

## **NEWS ARCHIVE 2001 July - Sept**

### **9/26/2001 Diesel to drive 'Riddick'**

Riddick is baaaaack!

Diesel will earn north of \$11 million to star as the title character in "The Chronicles of Riddick," the sequel to the sci-fi pic "Pitch Black." Universal is prepping the film as a summer 2003 tentpole.

source: Variety

### **- Samuel L. Jackson joins XXX**

Samuel L. Jackson is poised to join Vin Diesel in "XXX," the Rob Cohen-directed Revolution Studios drama that begins shooting in late November for July release. Jackson will play a government agent who recruits and trains Diesel's character for an undercover operation designed to infiltrate a Russian crime ring. The actioner is being described as an extreme sports version of James Bond, in that Diesel's character is adept at stunts such as running a motorcycle up a building.

source: Variety

### **9/22/2001 Pitch Black 2 release date???**

Vin Diesel, the gravel-voiced, bald-headed star of newly-released car racing thriller The Fast And The Furious, is to feature in a sequel to Pitch Black - his surprise 2000 box office sci-fi hit. The muscular New Yorker has agreed in principle to return as the movie's psychokiller anti-hero in The Chronicles Of Riddick. Eager studio bosses have already pencilled in a release date - America's Memorial Day May holiday, 2003.

source: The Mirror

### **9/20/2001 - Hollywood Heavies In Ground Zero Groundswell:**

Vin Diesel has enlisted Lawrence Bender, "15 Minutes" director John Herzfeld and Sylvester Stallone to co-found the Entertainment Community Ground Zero Relief Fund, which is moving quickly to raise money to help families of victims and survivors of the World Trade Center attacks. They've gotten the support of Ed Burns, Robert De Niro, Leonardo DiCaprio, Kelsey Grammer, Samuel L. Jackson, Jennifer Lopez, Tobey Maguire, Ted Field, Jon Feltheimer and such entities as AMG, Brillstein-Grey, CAA, Endeavor, the Firm, Handprint Entertainment, ICM, Industry Entertainment, UTA and William Morris. A benefit is quickly being organized and the co-founders are asking peers to open their wallets, promising not only that 100% of the monies will go to relief services, but that it will be matched by the Entertainment Industry Foundation. They ask those interested in donating to call Diesel's reps at (310) 407-3441.

source: Variety

### **XXX: Ewan out, Russell in?**

according to [TheForce.net](http://TheForce.net): Ewan, at one point was being considered for the "hero" role in the film, after Vin Diesel asked for too much money. But since a deal was worked out with Diesel, there was no need for Ewan. There's also word that the role of the villain was going to go to some Australian actor "who looks like Russell Crowe."

### **9/17/2001 Moulin Rouge still UK's top film, TFATF**

"Moulin Rouge" bucked the trend remarkably well in the U.K., retaining pole position and ringing up an estimated \$2.7 million in its soph session, off just 10% excluding previews from the opening weekend. That propelled its 10-day cume to roughly \$8.1 million. Fox's tuner whistled up \$262,000 on 20 in Hong Kong, which was ahead of the bows of "Baz Luhrmann's Romeo + Juliet" and "Shakespeare in Love," the distrib said. "The Fast and the Furious" entered Blighty, its second major territory, clocking \$1.5 million Friday-Saturday on 408 -- a solid number for a

film that lacks marquee names and whose U.S.-specific, car-culture milieu won't necessarily resonate strongly abroad.

source: Variety

### **9/14/2001 Ewan McGregor was offered to play Xander in Triple X**

E! reported that British actor Ewan McGregor (Trainspotting, Star Wars I) was reportedly been offered the villain role in Vin Diesel's X Games-meets-James Bond actioner Triple X

### **9/11/2001 Vin is offered to play Daredevil**

Vin Diesel ("Pitch Black," "The Fast and the Furious") has become the first choice of director Mark Steven Johnson ("Simon Birch") to take the lead role in the Marvel Comics adaptation "Daredevil," according to the Hollywood Reporter. The offer is out to Diesel to play the titular blind superhero, which would mark the second time the actor has portrayed a character with an eye affliction after "Pitch Black." Only Diesel could see in the dark in that sci-fi horror picture and will reprise the role in the upcoming sequel "The Chronicles of Riddick." Diesel has also been rumored to be taking on the role of "Hellboy," in Guillermo Del Toro's adaptation of the demonic comic book hero. His latest comments on that film consisted of, "they've told me to keep quiet about it." Which will he take? We'll soon find out.

Comingsoon.net

Source: [Zap2it](#)

### **9/9/2001 XXX script review**

[FilmForce](#) has reviewed the new script of Triple X

### **9/6/2001 The XXX ad campaign starts**

Inside Move: 'X' marks slot for '02 shot

Billboards already up touting next Diesel pic

A year passes quickly in the movie biz. Still, Sony-based Revolution Studios is way ahead of the curve in touting "Triple X," whose July 26 release is nearly 47 weeks away.

Summer 2001 had not even officially ended before "X" billboards went up, including a giant building-side banner in Hollywood at the corner of Highland and Santa Monica boulevards.

Early ads are nothing new. "Wild Wild West," to pick one recent example, was plugged a year ahead of its 1999 release, using artistic renderings to suggest its eventual look. In most cases, however, a release date is not specified -- especially when shooting has yet to begin. If the release date ends up changing due to the distribution chess game, advertised dates often have to be "sniped," or blackened out by printers or movie theater owners.

Now that New Line has slated Austin Powers installment "Goldmember" for July 26, the long-lead "X" campaign takes on more urgency. As a mid-budget, James Bond-ish actioner introducing a new concept, it will need plenty of visibility to compete with a known commodity like Powers.

Another reason for the push is topline Vin Diesel, who is less than a household name despite starring in this summer's hit "The Fast and the Furious." Reteaming with "Furious" director Rob Cohen and producer Neal Moritz, Diesel will be making \$10 million for "Triple X" and thus commands a significant promo commitment.

A Revolution rep said the strategy is simply a way of getting a jump on the 2002 summer onslaught.

Tentpoles already planted include Warner Bros.' "Scooby-Doo," DreamWorks' "Spirit: Stallion of Cimarron," Fox's "Minority Report" and "Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones." In the weeks just before "Triple X," Sony also plans "Spider-Man," "Men in Black 2" and "Stuart Little 2."

source:Variety

## 9/5/2001 Official XXX site

[The official XXX](#) site has opened today

## 8/20/2001 IMDb movie of the day: Pitch Black

### IMDb Movie of the Day

The sci-fi/horror genre has a rather dismal history, with a few triumphs (e.g., *Aliens*) and a legion of painfully bad pretenders (e.g., *Event Horizon*). *Pitch Black* makes free use of the genre's worn tropes--hungry aliens that look vaguely like pterodactyls, looming darkness with light slowly... running... out..., and a band of stranded travelers that includes a scrappy female leader (Radha Mitchell), a psycho who just might betray the others (Vin Diesel), and a comic-relief Englishman whose days are quite obviously numbered. However, against the odds, *Pitch Black* is an enormously entertaining and engaging movie--not quite *Aliens*, but miles above *Event Horizon*. There are original touches scattered throughout, both in the script and among the special effects. Mitchell and Diesel lend their characters unusual depth, and there are several unexpected and interesting character-complicating twists. The cinematography is gorgeous; the deserted planet where the action takes place is shot in glimmering, washed-out light, which makes the ensuing darkness all the more menacing and creepy. Most surprising of all, it's not easy to predict exactly who will get killed and when. For that alone, *Pitch Black* deserves kudos.

