System Requirements

- Macintosh®
  - 68020, 68030, 68040 or PowerPC processor or higher.
  - At least 8 MB of RAM recommended for 68020, 68030, or 68040 processor-based systems; at least 16 MB of RAM recommended for PowerPC systems.
  - Mac OS 7.1.2 or later
  - Quad-speed CD-ROM drive or faster

- Windows®
  - 95/98/NT 4.0
  - Intel or compatible processor or any MPC2-compliant PC. Pentium or higher recommended.
  - At least 16MB of RAM (24 MB for Windows NT)
  - 10 MB of available hard disk space (for Acrobat Reader and QuickTime)
  - Windows 95, Windows 98, or Windows NT 4.0 system software (Windows NT Service Pack 3 or later installed)
  - Sound Blaster or compatible sound card and speakers
  - Direct X version 3.0 or later recommended
  - Quad-speed CD-ROM drive or faster

Installation Instructions

You must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 and Apple QuickTime software installed on your computer before running this disc (see system requirements). If you do not have these installed or are not sure, they can be installed off of this disc:

**INSTALL ACROBAT READER 4.0**

**Windows® 95/98/NT**
1. Insert this disc into CD-ROM drive.
2. Browse to the UtilisWinAcrored folder on this disc.

**INSTALL QUICKTIME 4.0**

**Windows® 95/98/NT**
1. Insert this disc into CD-ROM drive.
2. Browse to the UtilisWinQuickTime folder on this disc.
3. Double-click the QuickTimeInstaller.exe file to begin installation.

**START THE 1999 FILM & HISTORY CD-ROM ANNUAL**

**Windows® 95/98/NT**
1. Insert this disc into CD-ROM drive.
2. Double-click your CD-ROM icon in My Computer to view the contents of your CD-ROM drive.

**Macintosh®**
1. Insert this disc into CD-ROM drive.
2. Double-click your CD-ROM drive icon on the desktop to view its contents.

**Film & History on the Web:** http://h-net.msu.edu/~filmhis
Introduction

Peter C. Rollins, Editor, Film & History

This 1999 CD-ROM ANNUAL is the first of an on-going series of archival sources produced by Film & History: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Film and Television Studies.

For the last 30 years, Film & History has been shedding light on how motion pictures shape or reflect their times, with a world-wide perspective on the medium. We live in a media age. If we do not learn how to integrate film and television into our study of history and culture, we will miss both an important pedagogical opportunity and the media challenge of our times. Students will turn elsewhere for the experience and lessons of history. Caveat educator!

The CD-ROM ANNUAL gives Film & History a number of creative opportunities to share its findings:

1. John O'Connor's two fine books, American History/American Film and American History/American Television have been out of print for years. They appear here in word-searchable text, as invaluable and inspiring resources.

2. For reasons of space and due to various thematic issues, we could not include a number of deserving articles in Film & History this year. Fortunately, the CD-ROM option gives us a chance to feature over thirty-five fine scholarly studies. (See Table of Contents, within.) All of these works are included as part of the word-search pool—which includes the two O'Connor books as well. There are pictorial and verbal profiles of this year's authors.

3. Goodbye Billy: American Goes to War, 1917-1918 (1969) is a classic film which has been used in countless classrooms over the years. The film has been written about by a number of scholars in the pages of Film & History. This CD-ROM brings together a number of primary and secondary materials related to the film with the hope that somebody will use these materials in future years for scholarly purposes. Indeed, we hope that GBB will, retrospectively, become an inspiration for historian-made films in the future.

Features

- Full-text searching of entire disc
- Screen and print versions of nearly every text
- Video welcome by Peter C. Rollins, Editor, Film & History

Contents

Over 30 articles, with topics ranging from Reaganite cinema to The Crying Game.

