

## The Dead Room



**BBC4, Christmas Eve, 10pm**

A love letter wrapped in a ghost story as writer/director Mark Gatiss salutes the condemned home of BBC sound recordings since 1946, BBC Maida Vale Studios, whilst once again valiantly manning his post as keeper of the flame (*Crooked House*, *The Tractate Middoth*) when it comes to scaring the pants off us at Christmas on the Beeb. Shot at Maida Vale, Simon Callow plays esteemed but pompous ac-tor Aubrey Judd whose own reading of a new festive chiller, "Ready Player Death", is overtaken by long buried secrets from his past. Anjali Mohindra, last seen as arch manipulator Nadia in *Bodyguard*, is Aubrey's under-awed producer and Susan Penhaligon - Lucy Westenra from Gatiss' favourite 1977 *Count Dracula* adaptation, at least until his and Steven Moffat's own mini-series appears in 2019 – is the foley artist.