## 8/17/2001 Guillermo Del Toro to meet Vin Diesel this week

Guillermo Del Toro has told Ananova he will be meeting Vin Diesel to discuss Hellboy on Thursday.

Del Toro directed the likes of Mimic and the forthcoming Blade 2.

He says he hopes to convince Diesel to take the title role in his new film.

Hellboy is set during the final days of the Second World War and is about how the Nazi's attempted to use black magic to help their cause.

The Allies raid the camp where the ceremony is taking place, but not before a demon, Hellboy, has already been conjured. Joining the Allied forces, Hellboy eventually grows to adulthood, serving the cause of good rather than evil.

Del Toro also showed Ananova his concept drawings for how he thinks Hellboy should look. The character's face looks a lot like Frankenstein but also has two circular spirals above the eyes.

Asked if this is how Diesel will look in the film, Del Toro said: "He will if he wants to be in it!"

Del Toro was speaking at the Edinburgh Film Festival where his new film, The Devil's Backbone, is having its UK premiere.

Hellboy is expected to be released in 2002

<http://www.ananova.com/>

## 14/08/2001 - About That Jude Law Rumor...

Hey, everyone. "Moriarty" here with some Rumblings From The Lab.

So everybody and his brother ran the rumor over the weekend that Jude Law had mentioned being interested in playing opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger in an upcoming sequel to one of his earlier films, and I saw source after source print the same two titles in speculation: TRUE LIES 2 and TERMINATOR 3.

What if it's neither?

TRUE LIES 2 was, by all accounts I've heard, a troubled draft at best, and is still on the operating table. TERMINATOR 3 already has a bad guy in the shape of Vin Diesel, supposedly, and although Jonathan Mostow is working with writers to overhaul the lousy Teddy Sarafian draft I read, there didn't seem to be a part in that script for Law to come in and play that would be of equal size to Diesel's.

So what is the film he's referring to? What actually has a script draft finished that might be shown to an actor to get him interested? What was finished around May 24th of this year, the second sequel to one of Arnold's best films? What script has two roles (Gaeus Metallus and Prince Fortunas) that Jude Law might be perfect for?

Could it be KING CONAN CROWN OF IRON?

All I know is, until I hear something more specific, I'm not putting any stock in the knee-jerk guessing that led to TRUE LIES and TERMINATOR as the only candidates.

Not when there's an infinitely better choice out there.

"Moriarty" out.

<http://www.aintitcool.com/>

#### **8/6/2001 - ABC, USA wrap TV deals for 'Mummy,' 'Furious'**

By Nellie Andreeva

LOS ANGELES (The Hollywood Reporter) --- ABC and USA Network will share the TV rights to two of this summer's biggest movie hits, Universal Pictures' Brendan Fraser starrer "The Mummy Returns" and "The Fast and the Furious."

USA, which acquired "Furious" last month, had the option to carve out a broadcast window for the street-racing movie starring Paul Walker and Vin Diesel (HR 7/19). That option has now been exercised with ABC.

Under the pact between Universal, ABC and USA, ABC will get first crack at the two films in early 2004. The broadcast network will have three runs of each movie over 18 months, after which the movies will go to USA for multiple runs during the second part of the window, which will be 44 months.

Sources estimated the deal to be worth about \$50 million, with the broadcast part pegged at about \$30 million.

As part of USA's acquisition of "Mummy," the cable network has also taken the rights to Universal's teen romantic comedy "Head Over Heels."

"Mummy" was the second 2001 movie to reach the \$200 million mark, after DreamWorks' "Shrek." The current boxoffice tally for the sequel, which also stars Rachel Weisz and the Rock, is \$201 million. "Furious," the sleeper of the summer, has grossed \$133 million to date.

#### **8/5/2001 - Weekend box office results:**

F&F is No11 according to the Sunday morning studio estimates after 6 weeks F&F falls out from the 10 most viewed movie of the weekend. The movie is No11 with 2 000 000 \$ Fri-Sun results,

136 800 000 \$ altogether. Final results posted on Monday evening.

### **7/31/2001 'XXX' marks spot for Diesel**

**By Zorianna Kit**

LOS ANGELES (The Hollywood Reporter) --- Vin Diesel will receive in the neighborhood of \$10 million to star in Revolution Studios' urban spy thriller "XXX" for director Rob Cohen and producer Neal Moritz. Production is slated to begin by year's end for a July 26, 2002, release date.

"XXX" reteams the director, producer and actor, who worked together on Universal Pictures' "The Fast and the Furious." Moritz and Cohen also worked together on Universal's "The Skulls" and the HBO feature "The Rat Pack."

Diesel had been circling the project (HR 6/11), but talks stalled over money issues. Sources confirmed that after a meeting among Cohen, Moritz and Diesel, a financial deal for Diesel was worked out that still allowed the total budget of the film to remain less than \$50 million.

"We wanted to maximize what was on screen and find a way for us to work together that wouldn't sink the ship," Cohen told The Hollywood Reporter. "The creative synergy that made the current movie ("The Fast and the Furious") happen was something I really wanted to continue. When you get the creative balance between a director, producer and actor where everybody is so responsive to each other, that is so hard to find."

Written by Rich Wilkes ("Airheads"), the project is described as centering on a tough extreme-sports player who is co-opted by the government to infiltrate a crime ring. According to Cohen, there was no one better for the role than Diesel.

"Just like you can't have 'Dr. No' without Sean Connery, you can't have 'XXX' without Vin," Cohen said. "What Sean was to the '60s, Vin is to the 2000s. In the Kennedy era, Sean was an image of masculinity, charm, vulnerability and sexiness. Vin represents that for this new millennium."

Revolution co-partner Todd Garner is executive producing the project. Creative executive Derek Dauchy is overseeing. Diesel's producing partner George Zack will executive produce.

"This project gives us the opportunity to work with a company like Revolution, which is not like a regular studio," Cohen said. "It's the 'nonstudio' studio, and this is a 'non-spy movie' spy movie."

Diesel, repped by Endeavor and the Firm, next stars in New Line Cinema's "Diablo."

### **7/30/2001 - BO results**

**The Fast and the Furious** is currently No8 on the Box office list, with 3,78 M \$ weekend results, 132 M\$ altogether. (Sunday morning studio estimates)

### **7/26/2001 - T3 news**

**T3 News:** *Access Hollywood* was at the "Planet of the Apes" premiere in New York and stood on a ladder to talk with basketballer Shaquille O'Neal who says he's very eager to get back into action movies - "As a matter of fact, I have the script to Terminator 3 at home right now" and it seems the producers are after him for it. But isn't Vin Diesel going to be in it? Maybe not it seems despite the UK report. According to Aussie scooper 'Damon', here's the juice "The UIP marketing team confirmed with me that his agent had said that his association with the T3 project was incorrect and was just an unsubstantiated rumour, and that he'd actually never been approached by the film makers!".