Reprinted digitally: The complete text of American History / American Film and American History / American Television

Audio interviews with John E. O'Connor and Martin Jackson, the founders of Film & History. Goodbye Billy: Teaching Resource Materials and historical documentation

Audiovisual material garnish this CD-ROM:

- Peter C. Rollins, Editor of Film & History, welcomes viewers in a 5-minute video.
- John O'Connor and Martin Jackson discuss the origins and purposes of the journal in a two-hour radio program.
- Amistad, the Steven Spielberg film about the slave trade and US attitudes toward slavery, is critiqued as a work of history by advisors to the film and by scholars in a 90-minute, audio workshop conducted in Boston, Massachusetts in the Spring of 1999.

All text material is word-searchable using the Adobe Acrobat Reader, a program included on the CD-ROM with permission from the copyright holder.

Please see reverse side for installation instructions for the Acrobat Reader, QuickTime software, and the 1999 Film & History CD-ROM Annual itself.
Merlin at the Multiplex: A Filmography of Merlin in Arthurian Film, Television and Videocassette 1920 - 1998
Michael A. Torregrossa, M. A.

Items in this filmography are listed by the years that they first appeared in theaters, on television or on videocassette. I have made every effort to include all works of Arthurian film and television in which Merlin has appeared or been mentioned. Despite this, I am sure I have missed many appearances just because I have either not seen them or have not received any information on them. All air times, when provided, are listed as Eastern standard. This listing covers material that appeared up to December 1998, but I have also updated entries regarding videocassettes, which have appeared on videocassette between January - August 1999.

Acknowledgements

I originally began this filmography to accompany my article in Film & History (see “Works Consulted” below), and I am grateful to Martha Driver, Peter C. Rollins, and Deborah Carmichael for their interest in and continued support of my research. Unlike most genres of Arthurian popular culture, research in Arthurian films is a relatively recent topic for investigation. Much of the initial research was undertaken by Kevin J. Harty of La Salle University in the late 1980s and culminated in 1991 with a collection of essays entitled Cinema Arthuriana: Essays on Arthurian Film (Garland). This current filmography would not be possible without his pioneering work in the field, and I thank him for his help in compiling this listing and for keeping me up to date on the state of the scholarship on Arthurian films. I also wish to thank Daniel Nastali and Michael N. Salda for answering questions during the evolution of this filmography. My gratitude also goes to Mary Alice Grellner for providing copies of several films from her personal collection.

Key to Abbreviations

Note on source abbreviations in brackets (for full citations see “Works Consulted” following the filmography):

AA: Michael N. Salda, Arthurian Animation, Part of The Arthuriana / Camelot Project Bibliographies (internet listing).

AF: Kevin J. Harty, Arthurian Film, Part of The Arthuriana / Camelot Project

No specific information on Merlin available, but he does appear in the film.
1931


Merlin as antagonist/villain and charlatan magician. The film is a fairly close adaptation of Twain’s novel. Merlin is allied with Sir Sagramore (Brandon Hurst) against Hank and King Arthur (William Farnum). At the film’s conclusion, Arthur realizes Merlin for the traitor to the crown that he is.

1949


Merlin as antagonist/villain. Curiously, the film presents a Merlin younger than the feeble King Arthur (Sir Cedric Hardwicke). This Merlin is not a magician, and he shows his evil side in allying with Sir Logerius (Joseph Vitale) and Morgan Le Fay (Virginia Field) against Hank and Arthur.

1950


Merlin is ambivalent in Galahad’s quest to retrieve the missing Excalibur. At one point, Merlin aids the knight, and at another point, he hinders him.
1952


Merlin as magician and antagonist/villain. Merlin plots with Sir Sagamor (Berry Kroeger) to kill King Arthur (Boris Karloff) and Hank Morgan (Thomas Mitchell), and Merlin attempts to place Sagamor upon the throne.

1954


A somewhat traditional version of the Arthurian legend. Merlin as king-maker and protector of the kingdom.


