



# THE ISLAND OF THE MONKS

The monastery of Sion, in the Netherlands, has room for 120 monks. But in 2013 there were only eight monks left. They started to think of moving, make a new beginning somewhere else and hopefully attract new men to join their community. And so the idea was born of returning to the island in the north of Holland that bears their name: Schiermonnikoog, that means Island of the Grey Monks. But moving isn't that easy. These men of prayer were confronted by inner and outer turmoil, doubts and fears. They had to answer the questions: What makes someone a monk and why are they here?

## Festivals

Best Documentary and Signis Award at Religion Today Film Festival

Best Documentary at Dhaka International Film Festival 2017

Jury Prize at The European Television Festival of Religious Programmes

DOCUMENTARY, RELIGIOUS

ORIGINAL TITLE De terugkeer van de monniken

COUNTRY Netherlands

PRODUCTION YEAR 2016

RUNNING TIME 70' min.

AVAILABLE IN Full HD

LANGUAGE Dutch, Spanish

SUBTITLES English

DIRECTED BY Anne Christine Girardot  
John Gruter

PRODUCED BY Nachtzon Media