

NEWS ARCHIVE 2002 Jan-March

March 16 - The KGuys site is back to online and updated with 12 new pics

official KGuys site: <http://www.knockaroundguys.com>

- T3 news: John Connor has been casted, Vin is still involved???

According to E! Online's gossip columnist Anderson Jones, actor Shane West is the frontrunner for the role of John Connor in Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines. The 23-year-old actor most recently starred opposite Mandy Moore in A Walk to Remember. West would fill the role vacated by Eddie Furlong, who played Connor in the previous Terminator films. Previously released casting descriptions have described the Connor character as being in his early 20's, "a haunted and reluctant hero not trusting that everything has been set right."

With the recent casting of actress Kristanna Loken as the film's T/X female Terminator, the Connor part appears to be the only major role still uncast. But there's another casting rumor we keep hearing that begs to be reported. Take this with a grain of salt, but a source of ours remains convinced that Vin Diesel is still involved with this Terminator 3. He would play the same character that he's been rumored to play in the past, another Terminator that would fight alongside Arnold. It's also important to note that The Hollywood Reporter has Diesel listed on the Terminator 3 listing. And the information in those listings is typically submitted directly by the productions. With the film getting set to start shooting in Los Angeles over the next several weeks, the truth is bound to come out soon.

source: [FilmForce](#)

March 14 - 3rd Annual Golden Trailer Awards

TFATF is nominated in the best action movie trailer category with:

Best Action

A Knight's Tale

Driven

Pearl Harbor

Spider-Man - Helicopter

The Fast and the Furious

full list of nominees can be seen [here](#)
the award was won by A Knight's Tale

March 10 - Joe Roth about xXx

at ShoWest, the Revolution Studio chief, Joe Roth spoke about xXx

"I think 'XXX' is going to be the biggest picture for us this year," Revolution topper Joe Roth told Daily Variety, traipsing amid the Sony luncheon throng, noshing finger food from a napkin. *"What we've shot looks just great."*

Although "XXX" doesn't currently have the awareness of a "Men in Black" or "Spider-Man," *it will after being trailered on those two huge releases,* Roth said. *"Every under-25 man will know about this movie,"* he said.

source: Variety / Hollywood Reporter

March 6 - Knockaround Guys release date

According to New Line Cinema's Movie Publicity page (so its an official info) the release date is **October 18, 2002**

- Pitch Black filming in Vancouver

Comingsoon.net reports that Vancouver's Bridge Studio will undergo construction this April for "Pitch Black 2: The Chronicles of Riddick," sequel to the original Vin Diesel feature. The Universal feature starts up in April with a September wrap.

March 1- new xXx trailer is online

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/columbia/tripleX/>

Febr 27 - new xXx trailer is in the cinemas this weekend!

upcomingmovies.com reports: The 90 second trailer will appear in theaters this Friday attached to We Were Soldiers, and online soon after (it'll probably also be on either ET or Access Hollywood this week too), but Sony invited me over today for an advance peek at it... and it is very exciting and well-put-together, giving away nothing of the story, instead emphasizing the setup of Diesel's spy/athlete, and the many action sequences. Watch out for the big closer, in which Diesel rides a red sports car as it goes off an extremely tall bridge... and he tries to parachute. Wild. What makes this trailer work the most though, is just in Vin's delivery of his lines; he's got an amazing star quality and personality. He's one of those "women want him, men want to be him" kinda guys.

The third and final trailer (two and a half minutes) will debut in theaters in April or May. Also, the MPAA rating Sony is aiming for is definitely PG-13.

more trailer reviews: Comingsoon.net; CountingDown.com; [E! Online](http://E!Online.com)

Febr 22 - xXx dolls

The [Unofficial Vin Diesel FanClub](http://UnofficialVinDieselFanClub.com) got a very interesting info about the possible xXx merchandises:

"I was in NYC last week for an event called Toy Fair and a company there called NECA is producing toys, figures, and dolls for XXX. That's right our very own little Vins we can buy and take home. They did not have images available yet since they recently signed the license but they said to expect them to appear on the internet when they are approved and ready." Online info about the dolls: <http://www.aftimes.com/2002toyfair/neca/index.html>

- Ja Rule speaks PB2 and TFATF2

A while back rapper Ja Rule confirmed he and Vin Diesel will both be a part of upcoming sequels to "Pitch Black" and "The Fast and The Furious". On Wednesday as a guest on MuchMusic's "MuchOnDemand" show, he confirmed that filming will begin sooner than we might expect. His work on Steven Seagal's "Locked Down" is finished already and after a few months break he'll be heading down to Australia in June to shoot "Riddick: Pitch Black 2" then will get to work on "The Fast & The Furious 2" right after in the Fall. Seems that many of the cars from the first F&F film were auctioned off so all new ones will be appearing this time around. Source: [Dark Horizons](http://DarkHorizons.com)

Febr 21 - Vin won't play Hellboy - director still wants Ron Pearlman

[Sci Fi Wire](http://SciFiWire.com) got talking to director Guillermo del Toro ("Blade II") who revealed some interesting thoughts about the casting for the "Hellboy" comic book adaptation.

He says that "I have a duty to myself and [to] the character not to allow Hellboy to be f---d up in

the translation into a movie by someone who doesn't care. I want it to be exactly the comic book. This is my ambition, and I will leave my body there on the ground to make it happen, but I want Hellboy to be the best...comic book-based movie ever made."

As far as casting, del Toro adds that "Ron Perlman or nobody" will assume the title role. Perlman, the Beast in the TV series *Beauty and the Beast*, co-starred in the director's breakthrough film, "Cronos". "We have toyed with other ideas, which were good, like Vin Diesel, but the whole project was written by me with Ron in mind," del Toro said. "Undoubtedly I would [get a bigger budget if Diesel were cast], and I think Vin would be a great alternative. I think Vin was also born to play Hellboy, but when I first met [Hellboy creator] Mike Mignola, we looked at each other suspiciously across the table, and we said, 'There's only one actor who can play Hellboy.' I said, 'I don't want to give up on the idea,' and Mike said, 'Neither do I.' We said, 'Let's say it together.' And it was, 'One, two, three, Ron Perlman.' So I think Ron is the guy. I'd rather not do the movie than do it wrong.

Febr 19 - Movieline list: "Hollywood's 10 Sexiest Actors"

Brad Pitt
Benicio Del Toro
George Clooney
Denzel Washington
Russell Crowe
Benjamin Bratt
Vin Diesel
Mark Wahlberg
Viggo Mortenson
Jude Law

- Romantic comedy with Janet Jackson?

Darla has sent us an interview with director Patrick-Ian Polk (Punks). He was interviewed by IndieWire last november, where he mentioned a very promising movie:

iW: Patrick, you have recently left Edmonds Entertainment and opened your own film company Tall Skinny Black Boy Productions. What are some of your upcoming projects?

Polk: I've written a college, comedy-drama set at **Brandeis University** where I went to school. That is starring **Gabrielle Union** and **Donald Faison**. That hopefully will shoot sometime next year. I'm writing a big romantic comedy right now for **Janet Jackson** and **Vin Diesel**. And I'm starting to do some writing for television.

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

Febr 15 Mr. Mysterious: A new movie possibility for Vin

Still more fantasy sales this week: the trilogy of Phil Pullman novels going under the name HIS DARK MATERIALS and MR. MYSTERIOUS in which Vin Diesel may star (also known as HARRY POTTER ON STEROIDS). I'm not saying that these won't turn out to be great flicks, but producers do realize that HARRY POTTER and LORD OF THE RINGS had huge built in audiences before they became films, don't they?

MR. MYSTERIOUS

RAW Entertainment picked up the Action-Fantasy spec script MR. MYSTERIOUS for Simon West's Wychwood Productions to produce.

STORYLINE: Set in the 1880's, a blind carnival magician and his troupe of performers must return to London in order to prevent an evil sorcerer from plaguing the world with black magic.

WRITER(S): Brandon Bodie Beaver

DEAL: Low-against mid-six figures

source: Screenwriters Utopia

- Screenwriters Utopia's xXx preview:

A wannabe JAMES BOND, starring Vin Diesel, about an extreme-sports competitor who is recruited by a government agent, Sam Jackson, to infiltrate a Russian crime ring, Anarchy 99, led by a mysterious figure called Yorgi.

As much as I hate to admit it, the trailer on the Super Bowl looked pretty damned good. That alone should make it a hit for the kids who ran out and saw THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS.

There are so many pros and cons here: Cohen is a hack, but an enthusiastic one who can make a good movie. Vin Diesel, my least favorite new-movie-star, is in the lead, but it wasn't written expressly for him. Rich Wilkes didn't fashion the script after Vin's annoying attributes, but he's the guy that wrote JERKY BOYS and AIRHEADS. (Yikes.)

This movie isn't made for me. I love action films; I don't love Vin Diesel. And you have to be a fan of that bull-voiced, thick-necked madman to enjoy his work.

So go and have fun, Diesel-worshippers.

Vin-boy got ten million dollars for this movie. Quite a jump, considering he was a struggling actor-writer-director not that long ago, right? Good thing David Twohy gave him a job.

- Update on the KGuys release date

an article in today's edition of Variety listing New Line's 2002 movie releases:

Knockaround Guys (TBA) Rescheduled for release three times in 2001, pic features Vin Diesel, Seth Green, Barry Pepper and Andrew Davioli as brothers from a Brooklyn mob family on the trail of money in a Montana town. Dennis Hopper and John Malkovich co-star. Jointly helmed by "Rounders" writing team Brian Koppelman and David Levien, who co-produced with Lawrence Bender

KGuys is still TBA, but an other article in Hollywood Reporter knows it as a fall movie:

LOS ANGELES (The Hollywood Reporter) --- In deal worth nearly \$1 million against nearly \$2 million, DreamWorks has picked up the pitch "The Storm Returns" from Brian Koppelman and David Levien, who will write, direct and produce the material.

The duo, best known for writing the feature "Rounders," made their directorial and producing debut on "Knockaround Guys," a New Line Cinema feature due out in the fall.

Febr 13, 2002 TFATF is nominated to 2 Golden Reel Awards

this year's GRA award nominations in sound editing achievement have been announced:

Sound Editing - Effects And Foley, Domestic Feature Film

A.I.: Artificial Intelligence

Black Hawk Down

The Fast And The Furious

Jurassic Park III

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider

The Mummy Returns

Pearl Harbor

Planet of the Apes
Spy Game

Sound Editing - Dialogue And A.D.R., Domestic Feature Film

A.I.: Artificial Intelligence
A Beautiful Mind
Black Hawk Down
Cats and Dogs
The Fast and the Furious
Ocean's 11
Pearl Harbor
Planet of the Apes
Spy Game
Vanilla Sky

source: Variety

Febr 8, 2002 xXx script review at 13thstreet.com

click [here](#) to read the review

Febr 7, 2002 Ja Rule talks "The Chronicles of Riddick" and TFATF2

Last week in Los Angeles on the set of his Murder Inc. compatriot Ashanti's "Foolish" video, the Queens rapper said he and Diesel are hoping to be Hollywood's next dynamic duo. They are committed to doing two more movies together, "The Fast and the Furious 2" and "Riddick."

"Obviously 'Fast and the Furious [2]' is going to pick up where we left off," he said. "They're going to bulk up my character a bit. We're gonna get to see Edwin Bishop a little bit more this movie. And 'Riddick' is, ... it's not scary, but it's like a creature movie. It's like 'Pitch Black 2.' We're on another planet and it's crazy. These creatures come out only in the dark, and we can only see in the dark."