No specific information on the role of Merlin in this made for television adaptation of Mark Twain's novel. The film was played for comedy with some emphasis on the comical aspects of Merlin's role in the work.

1955

Merlin as "sorcerer." In this adaptation of the *Connecticut Yankee* narrative, Merlin uses his magic powder to turn Bugs Bunny into a pig, but Bugs breaks the spell by finding the costume’s zipper. Bugs then turns Merlin into a donkey, but the mage is unable to break the spell and remains a donkey into the twentieth century.

1956


The series was set in the Dark Ages and, as the title suggests, retold the adventures of Sir Lancelot.

No specific information on Merlin available. However, in the episode entitled "The Ugly Duckling" (first aired 6 May 1957 and rebroadcast 18 March 1958) Merlin aids Sir Lancelot in protecting the daughter of the lord of Castle Lamorack.

1959


Merlin as magician. As the series premise, Merlin would conjure up twentieth century objects to solve problems in the days of King Arthur.

1962


*Merlin at the Multiplex: A Filmography of Merlin...* 1999 Film & History CDROM Annual
A modern version of the Arthurian legend. No specific information on the role of Merlin, but he does appear in the film.

1963


Merlin (Ralph K. Merlin, Jr.) as magic-user and somewhat inept shape-shifter. Merlin appears in connection with the story of Tom Thumb. However unlike an earlier Warner Brothers short, this one presents the narrative as updated for a 1960s audience. Ralph K. Merlin, Jr. likes to help people, and so he grants the wish of Tom’s mother-to-be.


Merlin as queen- and king-maker. In the chaos after Arthur’s (Mark Dignam) death, Merlin helps Katherine (Janette Scott), Arthur’s daughter, and her future consort, the outlaw Robert Marshall (Ronald Lewis), ascend to the throne.


Merlin as teacher-wizard, shape-shifter, and time-traveler. Aided by his magic, Merlin urges young Arthur (voiced by Ricky Sorenson) to rise above the “medieval muddle” and get a proper (i.e. twentieth-century) education.

15. Sword of Lancelot (United States) or Lancelot and Guinevere (Great Britain). Great Britain. Directed by Cornel Wilde. Based on Sir Thomas Malory’s Le Morte Darthur. Written...

Merlin as adviser, potion-maker, and purveyor of cleanliness. A fairly traditional adaptation of Malory, except here Merlin is still alive at the revelation of Lancelot and Guinevere’s affair.

1964


No specific information available. However, Mr. Magoo appears here as Merlin.

1966


Lex Luthor uses the eponymous “Merlin’s Marbles” to help him commit crimes.


Merlin as time traveler and magician. Merlin takes control of the eponymous “Time Tunnel” and sends Dr. Tony Newman (James Darren) and Dr. Doug Phillips (Robert Colbert) back in time to aid King Arthur (Jim McMullan) in his struggles against Wogan the Viking (Vincent Beck).
1967


Merlin (here spelt Merlyn as in White) as teacher-wizard, prophet, and time-traveler. Based on the Lerner and Loewe Broadway musical *Camelot* (1961), which was in turn based on T. H. White’s *The Once and Future King* (1958). In the film version Merlyn also functions as the initiator of the action of the film, when he calls to Arthur (Richard Harris) to think back to the day that he first saw Guenevere (Vanessa Redgrave).

1968


Merlin as magic-user, adviser, artificer, and comedian. The series is a Jay Ward-esque approach to the Arthurian legend. On the video tape, Merlin appears in three shorts and two sketches. In addition, Merlin also appears in the series closing credits in a dance number with the other major figures. However, Merlin is absent in the opening credits.

1970

No specific information on the role of Merlin, but he does appear as "Merlin the Magician."

1974


Merlin as purveyor of dental hygiene as a means to strengthen the knights.

**mid-1970s**


Merlin as mentor. An Arthur-type character (possibly Arthur reborn) emerges as the leader of a movement to preserve a series of caves connected to the legends of King Arthur. The boy's mentor, an archaeologist, may be Merlin reborn.

