

= Laurence Fox =

Laurence Paul Fox (born 26 May 1978) is an English actor , singer @-@ songwriter and guitarist , best known for his leading role as DS James Hathaway in the British TV drama series Lewis from 2006 to 2015 . His debut album , Holding Patterns , was released in February 2016 .

= = Early years and education = =

The third of five children of actor James Fox and his wife Mary Elizabeth Piper , His father James was the son of Major Robin Fox , theatrical agent , who married Angela Muriel Darita Worthington , a natural daughter of Frederick Lonsdale . Laurence Fox was born in 1978 in Yorkshire . At the age of thirteen he entered Harrow School where , according to him , he was " shy around women , sensitive and a bit naïve " . Although he made friends and liked the drama teacher , he hated the school 's strict regimen and felt despised and out of place among pupils with titles and wealth . Constantly in trouble for smoking , fighting , going into town and seeing girls , he was eventually expelled a few weeks before his A @-@ levels . According to him , " It was something to do with a girl at a dance . I went back to take the exams , but I wasn 't allowed to speak to anyone . " With hindsight , Fox has said that his experience at Harrow enabled him to portray " toffs " ? the upper @-@ class boys looking down on him and whom he disliked ? with much insight and cynicism .

Despite doing well in his A @-@ level examinations , because of his report from Harrow he was unable to obtain a place at any university . After working as a gardener for two years , and a stint as an office worker which he loathed , he discovered that he enjoyed acting and enrolled at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) . During his time there he appeared in numerous theatre productions , including the lead roles of Gregers Werle in Ibsen 's The Wild Duck , Marcus Andronicus in Titus Andronicus , and Stephen Daedalus in an adaptation of James Joyce 's novel Ulysses . However , he was disappointed to find that he was treated " like a nonce " for being an Old Harrovian . He also made himself more unpopular by being outspoken and taking on roles in his second and third years despite the practice being forbidden by school policy . One of these was his first break into film ? the 2001 horror @-@ thriller The Hole . Fox feels that in landing the role his name " probably helped ? it 's a combination of timing , luck and contacts " . Nonetheless , " [t] he name opens some doors , but then you have to show you can do the job " .

= = Career = =

Fox , who graduated from RADA on 1 July 2001 , followed up The Hole by appearing in Robert Altman 's 2001 Academy Award @-@ winning film Gosford Park . He then donned uniforms in a slew of film and television features , including roles as a German airman in Island at War (2004) , an SS officer in The Last Drop (2005) , and as British soldiers in the 2002 films Deathwatch and Ultimate Force , and in Colditz (2005) . In the last made @-@ for @-@ television film , Fox played Capt. Tom Willis who , after an unsuccessful attempt to break out of a prisoner @-@ of @-@ war camp , is brought to Oflag IV @-@ C in Colditz Castle , one of the most infamous German POW camps for officers in World War II . Actor Kevin Whately caught Fox 's performance in the last ten minutes of the film , which he characterised as " this young English boy going bonkers and wandering out to be shot " , and thought " He 's interesting . " The next day , at a lunch meeting with " all the powers that be " regarding a new project , Whately mentioned that Fox " would be worth taking a look at " .

As a result , Fox was cast in the ITV detective drama Lewis as Detective Sergeant James Hathaway , a Cambridge @-@ educated former trainee priest who becomes the partner of Detective Inspector Robert Lewis , played by Whately . The pilot of this spin @-@ off from Inspector Morse (1987 ? 2000) , was ITV 's highest rated drama of 2006 .

Real people that Fox has portrayed include Prince Charles , in Whatever Love Means (2005) ; Wisley , one of Jane Austen 's suitors , in Becoming Jane (2007) ; and Sir Christopher Hatton , the Lord Chancellor of England in Elizabeth : The Golden Age , also released in 2007 . In addition , in

that year Fox was seen on ITV as Cecil Vyse in Andrew Davies ' adaptation of A Room with a View based on E.M. Forster 's 1908 novel . He has expressed a desire to appear in a western , and to star as James Bond ? the closest he got to the latter was losing the role of villain Gustav Graves in Die Another Day (2002) to Toby Stephens .