"Vin's my dog," he continued. "I shout him out on 'Smokin and Ridin' on my album [*Pain Is Love*]. He was in the studio with me that night when I recorded that. We were in there chillin'. I can't wait 'til we get going to Australia to shoot 'Riddick' and in Miami to shoot 'Fast and Furious 2.' "

source: [MTV website](#)

Febr 5, 2002 - El Diablo: Untitled Vin Diesel Project

[Upcomingmovies.com](#) reported that Vin's second "new" New Line Cinema movie (the other one is Knockaround Guys) was pushed back to Spring 2003, also its currently looking for a new title.

my recommendation: The Invisible Movie

- Vin's Star power: 54,17 (from 100,00)

Based on The Hollywood Reporter's Star Power(R) 2002 Survey Reveals the Bankability Of More Than 1,000 Motion Picture Actors, Vin has a moderate star power, but seemingly not enough against New Line Cinema;)

Whenever, wherever you can read more about [here](#)
(PR Newswire)

Febr 4, Rob Cohen talks TFATF2 and xXx

Rob Cohen recently chatted with *Total Film* and was asked about the rumoured 'two F&F sequel

scripts, one with and one without Vin' in development - "That's totally accurate. Paul Walker is up for it but Vin, as usual, is slower to make up his mind. But I'm sure if we get the script and I direct it, Vin will be in. The film's already made £211 million. I'd say Vin's fee is the least of our worries". What can he tell us for now about XXX: "Think of a totally tattooed Vin Diesel as a man who cares about nothing in the world but his own thrills, but then is drafted by the National Security Agency to go on a mission that ultimately saves the world. Basically, the world's safety is in the hands of a nihilist".

Febr 2, XXX teaser is online:

<http://www.apple.com/trailers/columbia/tripleX/>

also the website is updated

<http://www.spe.sony.com/movies/triplex/>

Febr 1, 2001 XXX teaser poster is online

Jan 29, 2001 XXX ad coming soon: on Superbowl Sunday

THIS AIN'T YOUR DADDY'S SPY MOVIE

On Superbowl Sunday, we'll give you a first look at the upcoming movie XXX, starring Vin Diesel. Look for the ad featuring incredible action scenes from this spy thriller during the second quarter. And if you're watching the pre-game you'll get your first look at Jennifer Lopez's new movie, Enough. Not only will you get to see clips from these great movies, you'll also get previews of our other upcoming movies like Panic Room starring Jodie Foster, Adam Sandler in Mr. Deeds, Men in Black II, plus a never-before-seen clip from Spider-Man. So, move the fridge into the living room, kick back, watch a little football, and get ready for a blockbuster slate of movies from Sony. And if you happen to miss a preview, you'll have another chance during the hour-long Malcolm In The Middle that follows the game. To get the skinny on all these movies, come back to sonypictures.com.

source: Sony's newsletter

Jan 29 - U rolls into court, sez Lion loose with 'Fast'

Universal is taking MGM to court over TV ad spots for the Lion's forthcoming skating gladiator remake, "Rollerball."

In TV ads for "Rollerball," MGM is hoping to gain some traction from U's \$144 million summer hit, "The Fast and the Furious."

John Pogue, an exec producer and uncredited writer on "Fast," wrote the screenplay for "Rollerball." MGM's spots seek to capitalize on that connection, describing "Rollerball" as a pic "from the filmmakers that brought you 'The Fast and the Furious.'"

But U wants no association with "Rollerball," a pic that could have an uphill run in theaters. Pic, whose release date has been buffeted around, has received some negative buzz around town and online; it will have no premiere when it opens next month.

In a case that's led to rancorous recriminations on both sides -- and may even test the elasticity of an exec producer's credit -- U has filed a complaint in federal court, seeking a restraining order to force MGM to yank the "Rollerball" ads, accusing the Lion of false advertising, unfair competition and trademark delusion.

The dispute is aggravated by the fact that "Rollerball" opens Feb. 8 against U's "Big Fat Liar."

MGM plans to fight to keep its spots on the air and has filed an opposition brief. MGM argues that U rebuffed its offer to rewrite the ad, and even lists Pogue as one of the "filmmakers" behind "Fast" on the studio's Web site. An MGM source called the suit "a ploy to gain a

competitive advantage for a movie that is opening against ours and not tracking as well."

That's "a preposterous argument," said a U source, who said the studio objects to the implication that Pogue "was a major creative contributor" on "Fast."

taken from Variety

Jan 18 XXX news from Prague

January 18, 2002... We broke some very interesting news on 13th Street yesterday from a friend in Prague -- that's where they're filming XXX right now. 'Goth Spice', as they wish to be called, told us that the movie will be filming through the middle of June, with Samuel L. Jackson scheduled to arrive early in February. At least one local paper has stated that a scene will involve a stuntman rappelling from the Church of Our Lady Before Tyn, the Gothic cathedral on Old Town Square. And rumor has it that a Prague soundstage has been flooded for a scene or scenes involving a submarine. We told you it was interesting stuff.

source: Coming Attractions

- Rob Cohen talks XXX and TFATF

"This ain't your dad's typical spy movie," "XXX" director Rob Cohen tells me from Prague.

In the past, the colorful city doubled for countless foreign cities in contemporary and period pix, but Revolution's "XXX," starring Samuel L. Jackson and Vin Diesel, is set in -- Prague, believe it or not. And the heavies are Russian Mafia. Yes, this pic could become a franchise with its co-stars. Diesel starred, with Paul Walker, in "The Fast and the Furious," which has passed the \$100 million mark in DVD sales for Universal Home Video.

"We can't keep them on the shelves," Cohen tells me of the pic that cost \$38 million. ("XXX" is triple that budget).

source: Reuters / Variety

Jan 17 Furious DVD Continues to Dominate

Universal Studios Home Video's "The Fast and the Furious" continued to dominate last week, taking the top spot in both gross rental revenue and sales of DVDs for the first two weeks of the new year.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the Vin Diesel starrer topped the combined VHS and DVD rental charts its debut week, earning a whopping \$18.65 million in just four days on rental shelves.

"Furious" went on to earn an estimated \$15.89 million last week for a combined rental gross of \$34.6 million in only 11 days.

Jan 14 - People's Choice Award

TFATF was nominated to People's Choice Award as best movie, which award Shrek win. Guess you can't beat a family movie, can you?

In related news TFATF is on the list of 7 movies, which have a chance to be nominated for the Sound Edition Oscar Prize. As those kind of lists get released I expect to show up TFATF on more list, such as the best edition, sound and cinematography.

Beverly Hills, CA - The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences today announced the seven films being considered for Achievement in Sound Editing for the 74th Academy Awards©. The films in consideration are listed below in alphabetical order:

- A.I. Artificial Intelligence
- Ameli
- Black Hawk Down
- **The Fast and the Furious**
- The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
- Monsters, Inc.
- Pearl Harbor

Ten-minute clip reels from each of the seven films will be screened for the Sound Editing Award Committee on February 5. The members will then vote on these films for Oscar consideration. The outcome of this vote will result in the following options: 1) if two or three productions receive the required votes they will become the nominated films in the Sound Editing category; 2) if only one film receives the required votes it will be recommended to the Academy Board of Governors for a Special Achievement Award; or 3) if no film achieves the required votes, no award for 2001 will be given in the category.

If finalists are selected they will be announced along with nominations in 23 other categories on Tuesday, February 12, at 5:30 a.m. PST.

Academy Awards for outstanding film achievements of 2001 will be presented on March 24, at the Kodak Theatre at Hollywood & Highland® and will be televised live by the ABC Television Network beginning at 5:30 p.m. PST, with a half-hour arrivals segment preceding the presentation ceremony.

source: Oscar webpage

Jan 12 - Mic Rodgers and Matt Sweeney will receive the Technical Achievement Awards(Academy Certificates)for the concept, design and realization of the "Mic Rig."

This self-contained, low bed "picture car" carrier and "camera platform" enables the safe, economic and realistic filming of action sequences that may involve principal actors and dialogue.

(note: this is the technology they developed for TFATF's amazing action scenes!)

source: DirectorsWorld

Jan 10 - TFATF gets a chance to win the Visual Effects Oscar®

Beverly Hills, CA - The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences today announced eight films being considered for Achievement in Visual Effects for the 74th Academy Awards(R).

The films in consideration are listed below in alphabetical order:

- A. I. Artificial Intelligence
- Black Hawk Down
- Cats and Dogs
- **The Fast and the Furious**
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- Jurassic Park III
- The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring
- Pearl Harbor

Jan 9 - Diesel starrer sets record for DVD rentals in its first week

Universal reports that 2.9 million of the first 3.4 million DVD copies shipped to dealers were purchased by consumers in the first five days of release after the Jan. 2 debut of the \$145 million movie about street car racers.

That puts "The Fast and the Furious" ahead of what was then the record-setting pace of "Shrek" last fall, but behind Disney's "Pearl Harbor," which sold 3 million units on the first day. "The Fast and the Furious" sold about 2.1 million copies on the first day, including about 600,000 purchased for rental by video specialty stores. First-week sales were about twice as high as Universal's "The Mummy Returns" and "Jurassic Park III."

"The Fast and the Furious" also raced to the top of the DVD rental charts with the biggest first week in DVD rental history of \$6.29 million, surpassing the \$5.5 million of "Cast Away" last year, according to VSDA VidTrac. Universal's biggest hit to be priced for rental on videocassette since the original "American Pie" two years ago, "The Fast and the Furious" also topped the VHS rental charts with \$11.03 million.

Combined with the \$58 million in revenue from DVD sales, "The Fast and the Furious" generated a total of \$75.32 million in consumer spending the first week.

source: Variety

Jan 8 - Turbo-Charged ``The Fast and the Furious'' Flies Fast and Furiously Off Video

Shelves Action Adventure Is Hottest and Most Cutting-Edge to Hit the Street Buying Frenzy Depletes 85% of Inventory in First Five Days

Universal Studios Home Video's January 2 release ``The Fast And The Furious" -- the studio's \$145 million top-grossing action-adventure -- is proving to be the hottest and most highly anticipated DVD yet, literally flying off retailers' shelves.

Consumers are demanding their DVD faster than supplies last, according to industry sources. ``We are challenged to keep up with the demand and are racing to produce enough inventory," said Craig Kornblau, president, Universal Studios Home Video. ``With DVD players being the biggest selling holiday item at the close of 2001, from all indications it is clear that `The Fast And The Furious' is the DVD consumers are most wanting to see on their new players.

full article from Business Wire can be found here

-TFATF is also No#2 on Entertainme's TOP 100 Ultimate DVD list

TOP 100 ULTIMATE DVD LIST

1. PEARL HARBOR
2. THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS
3. RUSH HOUR 2
4. SHREK
5. PLANET OF THE APES
6. THE MUMMY RETURNS
7. JURASSIC PARK III
8. STAR WARS: EPISODE ONE - THE PHANTOM MENACE
9. LARA CROFT: TOMB RAIDER
10. THE MATRIX

secure01.entertainme.com/servlet/LandingPageServlet?landingPageName=top100dvd

Jan 4th - Eve boarding Diesel-fueled thriller 'XXX'

XXX Music: Eve, Rammstein, Orbital

Rapper Eve will star alongside Vin Samuel L. Jackson and Asia Argento in Revolution Studios' spy thriller "XXX" for director Rob Cohen and producer Neal Moritz.

Production began last month in Los Angeles and has moved to Prague with an eye for an August release.

Eve will play Diesel's friend and business partner in the story of a tough extreme-sports player (Diesel) co-opted by the government to infiltrate a crime ring. Cohen said Eve also is likely to perform the title song for the film.

Additionally, famed East German rock group Rammstein and seminal English electronica act Orbital will be featured on camera in pivotal scenes. Orbital will perform an original song titled

"Technologisky Park" during a rave scene, Cohen said.

Of choosing Rammstein and Orbital -- two acts with huge European acclaim -- to be part of film, Cohen said, "To get the true stranger in a strange land, you don't want the track riddled with hip-hop and American rock; you want to get the flavor as Vin's character gets the flavor of this new world."

Written by Rich Wilkes ("Airheads"), the project is being executive produced by Revolution co-partner Todd Garner along with Diesel's producing partner George Zakk. Creative executive Derek Dauchy is overseeing. Kathy Nelson is the film's music supervisor.

"XXX" marks Eve's second acting gig, following a deal for her to star in the MGM comedy "Barbershop" for director Tim Story and George Tillman and Robert Teitel's State Street Pictures. She is repped by WMA and Untitled Entertainment's Jason Weinberg.
source: Hollywood Reporter

Jan 2nd Empire award for Vin

The UK Empire magazine readers voted Vin The Kick-ass Breakout Star of the Year (male):

"Vin Diesel. Saving Private Ryan and Pitch Black may have been an intro from the gods, but runaway hit The Fast and The Furious has set Diesel's superstar status in stone. And with part twos for both Furious and Pitch Black in the works, as well as the upcoming XXX and Diablo, it looks like the New Bruce Willis mantle may indeed be his for the keeping. As the man himself, says: "I've worn a few vests, I've kicked a few asses and I don't have much hair." You said it, baldy, you said it. -- Empire, Issue January 2002."

