*, which is being financed by IM Global through its Acclaim specialty division in association with Lipsync and Northern Ireland screen, also stars veteran actor **John Hurt**, as well as **Toby Stephens** (*Believe, The Machine*) and **Freddie Highmore** (*The Golden Compass*).

Greenroom/Tempo Entertainment, **Nick Hamm**, **Mark Huffam** (*The Martian*) and **Piers Tempest** (*Like Minds*) are producing, with IM Global's founder and CEO **Stuart Ford** and president of production **Matt Jackson** exec producing. IM Global is handling international sales.

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