On stage , Fox appeared in Mrs. Warren 's Profession by George Bernard Shaw at the Strand Theatre (now the Novello Theatre) in London in 2002 , and John Ford 's 17th @-@ century play ' Tis Pity She 's a Whore in 2005 . Between 2006 and 2007 he starred in Treats by Christopher Hampton with his future wife , Billie Piper . In April 2007 , Fox lost his temper with a paparazzi photographer outside the Garrick Theatre in London where he was performing in Treats and was arrested for assault . He was later released after receiving a police caution . Newspaper reports stated that the caution would remain on his record for three years and might prevent his obtaining a visa to perform in the US . In 2013 , Fox played Guy Haines in Strangers on a Train at London 's Gielgud Theatre . On 9 May 2015 he portrayed a wartime soldier composing a letter at VE Day 70 : A Party to Remember in Horse Guards Parade , London that was broadcast live on BBC1 .

When filming , Fox often plays the jester to amuse the cast and crew . He has said , " I 'd just rather have a good time than I would be Daniel Day @-@ Lewis . There ain 't no method to my acting . "

In March 2016 Laurence Fox apologised for swearing at a member of the audience who had been muttering audibly in the front row during a performance of The Patriotic Traitor at London 's Park Theatre on 8 March . The audience saw Fox step out of character - that of French statesman Charles de Gaulle - and chastise the heckler with robust language . " If someone is hell @-@ bent on heckling , they are ruining it for everybody , " he explained to Sarah Montague on the Today programme on 10 March 2016 . " It becomes an un @-@ performable play , the play stops at that moment . "

= = Personal life = =

Fox dated British actress Billie Piper in 2006 while they performed together in the stage play Treats . On 31 December 2007 Fox married Piper in the 12th century parish church of St. Mary 's in Easebourne , West Sussex . During a 21 February 2008 interview on ITV breakfast show GMTV , Fox revealed that after a " drunken lunch " during their honeymoon in Mexico he and Piper got matching tattoos to celebrate their marriage . His tattoo , on his forearm , reads " Mrs Fox 31 December 2007 , " while hers states " Mr Fox . " As of 2007 Fox and Piper lived in a country cottage in the market town of Midhurst in West Sussex . In March 2008 it was reported that Piper had expressed to family and friends a desire to adopt children as well as to have children of her own with Fox . On 27 April 2008 The Sun , quoting an unnamed source , announced that Piper was three months ' pregnant and that she and Fox were " absolutely over the moon " . On 21 October 2008 , Piper gave birth to a son , Winston James Fox , by emergency Caesarean section . Piper gave birth to their second son , Eugene Pip , on 5 April 2012 . On 24th March 2016 , Fox announced on his Facebook page that the pair had split after eight years of marriage . He stated that no third party was involved in the separation . On 12 May 2016 , it was announced that Fox and Piper had divorced after more than eight years of marriage .

Fox 's siblings are Tom (born 1975) , Robin (1976) , Lydia (1979) , and Jack (1985) ; Lydia Fox is herself an actress . His uncles are the actor Edward Fox and the theatrical and film producer Robert Fox . The actors Emilia Fox and Freddie Fox are his first cousins , being the children of Edward Fox . Fox is also Richard Ayoade 's brother @-@ in @-@ law .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

Some information in this table was obtained from Laurence Fox : Filmography , Internet Movie Database (IMDb) , retrieved 16 March 2008 .

== Television ==

Some information in this table was obtained from Laurence Fox : Filmography , Internet Movie Database (IMDb) , retrieved 16 March 2008 .

== Theatre ==

Some information in this table was obtained from the following websites : Laurence Fox , Royal Academy of Dramatic Art , archived from the original on 3 February 2008 , retrieved 18 March 2008 ; Laurence Fox : Other works , Internet Movie Database (IMDb) , retrieved 16 March 2008 .

== Discography ==

Albums

Sorry for My Words (2013) .

Holding Patterns (2016)

Singles

" Gunfight " (2012)

" So Be Damned " (2013) .

" Headlong " (2015)

" Rise Again " (2016)