Jan 1st - Del Toro interview: Vin is officially attached to Hellboy???

this is an other chapter in the "Vin as Hellboy" book. We first hearb about it last May at "Ain't-it-true", and the rumor has been denied and justified a couple of times by now. Again it's an interview from Ain't-it-cool, (made by Anton Sirius), but that's what Guillermo Del Toro (Mimic, Blade 2) had to say about Vin as Hellboy:

GdT: Yes, he is officially attached to the project. And we're continuing talks with him and the studio, and if everybody sees eye to eye on the creative- because obviously there's no way in hell Hellboy is not going to be under a ton of make-up.

Note from Harry: It looks like Diesel's attachment may have been premature.

AS: I thought when I first heard it that Vin Diesel would be a perfect choice for exactly that reason, because he's already proven with Iron Giant that his voice is really all he needs to get everything across.

GdT: The Rick Baker tests for the Hellboy make-up are so encouraging, and so beautiful. And Vin has a really good persona. Pitch Black really proved that, that he's a really strong lead.

AS: And look at the box office for the Fast and the Furious.

GdT: But beyond that, he understands the nobility and strength of Hellboy. Hellboy is such a special creation. I have not been a fan of a comic book as much as I've been a fan of Hellboy since I was ten. The last comic book I was that big a fan of was probably Swamp Thing.

AS: The Wrightson Swamp Thing?

GdT: Yes. And Hellboy, I was shooting Mimic when Hellboy was doing Wake the Devil, and I just kept looking and looking in the shops to see if another issue had come out. And with Vin, how can I say it, well, with Hellboy he's a combination of him AND Rick Baker. Because Hellboy is both a demon, a golem, and kind of an ape. He has the sloping shoulders, the long arms, and the brow and the mouth, almost a gorilla. When I asked Mike Mignola to describe him he was

saying he saw it kind of like a Frankenstein monster crossed with a gorilla. What I think the studios don't get so far is the idea of him as a demon as the main character.

AS: A demon as the hero.

GdT: Yes. It's like Beauty and the Beast, only at the end the Beast is just the Beast, that's just the way he is.

full interview can be found here

- Year 2001 films grossing \$100 million or more

TFATF is year's 12th movie

1. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone \$286 million
2. Shrek \$267 million
3. Monsters, Inc. \$236 million
4. Rush Hour 2 \$226 million
5. The Mummy Returns \$202 million
6. Pearl Harbor \$198.5 million
7. Jurassic Park III \$181 million
8. Planet of the Apes \$180 million
9. Hannibal \$165 million
10. The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring \$154 million
11. American Pie 2 \$145 million
- 12. The Fast and the Furious \$144.5 million**
13. Lara Croft: Tomb Raider \$131.1 million
14. Ocean's Eleven \$128 million
15. Dr. Dolittle 2 \$112.9 million
16. Spy Kids \$112.7 million
17. The Princess Diaries \$108.1 million

Reuters/Variety

NEWS ARCHIVE 2002 April - June

6/24 - xXx DVD release day: Dec 26

6/21 - Gavin Rossdale records song for XXX soundtrack

Bush's Gavin Rossdale has written a song for the soundtrack to XXX. The film stars Vin Diesel and Samuel L Jackson. Rossdale says the track is "not a Bush thing" and will appear on the soundtrack in his name. It was "such a trip playing and singing with different people in a different environment," he said on the official Bush website, www.bush-music.com. Rossdale is due to film a video for the single soon and the soundtrack is expected to be released in August.

6/19 - Twohy talks Riddick: "the evil twin of 'Star Wars'."

David Twohy has sent an email to [AICN](#), describing his movie as "a dark action-adventure movie with our own brand of epic mythology."

So I wrote a treatment for a sequel two years ago, and it was deemed too big, too rich of a follow-up. Well, that was then -- and Vin is now. We can think "too big." So we're using that treatment as a matrix, layering in new characters and new dimensions as we create a whole multi-verse that will carry us through two, possibly three more films. It's a multi-verse full of competing agendas and countervailing strengths. Riddick is but one of those strengths, and he'll tap into primal powers he didn't know he had, evolving into something more powerful.

Something even darker.

To bring it into focus for the studio, I pitched a franchise that would be "the evil twin of 'Star Wars'." And they got it immediately. Instead of cold technology on parade, "Chronicles" will be a hot-blooded affair that marches to the tune of corruption, defiance, chaos. It won't be so much a horror film (as some thought "Pitch Black" to be) as a dark action-adventure movie with our own brand of epic mythology.

Oh, did I mention "dark"?

One of the things we saw, early on, was a parallel to the "Terminator" series: The audience actually liked the antagonist by the end of the first movie. Knowing this, Cameron smartly changed the dynamic for the sequel, pitting Arnold against the T-1000, overmatching him so that the audience could root for him. Well, point taken: We will overmatch Riddick in all our follow-up movies. He has to have Big Foes, and we've got them. Plenty of 'em.

Again, thanks to "Ain't It Cool News." We remember how "Pitch Black" had virtually zero awareness a month before its release – and then along came your review. That kick-started a lot of good web-buzz for us. Little did we dream it would lead to this.

6/16 - Riddick coming only in 2004

According to a teaser image at Coming Attractions, "Riddick" will only open in 2004.

- xXx gets rated: PG-13

as previously planned by Revolution Studios / Sony the movie was finally rated as PG-13 for "violence, non-stop action sequences, sensuality, drug content and language."

6/14 - Rich Wilkes (screenwriter) talks about xXx

"A WGA reception at the Grove's new Maggiano's restaurant allowed me to meet tall, bleached-blond Rich Wilkes, who wrote the upcoming XXX, starring Vin Diesel. Wilkes told me Revolution head Joe Roth greenlighted the sequel after viewing just 45 minutes of assembled footage while the production continued in Prague. But Wilkes hasn't gotten started on a second installment of his James Bond update just yet. Shelves in the garage for his lovely wife, Amy, come first. But he said, **"If you're going to choose a property to remake, choose one that has 20 sequels."** Good advice, young screenwriter types."

source: [Movie Scoop with Anderson Jones](#) (E! Online)

- Spy vy Spy (article from [Newsweek](#))

"But Hollywood is uneasy with this notion; the star system is one of the few security blankets this notoriously risky business has, no matter how unreliable it is. The studios complain about out-of-control salaries, but they wouldn't do without them. Nowhere is this clearer than in the huge push underway to turn **Vin Diesel** into a 21st-century superhero, a kind of thinking man's Stallone. The ad campaign for August's "XXX" positions him as a secret agent for a disaffected generation: Diesel describes his character as "an anarchist ... a nihilist recruited to save the world." Diesel, who was once a bouncer, has an action-comics physique, a bad-boy mystique and an ambiguously multicultural ethnic appeal: a combination Hollywood is heavily investing in. He was paid a \$2 million salary for "The Fast and the Furious," last summer's sleeper hit. He got \$10 mil to do "XXX," and even before it opens he is asking 20 for the sequel. In the quaint old days, you actually had to prove yourself to become a star."

- King Conan script review

"Stax here with my reaction to the revised screenplay for King Conan: Crown of Iron! This 135-page second draft dated April 4, 2002 is for the third proposed Conan film, following 1982's Conan the Barbarian and 1984's widely loathed Conan the Destroyer. As you know, these films are based on late pulp author Robert E. Howard's novels. King Conan was scripted by director

John Milius (My review of Milius' first draft can be found [here](#)). The Wachowski brothers (The Matrix trilogy) will produce it. Arnold Schwarzenegger recently expressed interest in reprising the title role, and Vin Diesel is lobbying for the part of Conan's son (previously coveted by The Rock). While there is no definitive word yet on when production might commence, IGN FilmForce recently learned that King Conan is now on the fast track over at Warners."

for the full review hit this link: filmforce.ign.com

- The Fast and Furious Comes to PS2

Using the license from the first and second movie, Universal steps on the gaming pedal.

June 10, 2002 - Universal Studios Interactive announced today its acquisition of the videogame rights to The Fast and the Furious for PlayStation 2, Xbox, and Game Boy Advance in 2003.

Leveraging the license to create a videogame using the look, feel and the actual vehicles from the Vin Diesel racing movie The Fast and the Furious and the upcoming sequel, Universal's new racing game should offer gamers wildly fast challenges, dangerous tracks, and perhaps even stunts and mission-based gameplay.

"The adrenaline is still pumping from the first movie," states Tim Rothwell, senior vice president marketing and merchandising, USCPG. **"We are partnering with top manufacturers and brands in the compact car and performance market to develop long-term co-branded licensed products that The Fast and the Furious fans are ready to embrace."**

Universal Studios Interactive is in the process of acquiring the licenses of many, if not all, of the vehicles from the movie. A representative from the company told IGN that the likenesses of the actors are still pending.

"The ultimate games capturing the street-racing life, UI's upcoming titles will captivate fans of the Fast and the Furious movie as well as hardcore racing game fans," states Jim Wilson, president of Universal Interactive. **"The thrill of speed will come alive on next-gen and handheld systems to the beat of top Universal Music artists as players customize import and muscle cars, complete dangerous missions and compete in harrowing street races."**

source: [FilmForce](#)

- Upcomingmovies's xXx preview

among [the 16 hottest summer movies](#), xXx is one of them:

No, it's not porn. Vin Diesel, well-muscled, clean-pated action star of "The Fast and the Furious" and "Pitch Black" (both of which are getting sequels in 2003, though Vin won't be in TF&TF2), takes on the role of a hard-living, rock-and-roll "extreme sports" star with three X's tattooed on the back of his neck (hence the title), who is blackmailed/recruited by a government agent (Samuel L. Jackson) to take down some Russian bad guys. The trailers have been effective in selling Diesel as a 21st century spy, quick with both wise cracks, (just guessing) the ladies, and the many action sequences. If you're not sold already, did I mention that this is also directed by Rob Cohen, the guy behind "The Fast and the Furious" (he won't be doing the sequel either)? Underrated by many pundits who probably don't think a new franchise can be built without a pre-existing audience (ala "Spider-Man"), I suspect this is going to surprise many and be a big hit. Of course, if I can predict that... is it really a surprise?

6/7 - xXx soundtrack info: two discs, discount, artists

Music is featured in the film as an integral element," director Rob Cohen says. "Throughout the picture, music is put on center stage with the images. It's the partnership between the energy of the strong rock 'n' roll with the energy of the strong character of Xander Cage (played by Vin Diesel), plus the energy of the action sequences. It's a very symbiotic relationship."

As an example, the famed East German rock group Rammstein and the seminal English

electronica act Orbital are featured on camera during pivotal scenes.

It's all part of the vibe of the film and Cohen's vision, says Kathy Nelson, who is music-supervising the film and soundtrack for Universal Records. "Most of the time when you have a big action movie, you don't really have an opportunity to use the music prominently in the body of the film," she says. "But because Rob loves music so much, he designs his movies with songs as a part of them."

Audiences and music fans would expect nothing less. "XXX" is Cohen and Diesel's follow-up to last summer's smash "The Fast and the Furious," which under Nelson's musical direction spawned a platinum-selling soundtrack featuring mostly urban acts. While music was a vital part of "Furious," for "XXX," Cohen says, "I wanted to take it even higher. I wanted to go to a place where the characters' inner state is really reflected in the musical choice."

Featured in "XXX" are songs by Hatebreed, Queens of the Stone Age, Mars Volta, Joy and a new track by Moby. Nelson says composer Glen Ballard is penning a "James Bond-ish" ballad for the film.

Because the soundtrack to "Furious" was predominantly urban and the film attracted such a wide fan base, both Nelson and Cohen are working the genre into the "XXX" mix, but carefully. Cohen says that because about 60% of the film takes place in Prague, he wanted the majority of its music to be rock and European-based, hence the choice of Rammstein and Orbital.

But because Diesel has an "aura of a hip-hop star," Cohen says, urban music will be placed in party sequences and will be included in the soundtrack. **There have been talks about releasing a two-disc soundtrack -- one album would include music straight from the film and one would be an urban companion featuring such performers as Swizz Beats, Ja Rule and Eve** (who has an acting role in the film). The other option is to release only one CD with an expanded track list of 18 songs. As the soundtrack will not hit stores until next month, no firm plans have been set yet.