1976


Criminals assume the identity of the ghosts of Merlin and the Black Knight to scare Shaggy's uncle.

**late 1970s**


Merlin as magic-user. Merlin uses his magic to transport a group of children to another world.

The Super Friends utilize the “Rods of Merlin” to defeat the ghost of Gentleman Jim Craddock.


No specific information on the role of Merlin. Morgan introduces stories that appear in “Merlin’s Book.”

1978


No specific information available on this adaptation of Mark Twain’s novel. However, Daffy Duck is King Arthur and Yosemite Sam is Merlin to counteract Bugs Bunny as the Connecticut Rabbit.

1979


Merlin as magic-user. Merlin transports three students into a world of fantasy, where learning is the way to discovery and solving problems. Designed to combat both truancy and boredom.

Merlin as antagonist.

1980


No specific information on the role of Merlin.

1981


Merlin as king-maker, sorcerer, and prophet. This depiction of Merlin has been called by many Arthurian enthusiasts the quintessential portrayal of the character, and it is a fairly traditional representation. However, this version is also heavily influence by J. R. R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*. The film was originally entitled *Merlin Lives*, but Boorman was forced to change it due to unspecified copyright problems.

Merlin as shaman and advisor. This film adapts the traditional Arthurian story in contemporary western Pennsylvania with a group of bikers. A retired physician, Merlin is an African American with butterfly tattoos on his face. The Merlin of this film is also the keeper of the Arthurian legend, which he shares with Billy (Ed Harris), the Arthur figure.


Merlin as wizard, mentor, and mechanic. As "Max Merlin," a sixteen hundred year old Merlin opens an auto repair shop in San Francisco. Merlin chooses young Zachary "Zac" Rogers (Clark Brandon) as his apprentice. Also featured Alexandria (Elaine Joyce), a contemporary of Merlin, and Zac's friend, Leo Samuels (Jonathan Price).

1982


No specific information available on the role of Merlin. This series combined magic and time travel, and it featured an eternal struggle between the white magician Rothgo (Ron Moody), later replaced by Lazlo (Chris Harris in series three), and the evil Belor (Pamela Salem). In the final episode of the third series, Lazlo appears as Merlin to aid King Arthur (Ewen Solon) and his Knights of the Round Table against Belor in the form of Morgan Le Fay.

1983


No specific information available on the role of Merlin. The film recounts how a young
Merlin goes in search of Excalibur.

1984


The Spider Friends and the Black Knight use the “Merlin Medallion” and the Knight’s Merlin-forged Ebony Blade to defeat the sorcerer Modred the Evil and the demon Darkon.

1985


Merlin as lover and magic-user. Merlin also takes on the role of savior when he sends his astral body back into the past to save Lancelot (Rupert Everett) from Morgan Le Fay’s (Candice Bergen) magic. Moreover, at the end of the film, Merlin and Niniane (Lucy Gutteridge) attempt to return to the past and try to prevent the fall of Camelot.


Yogi and the rest of the crew must help Merlin recover his spell book in order to stop the imminent collision of Bailey’s Comet with the Earth.

Merlin as wizard. Merlin aids Lion-O (voiced by Larry Kenney), leader of the Thundercats, in his battle against the sorcerer Mumm-Ra (voiced by Earl Hammond), who has taken the guise of a returned King Arthur. Mumm-Ra, as Arthur, faces Lion-O in battle with Excalibur versus the Thundercats' Sword of Omens.

1986


A descendant of Morgana, Merlin, and series regulars battle for possession of the mirror of Morgana and the crown of King Arthur.


Merlin as would-be world conqueror. Lancelot (Richard Kiley) and Morgan Le Fay (Jenny Agutter) team up to prevent Merlin's plans from coming to fruition.

