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## Local & National

# Neeson and Nesbitt: Captured together on film at last

Saturday, June 14, 2008

By Maureen Coleman

This is the first still taken from a new one-off drama about the Troubles starring Ulster actors Liam Neeson and James Nesbitt.

For the first time the pair of acting heavyweights have teamed up for a television drama.

Five Minutes In Heaven was filmed in Belfast and explores aspects of Northern Ireland's troubled past and the challenges the future holds in coming to terms with it.

Written by Guy Hibbert, who also penned Omagh, the drama centres around the story of 17-year-old Alistair Little, a member of the UVF who murdered 19-year-old Catholic Jim Griffen in 1975.

Little was arrested two weeks later along with three others involved in the shooting and convicted.



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### Liam Neeson and James Nesbitt star in *Five Minutes Of Heaven*

He served 12-and-a-half-years in prison. Jim's murder was witnessed by his 11-year-old brother Joe, and the impact of Jim's death destroyed his family.

In this exclusive photograph taken from the BBC drama, Neeson's character Little meets Joe Griffen (Nesbitt) years later, when they are both adults.

Filming took place last month and the two stars stayed in the city during the shoot.

Neeson was photographed filming in a car near the George Best Belfast City Airport and both men were spotted enjoying a few quiet drinks in Ten Square.

The drama was made by Big Fish Films in association with Ruby Films for BBC2 with co-financing from Northern Ireland Screen.

It was directed by Oliver Hirschbiegel, whose movie *Downfall*, about Hitler's last days, was nominated for a Best Foreign Film Oscar.

No transmission date for the drama has yet been announced.

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