Moviegoers who buy the soundtrack may also get a special reward. Although it is still in the planning stages, **a program may be put in place for fans to present their ticket stubs at certain retail outlets and enjoy a discount of as much as \$5 on the soundtrack.** Given the way creative pricing structures have boosted the sales of such artists as Ashanti, Musiq and Sean Combs to No. 1, the companion to "XXX" could be the soundtrack of the summer.

Hollywood Reporter

- new xXx script review

XXX Friday

Finally, a brand new issue of my column to finish off the week. Today has good ole Dr. Strangelove's thoughts on the script to Vin Diesel's XXX. Having read it myself, I can tell you that this flick is going to kick some serious ass. It's going to take Diesel to the next level. Personally, I'm more looking forward to The Chronicles of Riddick. Now that David Twohy is back at the helm, this project is back on track. Have a nice weekend everyone!

XXX Script Review

And here I thought it would be a stright-forward James Bond rip-off, which it does clone quite often, but for some reason I found myself drawn in and strongly entertained during my marathon reading session of the XXX screenplay. (The screenplay even mocks James Bond in the opening scene with the foreseeable death of an undercover British Agent whose slickness ends up into turning into quite a joke.) I don't quite know why, I was actually dreading to read it because it looked like every Mission: Impossible/James Bond flick hacked together during the wave of The Fast and the Furious mania. (I still haven't seen it.) However, while I did find a clone action film, I found something different.

I don't exactly know how to judge Vin Diesel. The only role I've seen him in was his supporting role in Saving Private Ryan (very well done), however, I have yet to see any have his other films (Boiler Room and FatF). The part Diesel is given here has some real potential, granted, it's not

an Oscar caliber script, but the guy is really bad ass without going over the top. He isn't the clean cut Ethan Hunt or James Bond, he is almost an antagonist of sorts and it's a nice break of cliché. Diesel's character is Xander Cage, codename XXX. He is a thrill seeker who begins the film riding off a skyscraper on a bike, parachuting down to the street and riding off. He arrives home, is dumped by his girlfriend who is tired of his un-stable (and near fatal) lifestyle and she leaves him. Meanwhile, Gibbons (Samuel L. Jackson), an NSA agent, is looking for another agent to replace his James Bond from the opening scene. There is a band of criminals in Europe with something dangerous.

Xander's training, while sort of cliché, is also catchy and entertaining. From setting him up in a mock setting to tricking him into a real drug raid, Gibbons really puts Xander down for a ride to see what he is made of. Xander tries to resist and actually isn't that much of a push over. Of course, as always, XXX joins and is sent to Europe to infiltrate the band of criminals with a wide assortment of gadgets. Like I said, it's just like a Bond film. Take this for example. Xander receives a pair of goggles that can see through walls and other things, including a near-by woman's dress:

XANDER
I think I'll hang onto these.

That was my major complaint about the flick. It is too much of your typical Bond rip-off. Granted, it makes things fairly fresh in the way of action sequences and it even mocks it at times (including the opening which reads: TITLE SEQUENCE- HARDCORE MUSIC plays as we see a flowing TAPESTRY OF FLORID TATTOOS. SILHOUETTED against this backdrop we see the OUTLINES of NUDE WOMEN riding BMX BIKES in a HALF-PIPE, BLADING over obstacles, SKY SURFING and doring street SKATE TRICKS. It's a collision of outlandish imagery that tells you on thing: This ain't your daddy's spy movie.) However, daddy's spy movie is what it exactly is, rehashed for a new generation. The sexual innuendos, the cool gadgets, the dashing and dangerous male lead, and a kick ass car, mixed with a ton of action sequences. If Rich Wilkes (the screenwriter) wanted to do something different, he should have put a girl in the lead role and not made her a Lara Croft clone. How often do we see female spies? I mean, guys go to these movies to see chicks, cars, and action. Why not put a chick lead as a spy?

I do give Wilkes credit for writing some really sharp dialogue. While his action scenes don't feed the audience anything really fresh, his dialogue is really slick. Take the example of Xander before getting a possible torturing:

XANDER
What's on the menu tonight? The old blowtorch-to-the-family jewels routine, I'll bet. Hey, you want roasted nuts, let's break out the planters.

Even the action scenes have their share of smarter humor and not Arnold yelling: "YOU'RE FIRED!" before blasting someone with a rocket launcher. (Hey, True Lies was a good movie too, but you know the moments I'm talking about.) WE PAN OVER WEAPONS: MACHINE GUNS, MINES, ROCKETS, AMMO, ETC. We finally arrive at Zander leaning on his GTO. He sparks a blowtorch and lights a cigar:

XANDER
I want all that... (Patting the GTO.) In there.

Not bad stuff, a little Bondesque, but it's not "Christmas only came once a year". The plot also has it's share of twists and turns, almost like a noir flick or other spy films. It's not like blind siding revelations or anything, but it adds a grey matter to the usual WHITE VS. BLACK. Overall, I think Wilkes has a smart script. Cliche at times, it's going to be entertaining none the less. It's not difficult to connect point A with point B, but the ride is what you're paying the fare for.

(Review by Dr. Strangelove.)

www.tnmc.org/dp/0607021.shtml

6/6 - DAVID TWOHY RETURNS TO DIRECT "RIDDICK"; STUDIO PLANS TWO MORE INSTALLMENT

"Pitch Black" writer-director David Twohy will direct that pic's sequel "Riddick," and has committed to two more installments of the saga for Universal and Radar Pictures. Vin Diesel is already set to reprise his role as Riddick, the mysterious antihero whose ability to see in the dark helped him lead a handful of survivors off a planet inhabited by nocturnal killers.

Twohy had not planned to helm "Riddick" which has been in the works for more than a year under the title "The Chronicles of Riddick." Twohy was off directing the Miramax ghost story "Below" and prepping to write and direct an adaptation the Harlan Ellison short story "Demon with a Hand of Glass" for the studio. The continuing appetite for sequels changed his mind.

"I pitched an ambitious treatment for a sequel two years ago and they passed," Twohy said. **"It was only after 'Lord of the Rings' and the new 'Star Wars' that the possibilities here grabbed us. Once we started running with it, everybody fell in love with what we were doing, even the studio. Is everybody planning for three? Yes, they are."**

Sequel drafts were turned in by David Hayter and Akiva Goldsman, but the studio has decided to go with Twohy's original pitch.

"Vin has become a bigger star, and he and I became interested in multiple pictures," said Twohy, who has been mapping out the progression of the multiple sequels with Diesel. **"Vin wanted a franchise and when 'Fast and the Furious' didn't happen for him, we pitched this to the studio and they went for the idea of not just one but up to three followups. We'll give Riddick multiple adversaries on different levels. We think of 'Pitch Black' like 'Mad Max' was to 'Road Warrior,' or 'The Hobbit' was to 'Lord of the Rings.' They were places to find one of your characters, enabling you to take them to different places in subsequent films."**

Diesel's price has risen exponentially since the original "Pitch Black." The number of sequels will be dependent on how bankable "Riddick" proves to be.

"Riddick" will be Twohy's fourth film as a director, a move he made after scripting such films as "The Fugitive," "Waterworld" and "G.I. Jane." He's completed the first draft of "Devil with a Hand of Glass," which was once adapted into an "Outer Limits" episode and has been an influence for many sci-fi films. **"It's a man who thinks he's the least important guy on the planet, finding out he's ... the one who holds the key to humanity's long term survival,"** said Twohy, who's turning over his draft over to his collaborator, Ellison, while he turns to the sequel.

source: Variety

- Harry Potter steals the magic

Warner Home Video's "Harry Potter (news - web sites) and the Sorcerer's Stone" has become the top-grossing first-week rental title of all time, earning an estimated \$19.1 million after five days on video store shelves, according to Video Store magazine research.

The previous rental record holder was Universal Studios Home Video's January release of "The Fast and the Furious," starring Paul Walker and Vin Diesel, which earned an estimated \$18.65 million during its debut week on rental shelves, according to Video Store director of market research Judith McCourt.

(Hollywood Reporter)

full article can be read at [yahoo!](#)

6/4 - First look at the xXx games:

Activision's upcoming Game Boy Advance game based on XXX, the Vin Diesel flick hitting theaters this summer, was on display at the company's booth today(5.22 - K) in extremely early

form.

The game is being developed by Digital Eclipse...the E3 demo featured a playable motorcycle level that looks to be seriously inspired by Electronic Arts' Road Rash series. But the engine Digital Eclipse created is extremely smooth with lots of scaling sprites on-screen. Control needed serious work, but it was definitely well below Alpha stage of development. Activision's screenshots also indicate there will be a lot of side-scrolling action completely with guns blazing and ledge hanging.

This GBA game is being prepped for a Summer release with the movie.

source: [IGN](#)

6/2 - 2002 MTV Movie Awards winners list:

- **Movie:** "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring."
- **Male Performance:** Will Smith, "Ali."
- **Female Performance:** Nicole Kidman, "Moulin Rouge."
-
- **Villain:** Denzel Washington, "Training Day."
- **Comedic Performance:** Reese Witherspoon, "Legally Blonde."
- **Musical Sequence:** "Moulin Rouge."
- **Kiss:** Jason Biggs and Seann William Scott, "American Pie 2."
- **Action Sequence:** "Pearl Harbor."
- **Fight:** "Rush Hour 2."
- **Breakthrough Performance-Male:** Orlando Bloom, "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring."
- **Breakthrough Performance-Female:** Mandy Moore, "A Walk to Remember."

- Further delay on PB2 production

Canadian newspaper, [Vancouver Sun](#) reports: The Chronicles of Riddick: Pitch Black 2, due to shoot here in June, was pushed to August and now is scheduled for an October start. Vin Diesel stars.

5/30- Vin, the hero: little burb from the Star Magazine: (june 4th issue)

Fast and the Furious muscleman Vin Diesel was waiting patiently at the busy checkout line of Trader Joe's market in LA when a loudmouth started griping about the market's service. A lady in line in a wheelchair asked the guy to please calm down, and he had the nerve to say "Oh, it's fine for YOU- you've got a place to sit. Why don't I just cut in front of you!" Outraged, Vin got in the rude dude's face and told him if he didn't shut up, he'd need a wheelchair himself! The jerk took one look at the actor's biceps and hightailed it out of the store.

5/20 - TFATF tops World Stunt Awards with 5 Taurus Awards

the winners are:

Best Driving:

Debbie Evans, Matt Johnston, Mike Justus, Kevin Scott, Tim Trella, Chris Tuck

Best Work with a Vehicle

Mike Justus, Chris Tuck

Best Stunt by a Stuntman

Tim Trella, Chris Tuck

Best Stunt by a Stuntwoman

Debbie Evans

Best Stunt Coordinator and/or 2nd Unit Director in a Feature

Mic Rodgers

for more info pls visit the [World Stunt Awards official homepage](#)

5/17 - xXx video games info

Activision will create "XXX" titles for vidgame consoles from Sony, Nintendo and Microsoft that will bow around the time of the planned sequel in 2004. Games will feature the same characters as the pics but new action and plots. Before the console games hit store shelves, Activision will release a "XXX" title on Nintendo's handheld Game Boy Advance that bows 10 days before the pic. Created by Digital Eclipse Software for a July 30 release, game is an unusual combo title, both a side-scrolling shooter following pic's storyline and a motorcycle stunt game. A number of real-life extreme-sports athletes who make cameos in the film are also in Activision's library of extreme-sports games, and may appear in the "XXX" titles. Deal includes rights to Diesel's likeness, but no deal has been made for him to provide voiceovers.

5/16 - Diesel-fueled salary rise

As a deal to sequelize Revolution's summer entry "XXX" puts Vin Diesel into the rarified ranks of \$20 million per pic players, Universal is in early talks with "Baby Boy" star Tyrese to join Paul Walker in a sequel to "The Fast and the Furious" which Diesel dropped out of. Diesel's "XXX" sequel payday marks a meteoric rise, considering he made about \$2 million for the first "Fast and the Furious," rose to \$10 million on "XXX" and \$12.5 million on "The Chronicles of Riddick." The deal, pre-negotiated by Endeavor and the Firm will bring Diesel a "XXX2" salary of \$20 million against 10% gross, sources said. U, meanwhile, hasn't fixed on a money deal yet with Tyrese, nor has it replaced director Rob Cohen, who exited because he would only do that sequel with both Walker and Diesel.

source: Variety

note: today's Hollywood Reporter lists John Singleton as the possible director of TFATF 2 (K's note - yep, later he got the job.)

