

Steel's, Fitties and Hewitt's feature in new Grimsby Girl film as set relocates to North East Lincs

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By Jack Longstaff



YOU CAN TAKE THE GIRL OUT OF GRIMSBY ... Niya Hill on the set of her movie Grimsby Girl
CAMERA crews have been filming in Grimsby and Cleethorpes this weekend – as the production for the new 'Grimsby Girl' short film draws to a close.

The cast and crew of the upcoming movie – the brainchild of local actress Niya Hill – took part in a two-day film shoot at several locations across the region.

The film about the town is in response to Sacha Baron Cohen's Blockbuster big-screen hit, Grimsby, which appeared at cinemas up and down the country earlier this year.

Grimsby Girl is a spoof that pays homage to the Kill Bill movies, with a tongue-in-cheek look at Kelly, a northern woman who takes on a secret identity in response to the regional prejudice and bullying she faced upon moving to London.

It's a topic Niya, 50, has a lot of experience dealing with, having moved to the capital from Grimsby at 18.

Following on from filming at locations in London last week, the crew spent this weekend in North East Lincolnshire to conclude filming.

image: <http://www.grimsbytelegraph.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276369/binaries/15605722.jpg>



The famed CCleethorpes fish and chip shop, Steel's Restaurant, the Humberston Fitties and the old Hewitt's Brewery cooperage, in Grimsby's East Street, were chosen as the settings for scenes to feature in the movie, due for release in April 2017.

An excited Niya, who says that the production of the film has gone "better than I could have ever hoped", is hoping the finished product will make Grimsby locals feel "proud".

She said: "Filming has proved to be a lot of fun. the cast really like the script and we have tried to tap in to the North/South divide debate. It's about the Northerners fighting back.

image: <http://www.grimsbytelegraph.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276369/binaries/15605723.jpg>



"It has gone amazingly well. When I wrote the script it got a good response but as soon as we started filming, it took on a life of its own. In reality it has turned out to be better than what I thought it would be."

The film is directed by Anna Keel, who has worked on shows such as The Apprentice and a number of acclaimed documentaries for the BBC and Channel 4, and has teamed up with members of the Screen Actors Collective, which is part-funding the project.

image: <http://www.grimsbytelegraph.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276369/binaries/15605724.jpg>



Starring in the movie is actress Amy Allen, who plays the leading lady, Kelly, Chris Towner-Jones, who plays a character called Larry, Simon Hibbs, who plays Jack, Jim Mannering, who plays Fred, and Niya, who plays Kelly's boss, Steinbichler.

Grimsby Girl has also been sponsored by local business JCS Fish Ltd.

Niya added: "I know that the people of Grimsby will be proud of it. That was always my intention, for it to be fun and feisty,

"It takes a light hearted look at a lot of issues, there's a lot of warmth to it and I hope the people of Grimsby will love it."

image: <http://www.grimsbytelegraph.co.uk/images/localworld/ugc-images/276369/binaries/15605725.jpg>



The team behind the film have had to offer a number of incentives to encourage people to donate towards the production, ranging from an executive producer credit on the film to a private film making class with the director.

Niya is hopeful of securing a home-coming screening at Cleethorpes' Parkway Cinema.