1989

An episode from the long running series, “Battlefield” begins with Morgaine le Fay (Jean Marsh) attacking our world from another dimension, which the Doctor’s future self has previously visited in that world’s past. Apparently, the Doctor will be the Merlin of, at least, that dimension, and as such, the inhabitants of that dimension refer to him as Merlin. The episode depicts the seventh Doctor Who (Sylvester McCoy) and his friend Ace (Sophie Aldred) at an archaeological dig in England, where they first battle Morgaine and her son, Mordred (Christopher Bowen), for possession of Excalibur and then prevent them from setting off a nuclear explosion.


Merlin as antagonist and charlatan magic-user. Merlin and Mordred are allied against Karen and Arthur (Michael Gross). As in the novel, the film ends with Merlin casting a sleep spell on Karen, and surprisingly, the spell works. Karen then awakens back in the twentieth century.

1990


Film retelling of the Arthurian legend from the Vulgate Cycle, including the birth of Merlin and his enchantment by Vivien.

46. *Merlin*. Spain. Directed by Adolfo Arrieta. Based on Cocteau’s *les chevaliers de la Table Ronde*. [IMDb; MM 32]

No information available on this film.

Merlin as magician, adversary, and villain. This adaptation of Mark Twain’s _Connecticut Yankee_, features Beetlejuice and his friend Lydia Deetze in the Neither-world version of Camelot, where they face the traitorous Merlin and the dreaded B. O. Wolf.


Merlin as magic-user and lover. Throughout the series, Merlin uses his magic to aid the three aspiring knights Prince Valiant (Robby Benson), Arn (Michael Horton), and Rowanne (Noelle North).


Merlin as proto-scientist. Another adaptation of Mark Twain, this time with MacGyver playing the Yankee role in this two-part episode. MacGyver’s boss, Peter Thorton (Dana Elcar), appears here as a blind King Arthur.

Merlin as seer, storyteller, and adviser to young Arthur. Adapts Yolen’s traditional story *Merlin and the Dragons* (1991), which recounts the episode of Merlin and Vortigern’s tower from Geoffrey of Monmouth, for children. Merlin tells Arthur about how young Emrys, later revealed to be Merlin, faced King Vortigern and revealed that two dragon’s slept beneath the king’s tower.


Merlin as seer, engineer, adviser, magic-user, healer, and inspired prophet. Following the events of *The Crystal Cave* (1970), Merlin recounts his youth and his time as adviser to kings Vortigern, Ambrosius (his father), and Uther (his uncle). Both opens and concludes with an episode from Stewart’s *The Hollow Hills* (1973) depicting Arthur pulling the sword from the stone.


No specific information on the role of Merlin. However, this was the fourth, and final, episode and dealt with Arthur consulting Merlin for advice.


1992


Merlin functions primarily as a magic-user and protector as he aids the twentieth-century stand-ins for King Arthur and the Knights of Justice, a college football team from Connecticut. In “The High Ground,” one of the knights likens Merlin to a coach. “The Dark Side” reveal that Merlin has divested himself of his evil side, a being known as Nilrem.


Fantasy adventure film. Includes a flashback sequence set in medieval times with a focus on Merlin’s daughter, Crystal, the Lady of the Lake, (Nadia Cameron) versus Pendragon, the son of Mordred, (Richard Lynch). These two characters are then reincarnated in the twentieth century, when they vie for control of the sword. Merlin reappears later in the film to defeat Pendragon.

1993


Merlin as magic-user. Merlin conjures up the Warners: Yakko, Wakko, and Dot to save
Camelot from a dragon.


Merlin as magic-user. This half hour episode starring Pinky and the Brain is set in England 1194. Merlin uses his powers to create a blueberry pie. He does not want to share with Arthur and the knights, so he goes to eat it in the dungeon. The Brain then devises another of his plans to take over the world, this time using Merlin’s spell book and magic wand.