5/15 - Flash rumors terminated fast and furious

[Comics2Film](#) checked in with producer Neal Moritz's office about recent rumors regarding The Flash.

A listing on the 4Filmmakers database indicated that Moritz was producing a movie version of DC Comics' The Flash with Rob Cohen directing and Vin Diesel starring.

A representative at Moritz's Original Film told C2F that they know nothing about such a movie and have no idea how their names became attached. Furthermore, they've been in contact with Cohen who is similarly puzzled by the situation.

Moritz, Cohen and Diesel have teamed up in the past on movies like The Fast and the Furious and XXX. We're not sure how the listing came about on 4Filmmakers, but it's looking like a data entry error.

- KGuys merchandice info

National Footwear and Sportswear Retailer Footaction USA Announces New Partnership With Urban Marketing Corporation of America to Market Films Via Footaction Stores -- New Line Cinema and Universal Pictures First in Program

Footaction USA, a national athletic shoe and sportswear retailer, has entered into a partnership with Urban Marketing Corporation of America (UMCA) to market and promote select films in

over 480 Footaction stores throughout the United States. UMCA will work with major and independent film studios, creating marketing campaigns that target Footaction's customer base of 160 million. "The true benefit of this awesome marketing tool is in its ability to deliver the studios' marketing messages to this consumer in a new, engaging, interactive, and trackable way with maximum focused visibility and exposure," notes UMCA President Carl Washington. New Line Cinema and Universal Pictures are the first studios to be marketed through this arrangement, beginning with the films "Knock Around Guys" (starring Vin Diesel) and "Friday After Next" (Ice Cube).

full article can be read at [yahoo!](#)

5/13 - xXx release date moved back to Aug 9th

The Hollywood Reporter - 'XXX' remarks spot Studios show confidence by shifting bow

Their confidence bolstered in part by seeing a first cut of "XXX," Revolution Studios and Sony are shuffling the August release dates for the extreme-sports spy thriller starring Vin Diesel and for Dana Carvey comedy "Master of Disguise."

"XXX" had been skedded to debut Aug. 2 against Mel Gibson starrer "Signs." It will now come out a week later, on Aug. 9. "Master," which had been set for Aug. 16, will now come out Aug. 2.

"We think we can really make an impact with quite a few audiences, male and female, with 'XXX,' " said Jeff Blake, Columbia TriStar Motion Picture Group worldwide distrib and marketing prexy.

"XXX" is produced by Neal Moritz and helmed by Rob Cohen, who directed Diesel in last summer's surprise hit "The Fast and the Furious," which grossed more than \$200 million worldwide. Diesel's character in "XXX" is an extreme-sports athlete recruited by a government agent, played by Samuel L. Jackson, to infiltrate a Russian crime syndicate.

Pic's first teaser trailer played ahead of "Spider-Man" to a strong response, and that and other trailer material will be shown in front of other Sony pics, such as "Men in Black II," along with other big summer tentpoles, such as "Mr. Deeds" and "Minority Report."

Last week, Moritz and Cohen showed "XXX" to Revolution execs, who liked its prospects for broad appeal enough to shift dates, expecting it would move far beyond a narrow teen audience. The Aug. 9 bow should reduce any competition the film would have for the broadest possible audience, and leaves it much of the rest of August to compete against films that weren't designed to be tentpole competitors.

5/09 - Anticipating hit, Revolution revs sequel to 'XXX'

LOS ANGELES (The Hollywood Reporter) --- Revolution Studios is moving forward with a sequel to "XXX," closing deals with helmer Rob Cohen and screenwriter Rich Wilkes to reprise their duties.

The sequel, being referred to as "XXX2," is being targeted for release in summer or Christmas 2004, with Original Film back on board to produce.

The film's star, Vin Diesel, already had a sequel deal in place when he signed on to the original project for a \$10 million price tag and an executive producing credit.

"XXX," due out Aug. 2, follows Xander Cage, an extreme sports athlete/adrenaline junkie recruited by the government to help nab a group of high-powered Russian Mafia members involved in a plan to wreak havoc on the world.

"(Revolution partners) Joe (Roth) and Todd (Garner) saw the film and think that it will have a long and happy future, so they wanted to get a second one going right away,"

Cohen said. **"It's always a risk to bet on future success in this business -- especially in one of the most competitive summers in history -- but sometimes it's good to bet on yourselves."**

There is no plot line for the sequel, but it would mark a third collaboration for Diesel, Cohen and Original Film producer Neal Moritz, who worked together on last year's "The Fast and the Furious." The project also will mark the second franchise for Diesel, who next reprises the role of Riddick in Universal Pictures' sequel to "Pitch Black," "The Chronicles of Riddick," the current draft of which was rewritten by Akiva Goldsman.

Cohen is repped by WMA and Original Films. Wilkes and Diesel are repped by Endeavor. Diesel is additionally repped by the Firm.

- Starz Encore's ACTION channel will present an interview with VD

Starz Encore's ACTION Channel Gets Adrenaline Rush With July Re-Launch. Beginning July 1, the non-stop X-citement ACTION channel will re-launch, complete with a new look, a new logo, a new attitude, new programming packages and two never-before-seen world premieres -- "John Carpenter's Vampires: Los Muertos" starring rocker Jon Bon Jovi and "Soul Assassin" starring Skeet Ulrich.

In July, ACTION will also present exclusive interviews with action stars such as Vin Diesel ("XXX," "The Fast and the Furious"), Jet Li ("Romeo Must Die," "Lethal Weapon 4"), skateboard champion Tony Hawk, and others. "Action Girl," a series of exciting over-the-top action vignettes featuring a Lara Croft-like character will help jump-start the re-launch.

4/30 - PB2 shooting starts in August, Akiva Goldsman is confirmed to rewrite the script

Coming Attractions reports: PB2 sent some location scouts to Vancouver last week to scope out the studio space the film will need shortly. Our source spoke to one of the scouts during their tour of the Bridge Studios and got the chance to ask them about when the film will start shooting. They said the movie is tentatively scheduled to begin principal photography in August 2002, which is a bit of a crunch time for Vin Diesel; he'll be up to his neck with publicity for his new action flick, XXX.

Still, it seems Diesel will be ready to start filming Pitch Black 2 in August, it's just a matter of time and location.

In other Pitch Black news, Oscar-winning screenwriter Akiva Goldsman (A Beautiful Mind, Batman & Robin) has been hired to give the sequel's script a quick rewrite.

4/29 - Diesel and Cohen won't return for TFATF 2

Universal's sequel to the street racing hit "The Fast and the Furious" will not be Diesel-fueled, after all. The studio has broken off talks with Vin Diesel to reprise his role as Dominic Toretto in the film, and the film's original director, Rob Cohen has also been scratched from the starting line. Cohen, who just helmed Diesel in the Revolution summer actioner "XXX," had said he would do the "Fast" sequel only if Diesel was part of the Neal Moritz-produced package.

The film will now be built around Paul Walker's cop character Brian O'Conner, a role he's reprising. Industry buzz indicated that money was the major reason that Diesel is out. But a spokesman for Endeavor, which reps Diesel with the Firm, said, "Financially we all agreed, however it came down to purely a decision to continue with Vin's commitment to 'The Chronicles of Riddick.' "

The Michael Brandt/Derek Haas-scripted "Fast and the Furious 2" will star Walker as a cop stripped of his badge who's recruited to infiltrate the Miami street racing circuit in an effort to redeem himself. Walker will be paid a low- to mid-seven figure salary when shooting begins in October.

full article can be read on [the message board](#)

source: Variety

4/23 - Vin is nominated to BEST MALE PERFORMANCE & BEST ON-SCREEN TEAM awards at MTV Movie Awards 2002

related categories:

BEST MOVIE

Black Hawk Down (Sony Pictures)

The Fast and the Furious (Universal)

Legally Blonde (MGM)

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (New Line Cinema)

Shrek (DreamWorks SKG)

BEST MALE PERFORMANCE

Russell Crowe - A Beautiful Mind (Universal)

Vin Diesel - The Fast and the Furious (Universal)

Josh Hartnett - Pearl Harbor (Touchstone / Disney)

Will Smith - Ali (Sony)

Elijah Wood - The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring

(New Line Cinema)

BEST ON-SCREEN TEAM

The Fast and the Furious (Universal) - Vin Diesel and Paul Walker

Ocean's Eleven (Warner Bros.) - Casey Affleck, Scott Caan, Don Cheadle, George Clooney, Matt Damon, Elliott Gould, Eddie Jemison, Bernie Mac, Brad Pitt, Shaobo Qin and Carl Reiner

Rush Hour 2 (New Line Cinema) - Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker

Shrek (DreamWorks SKG) - Cameron Diaz, Eddie Murphy and Mike Myers

Zoolander (Paramount) - Ben Stiller and Owen Wilson

BREAKTHROUGH MALE

Orlando Bloom - The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (New Line Cinema)

DMX - Exit Wounds (Warner Bros.)

Colin Hanks - Orange County (Paramount)

Daniel Radcliffe - Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (Warner Bros.)

Paul Walker - The Fast and the Furious (Universal)

BEST ACTION SEQUENCE

Black Hawk Down (Sony Pictures) - First Helicopter Crash

The Fast and the Furious (Universal) - The Final Race

The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of The Ring (New Line Cinema) - The Cave Tomb Battle

Pearl Harbor (Touchstone/Disney) - The Attack Scene

4/22 - Vin spotted with producer Jerry Bruckheimer

pagesix.com writes: Sightings

LUKE Wilson, who was in town for Michael Milken's annual golf tournament, Vin Diesel and Jerry Bruckheimer chatting at Light in Las Vegas . . . SIR Ian McKellen, in an open-necked denim shirt, dining with his much younger Next model boyfriend at Domicile as John Waters and fitness guru Radu chowed at nearby tables.

more info on Light: <http://www.vegas.com/nightclubs/light/>

- World Stunt Award 2002 nominations:

TFATF is nominated in the following categories:

- **Best driving**
Truck hijacking (daytime). Black sports car drives in front of, and then swerves under, the semi-truck at high speed. It comes out the other side, is bumped by the semi, hits a pipe ramp and lands in the desert.
 - **Best Stunt by a Stuntman**
Black street rod pipe ramps over the front end of a semi and does a 360 in mid-air as an orange street rod drives underneath.
 - **Best Stunt by a Stuntwoman**
Truck hijacking (daytime). Black sports car drives in front of, and then swerves under, the semi-truck at high speed. It comes out the other side, is bumped by the semi, hits a pipe ramp and lands in the desert.
 - **Best Stunt Coordinator and/or Best Second Unit Director: Feature Film**
 - **Best Work with a Vehicle**
 1. Stunt performer transfers from sports car to the side of the semi truck to save second stuntman who is tied to the truck. Jumper unties second performer and they both jump back into the still-moving sports car.
 2. Motorcycle chase between two cars and two motorcycles segment is where the motorcycle is pushed off of the cliff by one of the cars. Stuntman falls over motorcycle handlebars and is thrown over cliff.
 - **Hardest Hit**
Stuntman climbs from car to the grill of the semi then swings from front of semi around to the side of semi.
-

Second Annual World Stunt Awards 2002 will be presented on May 19, 2002

for the other nominees & more info pls visit the official [World Stunt Awards homepage](#)

4/18- Vin lobbying hard to land a part in King Conan: Crown of Iron

[IGN FilmForce](#) has learned the latest about the next Conan flick!

April 17, 2002 - A source close to the production of King Conan: Crown of Iron has advised IGN FilmForce that the Warner Brothers-based sequel is indeed on "the fast track" as previous reports have suggested. Writer-director John Milius has recently completed his rewrite of the screenplay; it is expected to be landing on studio executives' desks soon. Our source claims the script's finale offers some of Milius' best writing yet.