**F&F News:** Michelle Rodriguez and Paul Walker are tipped to come to Sydney, Australia to talk about the car racing flick when its released in September.

**7/25/2001 - TV Guidereports that ABC will be showing Saving Private Ryan on the air without any cuts from the original film:**

When ABC broadcasts Steven Spielberg's Oscar-winning World War II film Saving Private Ryan this coming season, viewers will not be getting a sugarcoated version. TV Guide Online has learned that in an unprecedented move, the Disney-owned network will air the movie uncut — graphic violence, F-words and all. "It's about time," laments one media expert. "The reason theatrical movies do so poorly on network TV is that today's viewer has lost all patience with the cheesy and anachronistically puritanical editing. We're all grown-ups here."

**Eck vs. Sever**

Official cast: Antonio Banderas vs. Lucy Liu

**7/22/2001 - BO results**

The Fast and the Furious is currently No6 on the Box office list with 5,3 M\$ weekend results, 125M\$ altogether.

**7/19/2001 - Vin is confirmed for T3**

Its from Aint it cool, so don't take it too serious:

Vin Diesel In TERMINATOR 3!!! Confirmed!!!!HARRY=  
Hey folks, Harry here.... Well, most friends I talk to seem to feel that Vin Diesel is destined to be our next major domestic Action God (though from what I hear in Mexico... Johnny Depp may be set for Action God-dom). Now... here's the situation, the pre-Jonathon Mostow attached as director script sucked... However, I really really like and have faith in Mostow... BUT... I hope he has the sense to have Vin Diesel defeat the hell out of the Arnie model... Vin needs to be ruthless deadly and kill characters we care about and have an attachment for. Ultimately John Connor should defeat the evil Terminator... It should be in Furlong's hands... That's my take anyways... Linda should die... Furlong should live and get that badass scar across his face! Well, that's my take.  
=====

AIN'T reader:I've just heard Vin Deisel talking on (UK) Century Radio. Apart from talking about films & TV he talked about his role as the T-1G in Terminator 3. He went on to say that the Terminator franchise is fantastic and he can't wait to be in the same films as his hero Arnie. What was interesting was his genuine delight at the script, he said it was just phenomenal and that he loves the playing the Bad Ass.

Finally he said that Jonothan Mostow would be the director (you knew that) and that the kid who played the destined leader John Connor in T2 would also return, that was about it. I personally loved the first two films, especially T1. Ever since T2 I have hoped for T3, but only with Jim Cameron directing, and Linda Hamilton showing up. That's not going to happen now...but hey we all get to see Vin Deisel beat the crap out of Arnie...a passing of the torch if you will

Sorry I can't give you a complete transcript but I was listening and now typing. All the bestfrom JC.

**7/18/2001 Happy birthday to Vin Diesel!**

First update: my new site is up and running. Heavily under construction, but open to visitors:)

**Fast and Furious Vin Diesel get a pay rise:**

HOLLYWOOD (Zap2it.com) - Thanks to the blockbuster success of "**The Fast and the Furious**" (\$115.6 million in just 24 days), Vin Diesel's asking price just went up considerably.

The 34-year-old muscle-bound star may be commanding \$10 million for his next picture, reports *Variety*. That figure reportedly prompted Revolution Studios to consider other actors such as Ewan McGregor for the action flick "**Triple X**," which is to be helmed by "**Fast and Furious**" director Rob Cohen.

Diesel will definitely score huge payday for the sequels to "**Pitch Black**" and "**The Fast and the Furious**," but the buzz indicates he'll likely end up getting \$5 million for his next non-sequel role, a significant boost over the \$2.5 million he got for "**El Diablo**," which will bow sometime next year.

As high a pay raise this is for Diesel, it's not the highest in history. That honor goes to Chris Tucker, who went from \$3 million for "**Rush Hour**" to \$20 million for its sequel, and Leonardo DiCaprio, who got a sum in the low-seven figures for "**Titanic**" and then \$20 million for "**The Beach**."

Diesel's other credits include "**Boiler Room**" and "**Saving Private Ryan**." He'll next be seen in the crime drama "**Knockaround Guys**," opening in the fall.

Diesel continues to be coy about the ongoing rumors that he will play the villain in "**Terminator 3**."

<http://www.zap2it.com/movies/news/story/0,1259,---7706,00.html>

#### **Pitch Black was nominated to Horror Guild Awards**

#### **Greg at upcomingmovies.com set up his TFATF 2 page.**

It is as interesting as long, so here it goes:

**Release Date:** Unknown; that will depend upon when production starts, and that will depend upon when a script is approved, and cast available; Universal will probably want to get Vin Diesel to return, and given his busy schedule, that suggests the earliest this could be released is 2003; maybe 2004

**Video Note:** (7/14/01) It's worth noting that of the three sequels that Original Films has made for their movies, two (Cruel Intentions 2 and The Skulls 2) have gone direct-to-video. So, it's possible this project could be direct-to-video as well, especially if several of the cast members don't sign on to return. Officially, this is being planned on as a theatrical release, however.

**Distributor:** Universal Pictures

**Production Company:** Original Film (Urban Legends: Final Cut, Cruel Intentions, The Skulls)

**Cast:** None announced as signed to return yet. Although this hasn't been confirmed, none of the stories about the first film ever mentioned sequel clauses for the cast, so Universal will have to sign each star again.

**Cast Notes:** (7/14/01) The first film didn't have a particularly high "death count", so the list of possible returning actors is long (see IMDb listing). Universal will definitely try to get the four stars (Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Jordana Brewster and Michelle Rodriguez) to return. Even if some or all of them don't sign on, what sometimes happens with sequels is the focus shifts to supporting characters, of which there are several to choose from (like Ja Rule as Edwin, Rick Yune as Johnny Tran, or Noel Gugliemi as Hector, for example). Of course, there's always the Speed 2/Hannibal option of just casting another actor in a role. I'm mentioning all this because if salary demands are too high, Universal may counter that the true selling factor of the first film wasn't the stars, but the cars. **Having said that, I do personally think Diesel sold a lot of tickets.**

**Director:** Not announced yet; it's unknown if Rob Cohen will return to helm the sequel. His next

project, Triple X, will reunite him with Vin Diesel.

**Screenwriter:** Gary Scott Thompson (1992's Split Second, K-911; cowriter of The Fast and the Furious)

**Based upon:** This will be the sequel to the 2001 surprise hit movie, The Fast & the Furious, which as of 7/14/01, has brought in over \$110 million in the USA, and is likely to end up with around \$150 million, for a global total of probably double that... on a budget of under \$40 million.

**Title Note:** There's no word yet (7/14/01) what the title of this title might be. Keep in mind that the first film went through several titles (Racer X, Redline, and Street Wars) before TF&TF. Here's hoping they go with something like The Faster and the More Furious (or even better, The Fastest..., etc.).

**Premise:** (7/14/01) No details have been announced yet about this film, but if you saw the ending of the first film, you probably have your own questions about "what happens next", and presumably, this sequel would address them (which would require the return of Vin Diesel and Paul Walker's characters, at least). The first film dealt with a gang of street racers who highjacked semi's to fund their need for speed, so they're the most likely focus for this sequel as well (depending, as I say above, upon the cast).