1994


The episode involves the quest for the "Scrolls of Merlin," which are discovered to contain Merlin’s reflections on his life and the reign of King Arthur. This episode also has a strong pro-literacy message.


This episode concludes with the recently awakened King Arthur setting off in search of Merlin, which would have continued in a spin-off series entitled Pendragon.

Merlin at the Multiplex: A Filmography of Merlin... 1999 Film & History CDROM Annual 19

Merlin as kingdom-maker. Merlin first aids young King Arthur Pendragon (Sean Patrick Flannery) in achieving both his kingdom and a queen. Later, Merlin leaves Arthur and the kingdom in the capable hands of Arthur's queen, Guinevere of Camelot (Cheryl Lee). Faced with adversity, Arthur and Guinevere rise above their troubles and vow to create a kingdom, which will serve as “a beacon to all people in all lands for all time.”


Contemporary reworking of the Arthurian legend. “Merlin” is a taxi driver and former con-man, who encounters a would-be bank robber named Arthur (Clive Darby). Due to a blow on the head, Arthur believes he is King Arthur returned.

1995


Merlin as wizard. Based on the popular video game Nightwarriors from Capcom. One character, Harry Grimoire, is a modern-day descendant of Merlin and also a practicing wizard. Merlin appears in two episodes of the series: “Donavan’s Bane” (written by Christy Marx) and “Darkest Before the Dawn” (written by Richard Mueller).

Merlin as teacher and magic-user. Confined to the Well of Destiny, Merlin searches the future for a knight, teenaged Calvin Fuller (Thomas Ian Nicholas) of Reseda, California, to restore King Arthur's (Joss Ackland) faith in himself and to save Camelot from the evils of Lord Belasco (Art Malik).


Merlin as teacher. Merlin helps young Alex Cole (Johnny Morina) find the power of Excalibur ("Excalibur is the good in you.") within himself.


Diminutive Merlin as absent teacher and "Wizard of Avalon." A series aimed at young girls. Princess Gwenevere and the Jewel Riders ban together to save Merlin from the wild magic. They fail to rescue him in the first season but continue to try in the second season.


Felix travels back in time and battles Merlin.

Merlin as magic-user, quester, and teacher (suggested). Yet another modern adaptation of Mark Twain’s novel. However, this Merlin makes several references to the Celtic gods and even possesses the mythical head of Bran the Blessed. True to the Arthurian romances, this Merlin has also taught his magic to Morgan Le Fay (Theresa Russell), and she pays the price for her treachery against Arthur (Nick Mancuso). The film concludes when Merlin has completed his quest for the mysterious Elvis, “the one, true king,” and through the aid of Elvis, the mage sends Hank Morgan (Philippe Ross) back home.

1996


Based on Deepak Chopra’s book The Way of the Wizard. Uses adaptations of the Arthurian narrative to reveal the inner wizard in us all.


No specific information available on the role of Merlin. This is another adaptation of the Connecticut Yankee story, but with the eponymous Johnny Mysto (Toran Caudell) replacing the Yankee.


Depicted a spectral Merlin urging the viewer to take up the quest.

Television. ABC-TV. Not available on videocassette. Episode 6 of season one. This episode first aired 12 April 1996 (guest star Tony Bennett). Originally aired on ABC, and now airs weekends on The Disney Channel at 7:30 PM. [IMDb]

Merlin, Arthur, and Lancelot Muppets appear as Elvis impersonators in a segment from the continuing series “Great Moments in Elvis History.” While the knights joke, Merlin rescues Lady Guinevere from a dragon.

1997


Merlin as magic-user, advisor, prophet, savior, and shape-shifter. Merlin rescues an infant Arthur and brings the baby to Avalon, where he is raised by both Merlin and Viviane. Later, Merlin and Viviane continue to use their magic and aid the adult Arthur, when he returns to the outside world.

73. Camelot II. Anchor Bay Entertainment. Animated. May be available on videocassette. [AA]

No specific information available. Merlin here serves as Arthur’s foster father.