FilmForce has also learned that there is a mutual interest in casting Vin Diesel (The Fast and the Furious, xXx) as Conan's estranged son, Kon, in the epic sequel. You may recall that one of the producers of King Conan recently revealed that Diesel was on their wish list for the role (replacing "The Rock" as the frontrunner for it). Now IGN FilmForce has learned that Diesel himself is "lobbying" hard to land the part.

Our source also advised us that the role of Kon has been greatly expanded since the screenplay draft that was reviewed here awhile back. Kon will be more talky than he was depicted before.

With a revised script completed and a rising star apparently eager to join the production, chances of King Conan being Arnold Schwarzenegger's next project after Terminator 3 are looking better and better.

-- Stax

4/12 - Vin's mentioned in Will and Grace

DHKMcEwan writes: FYI - "Anyone who watches the NBC show "Will and Grace", Vin's name was mentioned in the show today! One of the main characters, Jack (a flamboyant gay man), was registering for a basketball tournament. He said something to the effect of:
"I believe I'm registered under Vin Diesel... And if I'm not under Vin Diesel, then any cute guy will do."

The episode is called "He shoots, they snore". Quite the kick to hear his name out of the blue! "

4/10 - Vin's demanding 20 M\$ for the xXx and TFATF sequels

quote from Premiere article:

95. VIN DIESEL

Rank Last Year: Not ranked. **Title:** Speed Racer.

Status Report: Hit the off-ramp from The Fast and the Furious at top velocity. Banked \$10 million and reteamed with Furious director Rob Cohen for XXX. Signed \$11.5 million deal for Pitch Black 2: The Chronicles of Riddick. Demanding \$20 million for Furious sequel; getting it for XXX 2. Refuses to divulge his real name or ethnic origin.

Yes It's True: After meeting Diesel on the Saving Private Ryan set, Tom Hanks's son wrote an essay about him for school titled "My Hero."

4/8 - xXx will promote Adrenaline Rush energy drink

SoBe has enlisted actor Vin Diesel, star of the upcoming "XXX," and Mad Magazine for summer promotions with attitude.

The tie-in with "XXX," which hits theaters Aug. 2, includes Adrenaline Rush energy drink product placement in the film and radio promotions and a sweepstakes where consumers can win a trip to Prague (where "XXX" was filmed) and a Suzuki motorcycle. Supporting print ads will break in Maxim, where Adrenaline Rush, which is looking for a piece of category leader Red Bull, is currently running its "Kick ass taste" campaign.

full article can be read [here](#)

4/5 - Vin is ranked #95 on Premiere magazine's power list

AOL Time Warner's Richard Parsons and Robert Pittman grab the gold from last year's No. 1 winner Viacom's Sumner Redstone (now at no. 2) on Premiere magazine's 2002 Power List of the 100 most influential people in Hollywood. Tom Hanks (no. 15), Tom Cruise (no. 16), Mel Gibson (no. 17) and Julia Roberts (no. 1) are the top four most bankable movie stars. Likable star George Clooney (no. 27) jumps ahead of Russell Crowe (no. 28.) Newly ranked actors Nicole Kidman (no. 83), Vin Diesel (no. 95) and Reese Witherspoon (no. 96) join the list and edge out Meg Ryan, Robin Williams and Martin Lawrence. Premiere's May issue, featuring the 2002 Power List, hits newsstands today.

-
95. Vin Diesel (not ranked last year)
 96. Reese Witherspoon (not ranked last year)
 97. Renée Zellweger (not ranked last year)
 98. Neal H. Moritz (not ranked last year)
 99. Andrew Lazar (not ranked last year)
 100. Marc Shmuger (not ranked last year)
-

- Vin in Conan 3?

From Entertainment Weekly:

Don't think creaky franchise. Think "The Matrix"'s Wachowski brothers, who will exec-produce with Jon Jashni. The latter says writer-director John Milius (who helmed the 1982 original) will use Arnold's age to make Crown "Lear-like." As in the book series, Conan passes the torch to his son, Kon, a role Jashni had wanted The Rock to play before Universal greenlit the similarly sandy battle pic "The Scorpion King." Now Jashni's eyeing Vin Diesel, among others, and promises "a blood-drenched third act.... We're getting back to the fundamentals." And so, it seems, is Arnold.

4/4 - American stuntman filming Rob Cohen thriller dies in downtown Prague accident

PRAGUE, Czech Republic - Harry O'Connor, an American stuntman died while shooting the American action film TripleX. The tragedy happened an hour after noon at Palacky Bridge. The stuntman didn't manage to free himself from the boat that he was hooked to, while paragliding. His body smashed into the Bridge. Police and an ambulance immediately reached the film sight. "We tried to resuscitate him, but it was too late." Said Jan Skoula.

One of the witnesses said, that the scene had gone wrong on the stuntman's second try. "In the first try the stuntman safely landed in water as he planned. But in the second try he was too high and he didn't manage to unhook himself. That's why he landed in the Bridge." Said the witness.

One of the film's crew said. "It's really bad luck, because we have finished filming and even the evening party is behind us. There are only a couple of scenes being filmed now-- to make sure there's enough material." He said. He added that the Americans are leaving Prague next week.

Harry O'Connor was a retired former Navy SEAL he was currently enjoying his second profession as a Movie and Television Aerial / Stunt Coordinator. He had an extensive background and experience in the film and television industry including serving as the aerial skydiving coordinator for the CHARLIE'S ANGELS motion picture as well as performing stunts on THE PERFECT STORM and 1998's SOLDIER. Skydiving and flying had been his passions all Harry's life. He also loved backyard astronomy and captured many beautiful images digitally from his homebased observatory. He loved to share these images with anyone interested thru his website: SEAL Astronomy STUNTS He leaves behind a wife and two children.

idnes.cz, Ain't it cool news,

NEWS ARCHIVE 2002 July - Sept

9/21 - Special Edition Iron Giant DVD coming soon

Chud.com reports:

The DigitalBits has announced that we should look for The Iron Giant: Special Edition to be released in late 2002/early 2003.

The Iron Giant: Special Edition DVD is finally in production and is moving ahead. There are three possible deleted scenes that could appear on the disc:

- 1. Another scene of Hogarth at school.*
- 2. A talk about the death of Hogarth's dad after the 'Power Station' scene between Hogarth and his mother in the truck.*
- 3. A nightmare that the Giant has that gives clues to his origin and the bump on his head.*

The Special Edition DVD should be released before 2003. Documentaries and commentaries are also expected.

9/17 - Vinny, the powerful

just got the news that Vin made Details' list of the "50 Most Influential Men Under 37". The list is the part of the mag's first-ever October "Power" issue, on stands from September 24th! (ET)

KGuys site updates

big update at the official KGuys site: new pics, vid clips and downloads. click [here](#) to visit the site!

UK xXx premiere info

One of the lovely ladies on the VinDieselUKClub has managed to find the info for the UK XXX premier :o) Details are below:

Date: Monday 14th October

Place: Odeon Cinema (I believe it's the Leicester Square Cinema - will keep you posted)

She also spoke to a member of staff at the theatre, and they confirmed that Vin & Rob Cohen will be attending, not sure about any of the other actors.

thanks to Cheryl

People's Best & Worst Dressed & 44th on Face Magazien's 100 most powerful people in fashion list

Vin's 44th "The Prada suit he wore to the MTV Movie Awards in L. A. in June said "serious actor," says Vin Diesel's stylist Linda Medvene, but his Skechers boots, she adds, "said, 'I'm still Vin Diesel.'" (People 9/23)

The world's next bellbar-buffed action hero. Like a sexy Bruce Springsteen cross-bred with Dr Evil's gym-going younger brother, Vin's role in XXX will see him go clear and a cut-off sweat-top revival sweep the Western world. (The Face)

9/12 This man's dominion? El Diablo's name has changed...

Dark Horizons reports: The Vin Diesel project has finally got a name - "This Man's Dominion". The muscle-bound actor confirmed that title in Sydney last week and revealed "out of all the films I've done, this was the character that was the hardest to shake. That was because the character lived in the reality of just having his wife murdered due to his occupation, it was a difficult shoot to do. Unlike other actors its...harder for me to leave the character on-set after they say wrap, so if its a melancholy character with a deep introspective side - I usually run the risk of spending that whole production time in that reality to some degree".

9/9 Heroic Vin in Fire Thriller

Vin Diesel has been hailed a real-life hero by a lucky dad after the XXX star stopped to save a family from a car inferno. The action man pulled his motorcycle to the side of Hollywood's 101 freeway after a vehicle in front of him toppled over and burst into flames. Quick-thinking Diesel yanked the kids out of the backseat and then urged their dad to crawl out of the passenger door, while trying to keep the panicking driver calm. The whole family managed to escape the flaming vehicle before it was engulfed by flames.

source: [IMDB](#)

thanks to Cindy & Leigh Ann

My El Diablo review

I managed to see El Diablo, and for your entertainment, here's my review of this upcoming VD movie, which is his best film since Pitch Black:

Shortly before Vin Diesel re-invented the secret-agent movie genre, he made a good old type action movie, originally called 'Diablo'. Locked up in a box for a year by now, the 'Untitled Vin

Diesel Project' hopes for a spring 2003 release.

Diablo was much hyped in 2000, when New Line Cinema bought the script for 750 000\$ and set up contracts for not just one, but two movies. Last year though they were sued by Blizzard Inc, the owners of the popular computer game, Diablo and had to change the movie's title. Little was heard about this Vin Diesel movie then, but with his meteoric rise with xXx, Diablo has a better chance at the box office now than it did a year ago.

In this movie Vin stars as Sean Vetter, DEA agent and ordinary family man. He spent the last 7 years hunting down a drug lord, named Manu and shared his nice house on the beach with his wife, Stacy (Jacqueline Obradors). Diablo starts with the capture of Manu, and continues with a few surprisingly sweet scenes between Sean and Stacy. (Ladies, beware, they dance on the beach!)

Their idyll is interrupted by a few armed guys, who break into the Vetter house and manages to kill Stacy and put Sean into a coma. (Paper tissues will come in handy). After recovering, Sean is determined to find and punish the murderers of his wife, and not afraid of breaking the rules and co-operate with the imprisoned Manu. Soon they learn that the drug business was taken over by a mysterious guy known as Diablo and the seemingly sleeping action movie comes alive.

Diablo is a mixture of graphic and violent movies, as Se7en and drug movies, as Blow, and it never lets its audience get bored, delivering some first class action sequences and wise-ass dialogues. My favourite scenes were the ones that involved a character named 'Hollywood Jack' Slayton (T.O.). He's the guy who finally leads Sean to Diablo, and the two characters interaction delivers the funniest moments of the movie.

Darker, slower, bloodier, and more adult oriented than the latest Rob Cohen action flicks (TFATF, xXx), director F. Gary Gray delivers another interesting thriller after 'The Negotiator'. Diablo might not cross the 100 000 000\$ limit, and no sequels will be made, but Vin Diesel gives his best performance since Pitch Black. Also this movie marks the spot for Timothy Olyphant, the up-and-coming actor, and we'll hear a lot about him in the future.

score: 7/10; Vin Diesel: 10/10

Kriszta

Vin doing a musical with Nicole Kidman?

ACTION man Vin Diesel is a song and dance man at heart. The Hollywood hunk can speed climb, snowboard, motocross and, in his latest movie, ride a missile. Give him a pair of tap shoes and, look out, Fred Astaire! "Nicole Kidman and I are talking about doing a remake of Guys and Dolls," Diesel said. "This is something I have always wanted to do. She would be the perfect person for it." To prove his point, Diesel gave The Sunday Telegraph an impromptu tap dance performance and then sang a few lines of America The Beautiful.

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

Guys and dolls (1955): In New York, a gambler is challenged to take a cold female missionary to Havana, but they fall for each other, and the bet has a hidden motive to finance a crap game.