**Filming:** There is no production start date for this project. Vin Diesel, for example, has a full plate, with plenty to work on until at least mid-2002, so I would guess that's the earliest filming could start (presuming the script and cast are ready).

**Greg's Preview Thoughts:** (7/14/01) In late May and early June or 2001, I could see a surprise coming for Hollywood, as a movie that few "insiders" seemed to be hailing dominated the Most Visited Previews pages where I keep track of which films people are looking at the most on the site. Each week, The Fast and the Furious took another jump up the chart, being read much more than heralded sequels like Dr. Dolittle 2 and Rush Hour 2. While other studios were trying to

appeal to under-25's with gross-out humor (Universal's only bid in this subgenre has American Pie) and horror/supernatural stuff, Universal decided to revive the drive-in style teen racer movie, inject it with eye candy and a young cast, and surprise, surprise, it worked.

Car chases went out of style in the late 1980's and were nearly absent altogether in the 1990's, but there was a long time when they were a film/TV staple, employing hundreds of stunt men who made it their speciality (especially while The Dukes of Hazzard was on the air). Like now, the 1970's was a time of a gas crisis, and maybe people vicariously lived their speed demon fantasies through movie stars like Burt Reynolds what they couldn't afford to actually do. Hollywood might have stopped making car movies, but affection for fast cars is an American tradition that is never going to fade away, and that, to me, is why The Fast and the Furious is a success. Sure, 2000's remake of Gone in 60 Seconds had a love for cars as well, but it didn't pull off the dedication quite as well. GI60S was about people who steal cars; TF&TF is about people who steal \*for\* their cars, people whose ambition to have the fastest car imaginable drives them to stage heists. In TF&TF, when a character pops the hood of his converted Honda Civic, it's almost like a girl taking off her shirt (I said "almost"), you can feel the tingling glow from car lovers around you.

The Fast and the Furious also did a great job of reproducing what tremendous speed feels and looks like, with its blurred lights and vibrating... everything. In the end credits (and on the film's official site), you'll find a detailed note explaining that the stunts were done by experts and are not to be attempted at home. You can say that it's just a PC cover to save Universal from a potential lawsuit (and it is), but it also speaks to the appeal of those scenes... we love them because these are things we can't do at home. After seeing TF&TF, we can get in our own cars, rev the gas, maybe go a \*couple\* of miles over the speed limit... and feel like the film sated our need to do anything else.

The Fast and the Furious was produced on a budget of just under \$40 million, which with a relatively cheap cast, means most of that went to the film itself, and it shows. The film wasn't great art, but as explotalational drive-in style entertainment, it worked. That it will probably round

out at near \$150 million domestic makes a sequel a no-brainer for Universal. The question, ultimately, however will be whether the pieces will fall in place for the sequel to be as big of a theatrical hit, or go direct to video instead. You can bet Universal is going to be willing to increase salaries this time around; but these things are often not simple... time will tell.

For what it's worth, Vin Diesel did talk about this sequel with Craig Kilborne recently, but that doesn't mean he's signed on yet (I got from it that he was just proud that the film was so successful that a sequel was likely). Vin's a busy guy, with this now making three sequel projects he's considering (along with Pitch Black 2 and the El Diablo sequel that's already being prepared before that film's even released). Add in Knockaround Guys and Triple X, which could, who knows, spawn sequels as well, along with the many projects that would love to sign him on (like Hellboy and Untitled DMX Project), and he's got a very full plate. Heck, his agent will probably get him a romantic comedy gig soon enough as well.

So, the next signs of life we can expect are the director, word of how the script's coming, and whether/which stars are signed to return.

## NEWS ARCHIVE 2001 Oct - Dec

### 12/28 Tats Entertainment

"Speaking of prime cuts of beef, Vin Diesel has finished three weeks of shooting in L.A. for his extreme-sports urban spy-thriller XXX, and the production moves to Prague on January 4. I hear Diesel's body, which he displays to great effect, is covered with tattoos that make him unlike most clean-cut (read: boring) silver-screen heroes we've seen before. "He's out-of-control sexy," says a pal from the set who must dig body art. By the way, rapper **Eve** cameos as one of Diesel's girlfriends."

Anderson Jones / [E! Online Movie Scoop](#)

### 12/27 Eve Wraps Up Vin Diesel Action Flick

If Eve were a professional athlete, you would say she's in the zone. The sexy Philadelphia MC not only signed on for a starring role in Ice Cube's upcoming comedy "The Barbershop" earlier this month, but she just finished up an appearance in the Vin Diesel and Samuel L Jackson action flick "XXX" (or "Triple X"), due in late July.

According to her spokesperson, Eve has a small role as J.J., Diesel's partner in an underground Internet Web site. Don't expect to see to any sparks fly between the two with a love scene, though, Eve said they are strictly "homies."

Fans can still get a dose of Eve at her day job as a rapper — she and her Ruff Ryders family just released the compilation *Ryde or Die Vol. III: In the "R" We Trust*.

### - N'Sync's new video clip is a take on TFATF

\*NSYNC is preparing to release the video for its new single, "Girlfriend," on December 31. The video is a take on film The Fast And The Furious, and was shot in downtown Los Angeles on December 6 and 7.

The song, produced by the Neptunes, is expected to cross over to urban markets, following the path of its predecessor "Gone," produced by lead singer Justin Timberlake. It's currently Number 15 on Billboard's Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Singles & Tracks chart.

Mimi Valdes, editor at large for Vibe magazine, says she's not surprised by the group's popularity on the R&B charts. She interviewed the quintet in April for her feature in the August 2001 issue of Vibe.

"'Girlfriend,' I love that song so much," says Valdes, who adds that the song reminds her of early

music from '80s R&B group New Edition. She says "Girlfriend"'s lyrics are pure and innocent, and the song brings a cool R&B vibe to the marketplace. "I think R&B was just missing [that]," she says. "It's just ironic that these white boys just brought that back."

source: yahoo! news

### **18/12/2001 Moritz, Cohen, Uni plan return to 'Fast' track**

*Universal makes two versions of the TFATF sequel*

Universal Pictures is about to get faster and more furious. The studio is moving forward on a sequel to its summer blockbuster "The Fast and the Furious" and has reteamed with the film's producer Neal Moritz and director Rob Cohen to develop two unique scripts.

The film's original screenwriter, Gary Scott Thompson, is working on one script, and the writing team of Michael Brandt and Derek Haas is working on another. Both plots are being kept closely under wraps, though it is known that they are set in Miami and revolve around the reteaming of police officer-turned-racer Brian O'Conner (Paul Walker) and street racer Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel). This time, their racing world has expanded to include not only souped-up cars but other speedy vehicles including motorcycles and boats.

The studio is keen to see the original cast return, though no deals are yet in place. New characters also are expected to appear.

Universal production president Scott Stuber, who shepherded the original film, is overseeing the sequel with production vp Holly Bario.

"Furious," released in June, grossed \$145 million domestically. The ensemble cast also includes Michelle Rodriguez and Jordana Brewster.

The sequel reteams Brandt and Haas with Universal, for which they most recently rewrote the feature project "HRT" at Imagine Entertainment. The writers previously wrote a script titled "Miamiland" that at one point also had been set up at Imagine with Walker attached to star.