Depicts a young boy eating a Magic Gusher and then being transformed into Merlin. The narrator says, “For a blast of fruity taste that’ll have you whirlin’ like Merlin” as the boy transforms.


Merlin at the Multiplex: A Filmography of Merlin...
1999 Film & History CDROM Annual

23

Presents an overview of the legends of Merlin Ambrosius and Merlin Calidonius, but focuses on the ambiguous Merlins of legend, history, and myth. Includes live action footage, both modern and Victorian illustrations, and interviews with Geoffrey Ashe, Count Nikolai Tolstoy, and a druid named Ken Bailey.


Series based on the Archie Comics’ comic book of the same name. Sabrina casts a non-specific spell, which transports her aunts and their cat to Merlin’s castle. One of her aunts used to date Merlin, who now enacts his revenge.

1998


This episode makes use of characters created by the late Jack Kirby for the comic book *The Demon* Vol. 1 (1972-74). Makes reference to the demon Entrigan as “Merlin’s demon,” and Jason Blood later recounts Merlin’s actions during the fall of Camelot.

Merlin as magic-user, advisor, narrator, and cross-dresser. Merlin narrates parts of this non-traditional, comedic adaptation of the Arthurian legend. However, Merlin primarily functions in his traditional roles, except for his relationship with the obese Morgan Le Fay (voiced by Saffron Henderson), who falls under the effects of her own love potion. Also in a bizarre twist of Merlin’s shape-shifting abilities, Merlin at one point disguises himself as Guinevere, so the queen might escape from Morgan.

79. *A Knight in Camelot.* Directed by Roger Young. Written by Joe Wiesenfeld. Based on Mark Twain’s *Connecticut Yankee.* Starring Whoopi Goldberg as Vivien Morgan. Featuring Ian Richardson as Merlin. Disney Television. NBC-TV. First aired 8 November 1998 as part of *The Magical World of Disney.* Not available on videocassette. [IMDb]

Merrin as antagonist, magician, and time-traveler. The only innovation here to the character of Merlin appears at the film’s conclusion, when Merlin turns up in twentieth-century clothing and explains to Vivien that the preceding was a way to teach Arthur (Michael York) the values he needs to be a proper king. Merlin then acquiesces to Vivien’s request to become Merlin’s assistant.


Merlin as magic-user (“a hand magician”), prophet, lover, hero, and advisor. Filmed on location in Great Britain, the mini-series explores the life of Merlin from his creation to his final passing from this world. The film presents a somewhat traditional account of the legend of Merlin, but much of the narrative is unique to this version. Here, Merlin is created by Mab (Miranda Richardson), the Queen of Darkness, to bring the British back to the old ways. He inevitably rebels and the film concludes after the British have forgotten Mab and then when Merlin has used up his remaining magic to restore himself and his beloved Nimue (Isabella Rossellini) to youth.

select areas of the country during late October - November 1998. [IMDb]

The pilot and series (see “Works in Progress” below) will explore the adventures of a young Merlin as he learns about his new found powers. The cast also includes Hengist (Andy Bryden), Nimue (Deborah Moore), and Blaze (Gareth Thomas), Merlin’s mentor.


Merlin as sage, advisor, magic-user (suggested), prophet (implied), and healer. Merlin appears several scenes in connection with King Arthur (voiced by Pierce Brosnan), but he also appears in connection with the new generation of knights, Kayley (voiced by Jessalyn Gilsig) and the blind Garrett (voiced by Cary Elwes).

Works in Progress

Works Consulted


The Disney Channel Magazine. Advertisement for *A Kid in King Arthur’s Court.* August/September 1995, 35.


Describes “Knight-Mare Hare” on page 195. Describes “I Was a Teenaged Thumb” on page 232.


On page vii of his preface and page 180 note 1, Markale makes reference to his role in Brocéliande, ou le Royaume de Merlin (1980).