[for more details, visit IMDb](#)

xXx BO list: weekend estimates: xXx is No#5

T W	Title	Weekend Gross	Total Gross
1	SwimFan	\$12,430,000	\$12,430,000

2	My Big Fat Greek Wedding	\$10,592,000	\$96,045,000
3	City by the Sea	\$9,140,000	\$9,140,000
4	Signs	\$8,000,000	\$205,800,000
5	XXX	\$5,500,000	\$131,000,000
6	Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams	\$3,000,000	\$73,900,000
7	Austin Powers in Goldmember	\$2,760,000	\$207,100,000
8	fear dot com	\$2,345,000	\$10,538,000
9	Spider-Man / Men in Black II	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
10	Blue Crush	\$1,808,000	\$37,226,000

data taken from boxofficemojo.com

9/6/2002 - Sweet Emotions

If you happen to be a member of our message board, you might read this post by Zappaman: he posted a review of a Rich Wilkes script called Sweet Emotions. This romantic comedy could be an excellent career move for Vin. [click here to read the post](#) and [vote](#) if you would like to see Vin in the movie.

Happened to get a hold of a script that VIN is rumored to be interested in called SWEET EMOTION. It's a buddy comedy about a tough undercover cop(VIN of course) who gets a whammy put on him that makes him overly emotional at the wrong moments. Like crying uncontrollably at a wedding when he's supposed to be cool and fit in with the other tough guys. Also, he has a very funny sidekick. THIS MOVIE IS HILARIOUS AND PERFECT FOR VIN!!! I hope that he actually does this comedy and shows everyone what he's made of. Oh, yeah, it was written by the writer of XXX, so I guess that's how VIN got involved.

"The Booster" news

-- BOOST UP Morgan Freeman, who will begin filming George Armitage's adaptation of Elmore Leonard's The Big Bounce this fall, has attached himself to The Booster, a heist film written by Sheldon Turner and adapted from Eugene Izzie's 1989 novel about two legendary thieves who come out of retirement to rob Chicago's Sears Tower. Both Jan De Bont (Speed) and Mimi Leder (Deep Impact) had previously expressed interest in directing the Intermedia project, but Die Hard's John McTiernan (who recently remade Rollerball) has won the gig. Freeman will be playing the older thief; Vin Diesel, who we hear is circling a Conan the Barbarian remake, is being courted to take on the role of his younger partner. Turner also has a project at Sony called 52 Blocks, a fight movie in the vein of an urban Karate Kid, to which Wesley Snipes is loosely attached.

[Reel World](#) / Entertainment Weekly

9/5/2002 - PB2 budget is huge: 140 000 000\$

xXx has premiered in Oz, and our Vin revealed something pretty cool: the budget of Pitch Black 2 is 140 000 000\$. In case it's true, this film is going to be THE movie. The evil twin of Star Wars:)

[Oh XXX! Vin's about to shoot off](#)

Vin Diesel, the star and producer of The Chronicles of Riddick, said yesterday he wanted to make the \$US140 million (\$257.3 million) film in Queensland.

This was where the star of The Fast and The Furious and XXX largely shot Pitch Black opposite Radha Mitchell. But it seemed like the Universal Pictures film was bound for Vancouver.

"I think I've told too many people how great it is to shoot in Australia. Now the studio is telling me there are not enough crews in Australia - they're all taken - which is weird," he said.

8/31/2002 - VX site update

Webmistress's note,

many VinXperience pages have been updated today. The [Vin FAQ](#) was re-written, new title added to the [filmography page](#), the [jacket story](#) has been updated. Close to 40-40 new Vin interviews and xXx related articles can be found on the [Vinterviews](#) and [xXx articles pages](#). A [Box Office page for xXx](#) and the [xXx2 movie page](#) was created. Updated the [Vin Diesel games](#) page with the Torpedo game, the [links](#) and added the latest bday submissions to the [calendar](#).

The Image Gallery has been merged with VD's Unofficial Swedish Site's Gallery. From now the photos, scans, movie stills can be found @ [Diesel Driven](#). Ms Mephisto also provided the new banner for this site.

Pls still send me the new Vin images, but if you have any photo related question, contact Ms Mephisto. We do not claim any of the images stored at DD, unless its marked otherwise, but remote image linking is forbidden. That's called bandwidth theft, and we'll do our best to protect the site.

When I altered the FAQ pages, took off the question submission feature. I got tired of all the question about Vin's girlfriends and phone number. Pls take noted, that this is just a fansite, and I am not/I do not know Vin Diesel. All the info I know about Vin is on this site, and (with except for the basic factoids in the FAQ), I won't turn this site to be a tabloid.

Emails submitting new info, images, site remarks, broken URL warnings are still welcomed, I even encourage you to contact me, but no spam mail/chain mails pls!

thank you,

Kriszta

Diesel & Freeman to star in The Booster?

According to Entertainment Weekly - 9/6/02 issue, Reel World page 56 - Vin is being courted to take the lead with Morgan Freeman in "The Booster", a heist flick about 2 legendary thieves who come out of retirement to rob Chicago's Sears Tower. It is adapted from Eugene Izzi's 1989 novel and will be directed by "Die Hard's" John McTiernan. EW also reports that Vin is still circling a "Conan the Barbarian" remake. A good full- length photo of Vin (head to toe) accompanies the paragraph. In the photo, Vin has on a black suit and a black shirt and he is smiling while using both hands to button the top button on the shirt. Caption next to the photo : "Vin-Vin Situation Everybody wants Diesel power."

8/30/2002 - Q+A with George Zakk and a Women.com groupie award nomination for this site!

5 questions for George Zakk

With the help of Robert @ [Speedmonkey.net](#) I managed to ask a few questions from George

Zakk, executive producer of xXx & Vin Diesel's production partner at One Race Pics.

Is anyone in talks to direct Hannibal? A UK newspaper has recently mentioned Ridley Scott's name.

Don't have a director on Hannibal, I'll have an answer in the coming weeks.

Will be ever Strays released on DVD/VHS?

Strays will be out on VHS and DVD soon we are putting the Music as we speak.

Can you tell us anything about the Pitch Black sequel?

The Chronicles of Riddick is the title of the Trilogy inspired by the Character of Riddick from Pitch Black.

Anyone else who signed to play in this sequel?

No casting news yet.

Will Rob Cohen direct the xXx sequels, or they also look after other possible directors? did Vin sign / does he consider to sign the contract for the 3rd movie (as it was reported online last week)?

Rob Cohen is doing XXX2 (Triple X Squared). They haven't talked about a third yet. We need to do the second first.

thanks to Robert

Women.com groupie award nomination for this site!

Yesterday night I got a nice email from Joelle Klein, Director, Women.com. According to her email, VinXperience has been nominated for their Women.com Groupie Award, as one of the best VD fansite.

Voting ends September 27th. The site with the most votes will be awarded the Women.com Groupie Award icon to display on their site.

Pls visit Women.com to vote and help VX to be the best Vin Diesel fansite:

<http://www.women.com>

Thanks in advance,

Kriszta

New Vin D game is online!

following the tradition of the popular VD games, VinTris and MultiVin, Zszuzsi, the programmer has done a new game called TorpedoXXX.

[click here to download the game](#)

Dumb Villains Abound in 'Xxx' Game

By Gene Emery

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (Reuters) - As someone without much skill at playing arcade games, I have a lot to be thankful for in "xXx" (pronounced Triple-X), the \$35 GameBoy Advance title based on the action movie starring Vin Diesel as a tattooed renegade who reluctantly becomes a U.S. secret agent.

I'm thankful the bad guys in this game don't have enough brains to figure out they should fire upwards when I'm trying to escape by climbing a ladder. And, I'm thankful they're too dumb to aim down when I'm crouching directly in front of them.

I'm also glad that the game has an odd definition of "kill." Who would have thought that shooting someone in the foot three times would be enough to mortally wound them?

Thanks to such quirks, I was able to get through a third of "xXx" in just a few hours. I just had to crouch so the bullets could whiz over my head. Then I could send the various dirtbags to their dirtnaps with a few shots to the lower extremities.

Fortunately, my own legs weren't as vulnerable. I learned this because I kept stepping on land mines scattered across the terrain -- in part because the GameBoy Advance screen made it hard to see the tiny flashing lights that signified the explosives. I had my legs blown out from me so many times I'm surprised I didn't end up the height of Mini-Me.

Thus, if you judge a game based on realism, "xXx" is pretty, well, lame. (You could say the same for the incredibly improbable stunts in the movie.) Nevertheless, the game got me hooked enough to stick around for the higher levels, when the bad guys suddenly began making my life difficult by coming at me with bullet-proof shields.

Don't look for too many other similarities between the movie and this Activision game.

The film spends a lot of time turning xXx into a secret agent. The game ignores that aspect.

The movie focuses on xXx's attempt to infiltrate an organization that encourages anarchy (an oxymoron, if you think about it) and plans to use a solar-powered speedboat to release a chemical warfare agent to wipe out entire cities. The game has some missiles that need to be deactivated, plus a lot of ladder-climbing, jumping between platforms, and an occasional motorcycle ride, but the plot bears few similarities to the on-screen experience.

It's standard side-scrolling arcade fare, where any hero could have been substituted. But it's good for killing a few hours if you have some spare time on your hands.

source: [Yahoo!](#)

xXx will be screened @ Deauville Film Festival (France)

movie is listed to play on 22.30 Saturday, Sept 7th
for more info, pls visit [the official festival webpage](#)

08/26/2002 - despite the good signs, xXx falls back to the second place

This Wk	Title	Weekend Gross	Cumulative Gross
1	Signs	\$14,360,000	\$173,200,000
2	XXX	\$13,700,000	\$106,700,000
3	Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams	\$7,800,000	\$58,525,337
4	My Big Fat Greek Wedding	\$7,578,294	\$64,007,182
5	Blue Crush	\$6,500,000	\$26,400,000
6	Serving Sara	\$6,075,000	\$6,075,000
7	Austin Powers in Goldmember	\$5,625,000	\$193,958,000
8	Undisputed	\$4,700,000	\$4,700,000
9	S1m0ne	\$4,050,000	\$4,050,000
10	Blood Work	\$2,860,000	\$20,228,000

source: [yahoo! movies](#)

Meanwhile all over the world...

"XXX" marked the spot atop the B.O. in Southeast Asia as the Sony/Revolution Studios' actioner began its foreign excursion over the weekend.

Vin Diesel vehicle "XXX" fetched an estimated \$400,000 on 38 screens in Singapore and \$300,000 on 46 in Malaysia, including sneaks. That beat the bows of "Vertical Limit" in both territories and in Malaysia it was comparable with "The Matrix," Sony reported Sunday.

The Rob Cohen-helmed pic wasn't quite as potent in Hong Kong, mustering roughly \$275,000 on 36, good enough to be No. 1. In the Philippines, where Sony wasn't able to verify its ranking, "XXX" revved up \$380,000 on 50, on par with "Con Air."

source: [Variety](#)

xXx Dvd coming this fall, release day TBA

[Cinescape.com](#) reports: Mere weeks after it was released to huge crowds in movie theaters, Columbia TriStar Home Entertainment has announced the DVD of XXX will be rolled out sometime this fall. That news comes on the heels of the MEN IN BLACK 2 release just announced for November 26, and the news STUART LITTLE 2 will be coming before Christmas as well.

'Riddick' production delay

[Yahoo! movies / Greg's previews](#) reports: Production is scheduled to start in **December, 2002 in Vancouver** (previously scheduled for April, then August, and then October).

Knockaround Guys will be screened at the Boston Film Festival (September 6-15, 2002)

for more info pls visit the [official home page](#) of the Boston Film Festival

08/24 VX is the best VD site according to USA Today:)

I got a nice email this morning from the webmistress of Profiling Vin Diesel Online: [USA Today](#) posted an article about the best Vin Diesel fansites on the net and VX was featured in the article with a screen capture from the site:

Web community fuels Diesel fire

By Mary Pat Hyland, Gannett News Service

You're not afraid of the dark are you? Vin Diesel obviously isn't, as seen by his role in the cult sci-fi film, Pitch Black. Diesel's first voyage into films was his short autobiopic Multi-Facial, which was made on a \$3,000 budget. The film, based on his own experiences as a multi-racial actor, was accepted for the 1995 Cannes Film Festival. It impressed Steven Spielberg who cast him as Private Carpazo in Saving Private Ryan. Diesel's on-screen presence burns in The Fast and the Furious and the equally fast-paced Boiler Room. This summer, Diesel plays a pumped-up extreme sports athlete turned government spy in the film XXX.

Sites to see

Best bet: VinXperience

[www.vindiesel.info](#)

For those of you who want the facts, you'll find a thorough biography, filmography and interviews here. For those of you who want to drool, you'll find extensive photo galleries.