Most recently, the duo were writers on the TBS Superstation telefilm "Invincible" starring Billy Zane, which was executive produced by Mel Gibson and Jet Li among others.

All three writers are repped by WMA. Brandt and Haas are repped additionally by Andrew Dean at Immortal Entertainment and attorney Adam Kaller.

Zoriana Kit / Hollywood Reporter

### **17/12/2001 Vin is one to watch in 2002, TFATF is 9th most popular movie based on Terra Lycos's searches**

Terra Lycos (NASDAQ: TRLY and Madrid Exchange: TRR), the largest global Internet network, today announced The Lycos 50's eagerly anticipated top 50 search terms for the year 2001. The Lycos 50 is a weekly authoritative list of the most popular people, places and things users are searching for online. The Lycos 50 2001 year-end list is based on user searches from January 1 through November 25, 2001. For a complete list of The Lycos 50 top 50 search terms of 2001, and for in-depth commentary of The Lycos 50 2001 Report, go to <http://50.lycos.com>.

#### **Top 10 Films:**

1, Harry Potter	6, The Matrix
2, Lord of the Rings	7, Titanic
3, Tomb Raider	8, Spiderman
4, Star Wars	9, The Fast and the Furious

5, Pearl Harbor	10, Jurassic Park 3
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### The Ones to Watch in 2002:

The following people, movies and fads had strong showings in 2001. Based on growing search queries, The Lycos 50 predicts these are the ones to watch in 2002: Latina singer **Shakira**, rock band **Papa Roach**, actor **Vin Diesel**, actress **Kirsten Dunst**, figure skaters **Michelle Kwan** and **Sarah Hughes** and upcoming summer movies **Star Wars 2** and **Spider-Man**.

### 10/12/2001 The Fast and The Furious [DVD Review](#) and [press releases](#)

by The Guide to Current DVD website

#### highlights:

#### \*MTV New Year's Special

The Fast And The Furious will sponsor the Music Television (MTV) New Year's Eve countdown generating an additional massive amount of pre-and post-street awareness. The special will also repeat on New Year's day.

**Final Thoughts:** I actually liked "Fast and the Furious" even more the second time around; it's not a particularly substantial picture, but it's got fairly strong characters, (mostly) good acting and is particularly well-crafted, with some superb action. Universal's DVD edition provides fantastic, reference-quality audio and video, along with some fine supplemental material. This is a must-see disc - a really outstanding DVD presentation and a fun, entertaining film.

#### Film Grade

The Film \*\*\*

#### DVD Grades

Video 99/A = (396/400 possible points)

Audio: 100/A+ = (400/400 possible points)

Extras: 84/B = (252/300 possible points)

Menus: 90/A- = (180/200 possible points)

Value: 85/B = (255/300 possible points)

TOTAL POINTS:1484/1600

DVD GRADE:A/92%

#### bonus materials:

- Interactive eight camera angle stunt sequence (A behind-the-camera glimpse from eight different locations enables viewers to witness as never-before the final stunt.)
- Movie Magic Interactive Special Effects (A unique look at the train and car footage shot independently and then shown merged to create the final film sequence.)
- Visual effect montage featuring the first race
- Racer X: the Vibe magazine article that inspired the movie
- The Making of The Fast And The Furious
- Feature-length commentary with Director Rob Cohen
- Exclusive featurette on editing for the Motion Picture of America Association
- Deleted scenes with optional director commentary
- Storyboards to final feature comparison
- DVD-ROM features including: EXCLUSIVE HOTLINK of never-before-seen behind-the-scenes footage of the film; supercar street challenge demo
- Music videos: Ja Rule's "Furious;" Caddillac Tah's "POV City Anthem," and Saliva's "Click Click Boom"
- Theatrical trailer

## 12/5 Vote for Vin on [E! online's Replay 2000 poll](#):

Who shined and who stumbled this year? In our zany, star-studded annual poll, you tell us Vin is nominated in the best breakout performance: **3. Breakout Performance**  
Vin Diesel, *The Fast and the Furious*  
John Cameron Mitchell, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*  
Thora Birch, *Ghost World*  
Josh Hartnett, *Pearl Harbor*  
Daniel Radcliffe, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

## - Digital Dominion has landed the role of lead f/x house on XXX

the special effects company, what previously sunk Titanic is going to add 100+ f/x shots for the \$50 million pic, which will emphasize extreme sports such as snowboarding and skydiving in its action sequences, including one that has Diesel's character driving up the side of a building on a motorcycle, reports *Variety*: *Pic, starring Vin Diesel as a former extreme-sports star who is recruited by a secret government org to infiltrate a Russian crime ring, is lensing under the direction of Rob Cohen ("The Fast and the Furious"). Digital Domain is expected to generate well over 100 f/x shots for the \$50 million pic, which will emphasize extreme sports such as snowboarding and skydiving in its action sequences, including one that has Diesel's character driving up the side of a building on a motorcycle. Joel Hynek serves as the pic's visual f/x supervisor, with Digital Domain's Matthew Butler as digital effects supervisor and Kelly L'Estrange tackling duties as visual f/x producer. "XXX" is targeted for a July 26 release. Landing "XXX" helps fuel the turnaround at Digital Domain, the third-largest f/x house behind Industrial Light & Magic and Sony Pictures Imageworks. The house that sunk the Titanic, Digital Domain had been struggling for some time to keep its feature f/x business busy with a flow of large f/x-filled pics. The Venice-based company recently landed Paramount's "Star Trek X: Nemesis" as well as last-minute shots on New Line's "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring." It also is wrapping up visuals for DreamWorks' "Time Machine" and less f/x-heavy pics such as Paramount's "We Were Soldiers" and Universal's "A Beautiful Mind." DD's commercial and musicvid f/x production arms are doing well despite the sour advertising market.*

## 12/3 - Neal H. Moritz talks XXX, XXX2 and TFATF2

Vin Diesel's next project is "XXX"! Get your mind out of the gutter: That's its title, not its rating by Rebecca Ascher-Walsh

For a moment there, it seemed Vin Diesel might be seeing even more action than usual with his latest project, titled "XXX." But producer Neil Moritz assures us that our minds aren't in the gutter -- we're just showing our age. "I don't think kids today know what XXX is," he says. "Nothing is rated X anymore, it's all NC-17." (We're sure that warms the MPAA's heart.) The film, which Moritz describes as a PG-13-rated "X-game version of James Bond," began filming this week, and will reunite Diesel with his "Fast and the Furious" director, Rob Cohen.

If all goes well, Moritz hopes "XXX" will lead to a sequel ("XXXX"?), which means the producer could become his own worst competition, since he, Cohen, and Diesel are also talking about a "Furious" reprise. (Diesel is already committed to film "Pitch Black 2" this spring, and there are hopes that his upcoming action flick, New Line's "Diablo," might spawn a franchise as well.) Says Moritz of the potential scheduling nightmare: "We'll deal with it." Let's just hope Diesel doesn't run out of gas.

source: [Entertainment Weekly](#)

## - More music from The Fast and the Furious

the second part of the soundtrack (featuring both original music by BT and more songs from the movie) will come out on Dec 18

1. **Superstar** - Saliva
2. **Faithless** - Injected
3. **Crawling In The Dark** - Hoobastank

4. **Dominic's Story** - BT
5. **This Life** - Primer 55
6. **Crashing Around You** - Machine Head
7. **Idi Banashapan** - Roni Size/Reprazent
8. **Lock It Down** - Digital Assassins
9. **Race Wars** - BT
10. **Click Click Boom** - Saliva
11. **Shelter** - Greenwheel
12. **Watch Your Back** - Benny Cassette
13. **Pocas Palabras** - Molotov
14. **Fast And Furious Theme, The** - BT

you can pre-order it from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

#### - Terminator 3 news

*Variety* reports that nearly all of the major studios are scrambling for U.S. distribution and video rights to "Terminator 3," which is expected to start shooting in April. Final contract details for Arnold Schwarzenegger to star and Jonathan Mostow to direct were being hammered out over the weekend.

Since the first two "Terminator" pictures had a combined worldwide gross surpassing \$560 million, there's understandably avid studio interest.

But industry sources maintain "Terminator 3" will have a production budget well above \$170 million, making it easily the most expensive movie ever greenlit. (Surpassing "Pearl Harbor's" \$140 budget)

All the courting to studios has been conducted in secret, says the trade. No copies of the "T3" script, by John Brancato and Michael Ferris, were circulated. Studio execs wanting a read had to do so by visiting Intermedia Films' own suites, or by perusing it in their own offices with someone from Intermedia loitering outside.

source: [Comingsoon.net](http://Comingsoon.net)

#### 30/11/2001 Knockaround Guys review from Variety

Screenwriters Brian Koppelman and David Levien, who teamed on "Rounders," continue to frequent the underworld in their assured directing debut "Knockaround Guys," a well-constructed tale of midlevel Brooklyn Mob scions. Something of a throwback to Tarantino-influenced all-male urban gangster pics that now seem outdated, the film looks set for a modest theatrical profile. But young male auds should warm to its cool criminal ethos, sharp dialogue, charismatic cast and wry humor, ensuring a solid afterlife on video. One of a handful of completed New Line features on the back burner while the company focuses on its "Lord of the Rings" behemoth, "Guys" opens first in Italy Nov. 30 -- re-titled "Dangerous Company" by local distrib Nexa -- before bowing Stateside in February.

[click here to read the full review](#)

#### - Compagnie pericolos

KGuys premiers today in Italy

check out [Kataweb Cinema's](http://Kataweb Cinema's) page for the Italian trailer (shorter and slightly different from the US one) and three movie clips (2nd and 3rd includes Vin (start with the 3rd!))

#### - XXX filming update

[Filmforce.ign.com](http://Filmforce.ign.com) has a longer article about the film's shooting in Auburn, based upon the Auburn Journal's article

The [Auburn Journal](http://Auburn Journal) in Auburn, California reports that shooting on Vin Diesel's XXX is already

underway in nearby Placer County. If you're an Auburn resident, don't get too excited – Vin won't be on the scene. But if you can get close enough to the area on Friday, you might see some cool stunt work. The filming in question is the climax of a high-speed car chase that ends with a red 1998 Corvette shooting over the edge of a bridge. Specifically, the Auburn-Foresthill bridge which is the third highest bridge in the United States. The stunt is being called one of the most spectacular ever attempted off the nearly 30-year-old structure. The driver will be seen parachuting from the vehicle as it freefalls some 730 feet to the canyon floor. Before you auto enthusiasts get all up in arms, the Corvette that goes over the edge won't exactly be the real thing. It will be a stripped, fiberglass shell with all headlamps, tail lamps, lights, glass and ornamentation removed.

A permit with the California Department of Parks ensures that the remains of the car will be recovered by helicopter as soon as possible. Another chopper will be on hand Friday with a camera crew aboard. Seventy-five people are on hand as members of the **XXX** second-unit crew, and locals have been advised to "expect traffic delays" in the area on Friday. There will two 45-minute closures and intermittent 15-minute closures for driving shots. The film centers around Xander Cage (Vin Diesel), a former extreme sports athlete with no fear and a bad attitude. The US Government has coerced Cage into their service to thwart a deadly plot by the leader of a Russian crime ring. Samuel L. Jackson play a government agent who recruits and trains Diesel's character, and Marton Csokas is set to portray Yorgi, the bad guy. Asia Argento is the female lead.

#### **11/29 XXX currently filming in Forresthill Bridge**

"An action film with an eye-catching name will be shot in Placer County during the next few days. Revolution Productions will start filming "XXX," starring Vin Diesel today, said Joe Pancake, who works on special effects for the company. Pancake said the film, produced by Rob Cohen, includes a high-speed chase on Foresthill Road, ending with a red 1998 Corvette being driven off the Foresthill Bridge. Revolution Productions also plans to close Foresthill Road for one 45-minute interval today (Wednesday - K) and Thursday, and two 45-minute intervals on Friday."

#### **- TV Guide about People's Choice Award**

WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?: Nominations for the 28th annual People's Choice Awards were announced Tuesday, and, well, we're positively dumbfounded. Here are some highlights: Jason Alexander is up for favorite male performer in a new television series for his much-maligned — and canceled — Bob Patterson; Mel Gibson and Tom Hanks were nominated in the favorite motion picture slot, despite the fact that neither one appeared in a film this year; and favorite movie finalists include *The Fast and the Furious* and *Pearl Harbor*!? **Winners will be announced Jan. 13 on CBS.**

#### **11/27 - The Fast and The Furious is nominated for the 28th annual People's Choice Awards:**

nominees in the motion picture category: *The Fast and the Furious*, *Pearl Harbor*, *Shrek*

#### **11/26 latest info about Vin's movies**

Today I have sent my site's two Vin memory games to One Race Pictures and they were so kind of answer my email and support with the following Vinfo:

"We are shooting Triple XXX, we start shooting "The Chronicles of Riddick" PB2 in June I beleive. As for Knockaround Guys, I don't know what the studio is going to do as you know Vin has a small part in that movie it's not his film. XXX comes out on July 26th or August 2nd. I think it's the 2nd. DIABLO comes out in the fall of 2002."

#### **11/21 - A 'Fast and Furious' Sequel Without Vin Diesel**

HOLLYWOOD (Zap2it.com) Universal Pictures had options with the cast of "American Pie,"

putting a cap on their salaries that resulted in a second helping that cost a scant \$30 million to make and, with \$145 million earned at the domestic box office, became one of the most profitable movies of 2001.

Universal had no such deal in place with its street-racing action flick "The Fast and the Furious" and its star Vin Diesel.

Not that they can be blamed for a lack of foresight. Unlike the first "Pie," which was pronounced the next sleeper smash almost from its inception, "The Fast and the Furious" shocked most of the industry when it raced to the top spot with \$40.1 million out of the gate last June en route to \$144.5 million. Sweetening the deal for the studio was the fact that the picture carried a modest \$38 million production budget.

A side effect of that blazing success was the accelerated rate at which Diesel's asking price increased. The 34-year-old muscle-bound star found himself in high demand and able to command seven figures, an exponential improvement over the \$2.5 million he earned for the upcoming "El Diablo." He even signed a \$12.5 million deal for "The Chronicles of Riddick," the sequel to "Pitch Black," a movie that grossed \$39.2 million.

Fearing that Diesel may be either too expensive and/or too busy for a "Fast and Furious" sequel by the time the project nears fruition, the studio has put two scripts in motion, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. One has a plum part for Diesel's character, the other writes him out of the franchise.

Should Diesel be dumped, the sequel's success may not be hampered too much. After all, his role didn't have quite the indelible impact of, say, a Harrison Ford in "Raiders of the Lost Ark." Given that the actor's name wasn't used prominently in the "Fast and Furious" marketing campaign, Universal could reasonably bet that it was the cars, and not the stars, that propelled its success.

When the project comes down to the wire, though, Universal may flinch. Revolution Studios initially balked at giving Diesel \$10 million to star in the action flick "XXX," due next summer, even going so far as to court other actors, such as Ewan McGregor. But Diesel ended up with the role and the payday anyway.

Source: [Zap2it.com](http://Zap2it.com)

### 11/20 - Terminator 3 update

The third installment of "Terminator 3" has a script ready to be shot, Arnold Schwarzenegger ready to reprise his cyborg role and Jonathan Mostow ready to direct him, reports *Variety*. The film's producers and the financiers at Intermedia spent Monday ironing out details for a spring or summer 2002 start. The pricetag for the feature could reach a hefty \$160 million, adds the trade.

It's almost a certainty the cost will surpass the \$135 million which made "Pearl Harbor" the most expensive greenlight to date. Intermedia has the resources to fully finance the film itself, but the expectation is it will partner to share the risk. Universal and Sony are said to be among three vying for the film.

source: *Variety* / [comingsoon.net](http://comingsoon.net)

### - Chronicles of Riddick news

from Harry Knowles (Ain't it cool)

"One would assume that the next thing on Twohy's plate was THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK (aka Pitch Black 2). Well, that is over at Universal, so after a bit of digging I found out where that project is pretty quickly. It seems that David Hayter had turned in a draft that is now being retooled by Akiva Goldman. Now before you start roasting Akiva again, let me remind you that Akiva's A BEAUTIFUL MIND script seems to have made a wonderful film by Ron Howard by all accounts thus far. And as I've been saying for years, it isn't Akiva's scripts that have been sucking, it has been what the directors and talent have done with them. Nowhere in his first draft

of BATMAN & ROBIN did it say bad neon lighting or the line, "KILL DA HEEEEEE ROWS!" In talking over at Universal, it seems that they are unsure if Twohy will be the director or not. It seems he has always either retooled heavily or wrote from scratch most of his material, but he is attached, till he decides otherwise. I suppose that'll depend upon Akiva's draft. "

the rest of the article talks about DT's other projects, Demon with a Glass Hand and Alien vs. Predator, you can access it at the [AITC website](#)

### **11/16 - Argento joins Diesel in 'XXX', Rammstein will appear in the movie plus it will be featured on the soundtrack**

LOS ANGELES (The Hollywood Reporter) --- Italian actress Asia Argento has been tapped as the female lead in Revolution Studios' spy thriller "XXX" for director Rob Cohen and producer Neal Moritz. Production is slated to begin next month in Los Angeles and Prague for a July 26 release.

In addition, Germany's biggest rock stars, Rammstein, will be featured on camera during a pivotal concert scene.

Written by Rich Wilkes ("Airheads"), the project centers on a tough extreme-sports player Vin Diesel) who is co-opted by the government to infiltrate a crime ring. Samuel L. Jackson also stars.

Rammstein, who originally hailed from East Germany, scored numerous hits on Billboard's Euro Charts during the mid-1990s before coming Stateside to play with their U.S. hard rock counterparts on the Family Values Tour. The group most recently performed on the Pledge of Allegiance Tour with Slipknot and System of a Down.

Rammstein (which means "battering ram made of stone") will also be featured on the "XXX" soundtrack. Kathy Nelson is the film's music supervisor. Revolution co-partner Todd Garner is executive producing the project with Diesel's producing partner George Zakk. Creative executive Derek Dauchy is overseeing.

Argento is the daughter of horror director Dario Argento. She has starred in such films as France's "Queen Margot," the American indie feature "B. Monkey" and Fox Family Channel's "Les Miserables" opposite Gerard Depardieu and John Malkovich.

By Zorianna Kit and Tamara Conniff

### **11/13 - XXX's release date has been changed**

The [FilmJerk](#) site reports that the XXX release date is pushed back to Aug 2nd.

### **11/10 - Diversity Awards**

(ENTERTAINMENT WIRE) -- A must-see return to award show glitz and glamour has Hollywood eagerly anticipating the advent of the Ninth Annual Diversity Awards, to take place Saturday evening, November 17th, beginning at 5:30 PM as one of the inaugural gala events at the new permanent home of the Oscars(R) in Hollywood & Highland's Ballroom.

Hosted by "Entertainment Tonight's" Bob Goen and entertainment personality Giselle Fernandez of the newly christened "KTLA Morning Show," the Diversity Awards will honor diverse contributions in television and film, showcasing an array of celebrity presenters and performers including: Michael Clarke Duncan, David Arquette, Angie Everhart, George Lopez, Diane Ladd, Elizabeth Pena, Debbi Morgan, Rockmond Dunbar, Malinda Williams, Michael DeLorenzo, Oded Fehr, and Wilmer Valderrama among others. With performances by kings of "feel-good swing," hipsters Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, and Grammy Award-winning artist, acoustic guitar maestro Earl Klugh.

With this year's theme, "Celebrating Diversity -- Creative Minds Making It Happen," the Multicultural Motion Picture Association, comprised of writers, cinematographers, actors, and directors, seeks to look at the strides that are made when creative minds come together utilizing their talents to find ways in which to tell everyone's story, as opposed to looking at the wide chasm that still exists in the area of diversity. The star-studded black tie dinner held annually by the MMPA will present awards for creative accomplishments and contributions to diversity in television and film, based on the voting returns of its membership whose 2001 award recipients include: Academy-award winning actor Cuba Gooding, Jr., Award-winning actor Philip Seymour Hoffman, critically-acclaimed director Kasi Lemmons, prolific directing/producing duo Mike Tollin and Brian Robbins, dynamic newcomer Vin Diesel, Golden Globe-winning actor Ving Rhames, and Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Kris Kristofferson.

The cast of CBS' "Survivor 2," will also be honored as 2001's Most Diverse Television Ensemble Cast, with Showtime Networks to receive the 2001 Most Diverse Television Network Award. Showtime's Original Programming roster includes the Latino-themed family drama "Resurrection Blvd," the motion picture-inspired "Soul Food" centered around a group of African-American sisters, and "Queer as Folk," the cutting-edge adult drama surrounding the life of a group of gay friends in Pittsburgh. The Diversity Awards will be taped for a fall airing.

#### **11/09 - 12 500 000\$ for Pitch Black 2???**

Not that bad, ladies;-) After "20 years of failure" Vin definitely wants to see those big paychecks, and 12,5 M\$ must be that " Diesel will earn north of \$11 million" (Variety sept.26) means. Almost as surprising as the article this quote originally appeared. Michael Bay, the action-fueled director of Armageddon and Pearl Harbor is teaming with Radar Pictures to hatch Platinum Dunes, a film company that will produce low-budget films. Hmm... Kinda hard him imagine as a low budget director... But now as he works with Radar Pictures, maybe... can he direct PB2???

source: Variety

#### **11/06 - Final TFATF BO results**

The Fast and The Furious, the first true sleeper hit of this summer had his last lap in the box office race, and collected non less than 144 512 310 \$. With this final result TFATF is currently No 94 on the all-time box office list. Congratulations to Rob Cohen, Neal H. Moritz, Vin, Paul, Jordana, Michelle and all the wonderful and talented pple from the cast, crew and Universal Pictures!

source:[yahoo! movies](http://yahoo! movies)

#### **10/31 - XXX production news: the movie will be shoot in Prague**

Variety reports that: The new Prague Studios opens its recently renovated soundstages Nov. 5, including the largest single soundstage in continental Europe.

Tomas Krejci, CEO and general director of Prague Studios, tells Variety that the studio is in final negotiations to bring in "Triple X" by the "Fast and Furious" team of director Rob Cohen and star Vin Diesel.

The film, produced by Revolution Studios for Sony, should go into pre-production at Prague Studios in November, in advance of its 10-week Prague shoot beginning Jan. 7.

#### **10/22 Vin is ranked #19 on E! tv's list of the top 25 sexiest men in Hollywood!**

Rank: 25 Sexiest Men in Entertainment

25.Hugh Jackman 24.Jet Li 23.Mark Wahlberg 22.David Duchovny 21.Freddy Prinze Jr. 20.Robert Downey Jr. **19.Vin Diesel** 18.Mark McGrath 17.Denzel Washington 16.Colin Farrell 15.Dylan McDermott 14.Ashton Kutcher 13.Kobe Bryant 12.Jude Law 11.Keanu Reeves 10.Ben Affleck 9.Benjamin Bratt 8.Goran Visnjic 7.Tom Cruise 6.Taye Diggs 5.Lenny Kravitz 4.Benicio Del Toro 3.Brad Pitt 2.Johnny Depp 1.George Clooney

and if you missed it, CCName talks about the show: "On the part where they talk about him, Michelle Rodriguez refers to him as a "beautiful guy" who has all that plus a brain. Jordana Brewster says he's very confident and that he is sexy. They showed a clip of him talking about how it's very flattering to be thought of this way (looks like a lot of the clips are from around the time of the F&F US premiere). They also show a clip of him filming a Knockaround Guy's scene and what appears to be him teaching (or talking too) a class in a school. Maybe when he was Principal for a day? Or maybe he's talking to his sister's class? He looks very cute :) The show mentions how now he is sexy AND has money because of his current pay raise :) Oh, they also talk about how he used to be a bouncer and used to dealing with dangerous men (clip of him greeting Cole Hauser at a premiere) and beautiful women (this might be where they stuck the Michelle clip) and they talk about how Steven Spielberg discovered him."

#### **- Linda Hamilton won't be back for T3**

[Empire Online](#) says that Linda Hamilton spoke a bit further about why she she won't be turning up in the third "Terminator" installment. "I read the script and it didn't take my character in any new direction," Hamilton told *The Independent*. "The film is really about turning the baton over to Sarah's son John played by Eddie Furlong. It's Eddie's movie - and Arnold's. It was like a no-win situation for me." She also goes on to mention that, despite her divorce from director James Cameron, since he won't be on board she's rather pass.

source: Empire / Comingsoon.net

#### **10/20 - Vin is the No 96 at Entertainment Weekly's Most powerful list**

[you can see the full list there](#)

#### **10/09 - XXX gets villain**

Kiwi thesp Marton Csokas ("Star Wars: Episode II -- Attack of the Clones") has been tapped to play a villain in Revolution Studios' "XXX," the Rob Cohen-directed actioner that starts lensing next month. A secret-agent pic with extreme sports-style stunts, "XXX" stars Vin Diesel and Samuel L. Jackson in an undercover operation designed to infiltrate a Russian crime ring. Csokas also appears in "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" from New Line and Fox Searchlight's "Garage Days."

source: Variety

#### **-Paul Walker talks TFATF2**

While promoting "Joy Ride," Paul Walker told our own Lisa Zlotnick about the rumored "The Fast and the Furious" sequel being scripted. A "Cinema Confidential" exclusive, here is what he said:

"I don't know. It's inevitable. I mean they're making passes at three different ideas for a sequel. Of course they're going to go after one just because the first one was such a success and they have a built-in audience for a sequel but, you know, it has to be good. The thing that was nice with the first one was that people didn't have high hopes, they didn't really have any expectations and that was sweet. That's the position you want to be in and the second time around, everyone is going to have super high hopes. You have to be better than the first one so, we'll see."

source: [Cinema Confidential](#)

#### **- Best Arms: Vin Diesel**

Vin Diesel has won the Best Arms vote at Shape Magazin's current online poll; results have been posted in the SHAPE presents Fit Hollywood special issue. Magazin available from October 16, 2001

## **08/10/2001 - Diesel Mows Down Competition as 2001 Diversity Awards Nova Award Recipient**

HOLLYWOOD, Oct 8, 2001 (ENTERTAINMENT WIRE) -- Fresh off the critically acclaimed sleeper hit "The Fast and the Furious," Vin Diesel plowed through fellow up-and-coming actor nominees to make a clean sweep as the Diversity Awards "2001 Nova Award" recipient. The Nova Award is presented annually to an artist who has captured the public's imagination and whose rapid rise shows no signs of slowing down. Becoming known in Hollywood circles as a talent of immense magnitude, Diesel's screen persona and overall charisma has captivated audiences, since his early foray leading to the beginning of a franchise with Universal's "Pitch Black," and "Furious," and what is fast developing into an overall studio deal with Universal.

After being spotted in a film short that he wrote and directed, Diesel was hand-picked by Steven Spielberg for the role of Private Caparzo in Spielberg's Oscar nominated "Saving Private Ryan," garnering critical praise for his compelling portrayal of the hard-nosed GI. His memorable performance led to an onslaught of offers including New Line's "Boiler Room," "Pitch Black" and the voice of Warner Bros. animated fantasy film "The Iron Giant."

According to Diversity Awards president, Jarvee E. Hutcherson "Vin is exactly the kind of artist who comes to mind when thinking of the type of young-up-and-coming talent which the Diversity Awards seeks to honor. He's compelling, talented, and possesses a cadre of filmmaking skills from writing and directing, to acting and producing. Truly the diversity of talent which the Diversity Awards believes in and seeks to recognize. Obviously our voting members agreed." Previous "Nova Award" recipients, also virtual tyros at the time of their honors include; Will Smith, Salma Hayek, Brad Pitt, and Djimon Hounsou. The Diversity Awards will take place at the Hollywood and Highland Ballroom on Saturday, November 17th. For further information contact 310/285-9743.

source: [PR Newswire](#)

## **10/02 - XXX news from Coming Attractions**

In the never too early department, our spy tells us that Columbia's tentative plans are to debut the teaser for XXX with the March 1st release of Black Hawk down. [*Vin Diesel's stunt double knows.*]

## **10/01 - TFATF video delay**

once more the TFATF video release date is pushed back with two months, currently sheduled to 2002, January - reports upcomingmovies.com