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

eXtreme payday - 22 M\$ + 3% from the total gross for xXx 3

XXX2 and XXX3 or XXXII and XXXIII? By Filmjerk

How hot is Sony to lock up another potential franchise? We all know by now that Vin Diesel has been offered twenty million for the sequel to his latest film. What you might not know is that Sony wants to keep Vin in the family, and has thrown the Bald One an additional offer:

Twenty two million and three percent of the gross for a third film.

Word out of Culver City says the contracts could be signed any moment now.

thanks to DieselChick

xXx2 Update: Xander in Japan

Wga.org has recently interviewed Rich Wilkes, the scriptwriter of xXx, who has interesting things to say about the sequel:

Now that Vin is a \$20 million dollar player, and an executive producer on 'XXX2,' everybody is a lot more hands-on the sequel. I have my opinions about where I want the character to go, but before I do a thing everybody has to sign off on it," says Wilkes of the process.

Armed with an abiding fascination with Japanese culture -- particularly the samurai and Yakuza gang worlds -- Wilkes reveals he may next send Xander Cage to the land of the rising sun.

*"But since it's a sequel, you're f***ing with the studio's franchise,"* Wilkes notes cannily. *"It's a little more involved the second time around."*

watch clips of Vin's Jay Len, Craig Kilborn, Regis and Kelly and even more tv show appearances

Cali has alerted us that she has uploaded several video clips to her website from all the xXx related Vin tv-show appearances

[click here to visit her site](#)

thanks to Cali @ Vin Video

two new KGuys clips are online

the KGuys webste has been redesigned - again, but at least the release day is still the same and two new movie clips are available, both featuring Vin.

[click here to watch the clips](#) (QuickTime / Windows Media)

08/19/2002 - xXx leads BO list - No#1 film for two weeks!

This Wk	Title	Weekend Gross	Cumulative Gross
1	XXX	\$23,000,000	\$84,900,000
2	Signs	\$19,500,000	\$150,700,000
3	Blue Crush	\$15,200,000	\$15,200,000
4	Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams	\$11,600,000	\$45,688,000
5	Austin Powers in Goldmember	\$8,700,000	\$183,867,000
6	My Big Fat Greek Wedding	\$5,817,276	\$52,894,374

7	Blood Work	\$4,800,000	\$15,302,000
8	Road to Perdition	\$3,800,000	\$90,300,000
9	The Master of Disguise	\$3,300,000	\$30,400,000
10	The Adventures of Pluto Nash	\$2,150,000	\$2,150,000
11	Stuart Little 2	\$1,900,000	\$57,000,000
12	Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat	\$1,670,000	\$15,989,000

- BO Analysis by Hollywood.com

Revolution Studios and Columbia's PG-13 rated action adventure thriller XXX showed strong legs, holding on to first place in its second week with a solid ESTIMATED \$23.0 million (-48%) at 3,388 theaters (+14 theaters; \$6,789 per theater). Its cume is approximately \$84.9 million.

XXX's average per theater was the highest for any film playing in wide release this weekend.

Directed by Rob Cohen and produced by Neal H. Moritz, it stars Vin Diesel, Asia Argento and Marton Csokas.

"Down only 48 percent is one of the best holds of the summer," Sony Pictures Entertainment worldwide marketing & distribution president Jeff Blake said Sunday morning.

"It's a tick better (hold) than even Signs last week (which had dropped 51 percent), which obviously is a good holding picture going forward. It looks like we are, too. And it's a tick better than what Fast and the Furious' drop was, as well (last summer with a 50 percent fall in its second weekend)."

Asked where XXX is heading, Blake replied, "Fast and the Furious is as good a guidebook as any and, as I say, we're tracking better. At the end of 10 days, they had in \$77.8 million and had had a second weekend of \$20 million, down 50 percent, so we're definitely tracking better just about every day so far. They ended up with a very nice total of \$144.5 million. I'd have to say we're setting our sights slightly higher than that. To be honest, as we look ahead there's a lot less to stop us."

Looking ahead, Blake said, "I think, clearly, XXX and Signs are the two pictures emerging out of the summer that are really going to get sampled as the summer winds down and fall begins. We are number one for the second week in a row, joining Spider-Man, Star Wars, Sum of All Fears and Men in Black II, very nice company, as the only pictures to be number one two weeks in a row this summer. And we've got a real shot to be number one three weeks in a row, which nobody has done. Nobody made it three weeks in a row. Spider-Man had (competition from the opening of) Star Wars in week three. And Star Wars had Sum of All Fears.

"I don't share the thought that the opening was anything but terrific, but I think it does make the point that if you can't get open to a big level even though it's a little harder to produce the box car numbers in late summer the advantage is that you can hold for a while if you're a picture that plays. And this picture certainly plays."

08/15/2002 - XXX The 'Thrill-Ride' Of The Summer - the soundtrack is doing gold

Universal Records' gold-selling soundtrack to the summer's hottest movie, Music From and Inspired by XXX, has taken the music world by storm! The CD set comprised of one rock and one hip-hop CD has sold over 76,000 copies its first week in stores placing it squarely at #11 on the Billboard Top 200 and making it the #1 Soundtrack in the country! The record dominated the Soundscan charts scoring the #5 slot on the Alternative, Rap and R&B charts overall, and the #2 in the Hard Music chart overall. The movie, this summer's high-octane, action-packed espionage thrill ride starring Vin Diesel and directed by Rob Cohen ("The Fast And The Furious"), grossed a stunning \$46 million its first weekend in theaters.

source: [PR Newswire / Yahoo!](#)

08/12/2002 - 44 500 000\$ - huge success or big disappointment?

boxofficemojo.com reports:

The PG-13-rated XXX racked up \$44,506,103 at 3,374 theaters, \$1.5 million less than Sony estimated. The \$70 million spy action flick starring Vin Diesel as rebellious-extreme-sports-enthusiast-turned-NSA-agent Xander Cage handily topped the all time best bow of James Bond, the \$35,519,007 posted by 1999's The World is Not Enough.

Last summer, Sony got the ball rolling by plastering the 'XXX' logo on a huge billboard in Hollywood before the script was even written. The hype just snowballed from there to the point that nearly as much was spent to market the picture as was spent to make it. Enough people bought into it to allow XXX to accelerate faster than The Fast and the Furious, Diesel and director Rob Cohen's last movie that prompted all the fuss for their follow-up in the first place. The Point Break-like street racing flick surprised the industry by bagging \$40,089,015 in its first weekend on course to \$144,533,925.

The bow also gives Diesel a commanding advantage over The Rock in the race to inherit Arnold Schwarzenegger's muscle-bound action hero throne. The Rock's first headlining role The Scorpion King conquered April with its \$36,075,875 start at 3,403 sites, but its reign quickly ended with a \$90,450,350 final gross.

XXX won't likely exceed Fast's final gross domestically, but it should make enough to justify the sequel. Thanks to its broader action and international setting, it will most likely outgun Fast's relatively limp \$62 million overseas gross.

Breaking the weekend down, XXX pulled in \$17,311,194 on Friday, fell 12.0% on Saturday to \$15,234,194, and dipped 21.5% to \$11,960,715 on Sunday.

08/11/2002 - Diesel's 'XXX' Tops Box Office

TW	Title	Weekend Gross	Total Gross	Cost*
1	XXX	\$46,000,000	\$46,000,000	\$70 / 50
2	Signs	\$30,000,000	\$118,300,000	\$70 / 40
3	Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams	\$17,000,000	\$25,300,000	\$30 / 30
4	Austin Powers in Goldmember	\$13,070,000	\$167,800,000	\$63 / 50
5	Blood Work	\$7,240,000	\$7,240,000	\$50 / 25
6	Master of Disguise	\$5,100,000	\$23,800,000	\$16 / 32

7	Road to Perdition	\$4,000,000	\$84,100,000	\$80 / 30
8	Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat	\$3,170,000	\$13,200,000	-
9	My Big Fat Greek Wedding	\$3,150,000	\$45,100,000	\$3.5 / 4
10	Stuart Little 2	\$2,700,000	\$53,000,000	\$120 / 40

*= production cost / marketing

data thanks to boxofficemojo.com

Diesel's 'XXX' Explodes at Box Office

Explosions, excitement and extreme sports combined for an excellent box office debut for "XXX," a thriller starring nascent action hero Vin Diesel.

According to studio estimates issued on Sunday, the film grossed \$46 million in its first three days of release in North American movie theaters beginning on Aug. 9.

It sent last weekend's box office champ, the Mel Gibson supernatural drama "Signs," to the No. 2 slot with \$30 million for the weekend.

Two other films debuted in the top 10. The children's adventure "Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams" opened at No. 3 with a solid \$17.0 million for the Friday-to-Sunday period. Actor and director Clint Eastwood's thriller "Blood Work" opened at No. 5 with a disappointing \$7.2 million.

"XXX" stars the muscular, chrome-domed Diesel as a thrill junkie drafted into service as a secret agent who must stop renegade Russians from destroying the world. Samuel L. Jackson co-stars as his hard-nosed boss, and New Zealander Marton Csokas as the chief Russian villain.

The massively hyped film was directed by Rob Cohen, who teamed with Diesel for "The Fast and Furious," which opened to \$40 million in June 2001. The pair will reunite for a "XXX" sequel targeted for a summer 2004 release, said Tom Sherak, a partner at the film's producer, Revolution Studios. Diesel's \$10 million paycheck will double for the sequel, said Sherak.

KIDS DIG "XXX"

About 60 percent of the "XXX" audience was aged under 25, said Jeff Blake, president of worldwide marketing and distribution at Columbia Pictures. Sony Corp (news - web sites). distributes Revolution's films.

With most of the big summer releases out of the way, the aim for the coming weekends is to keep "XXX" at No. 1, Blake and Sherak said. To bring in older viewers, they will tweak the marketing campaign to focus on positive reviews.

Variety

08/10/2002 - xXx friday estimates: \$17,757,000 - according to Boxofficemojo.com

1 XXX \$17,757,000 / NEW

2 SIGNS \$9,318,000 / \$97,582,000

3 SPY KIDS 2: THE ISLAND OF LOST DREAMS \$5,084,000 / \$13,413,000

4 AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER \$4,187,000 / \$158,907,000
5 BLOOD WORK \$2,417,000 / NEW
6 MASTER OF DISGUISE \$1,657,000 / \$20,312,000
7 ROAD TO PERDITION \$1,112,000 / \$81,185,000
8 MARTIN LAWRENCE LIVE: RUNTEL DAT \$992,000 / \$11,009,001
9 MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING \$910,000 / \$42,841,000
10 STUART LITTLE 2 \$735,000 / \$51,061,000

- Kim has sent us the second part of her xXx premiere journal. Enjoy:)

i was standing where all the limos were arriving so i had the best seat in the house. I saw all the celebs come by. One of my favorite moments was when Asia Argento was in her limo. I looked into the limo and saw a girl really dressed up. I saw her looking at me and I started looking at her, then i realized OMG it's her (bitch) I gave her a really mean look (the kind of look you get when you see another girl kissing your man) But then i started waving and said hi. I drew attention from that and a woman asked who was in there, I told her asia was in there and she then asked for her autograph. asia looked so amazed. then another guy who had a pic of her asked and she covered her face. she was stuck in that spot for awhile since traffic was being blocked up.

another great moment was when rachel leigh cook walked by (josie and the pussy cats and all that) we all go so excited but she didn't say hi and just walked away. we were all so shocked and said bitch! then we all started cussing her out saying "you're not that big of a star" "see if I go to your movies anymore" stuff like that it was hilarious.

Some really cool people came up to us and posed for pic like the american idol people, frankie muniz, taye diggs, and david gallagher.

other people that i saw were...

sam jackson, ja rule (who was soooo adorable pimped out in his XXX t- shirt and cap) rachel lee cook, taye diggs, magic johnson, bruce willis, the american idol contestants, frankie muniz, jamie prestly, john salley, rob cohen (who is extremely short), david gallagher, asia argento, johnny knoxville, ryan seacrest, tony hawk. and at leno i saw jay, kevin eubanks, and tweet and others i don't remember, hopefully i got them on my 6 rolls of film!

Vin was super cute, once i saw him get out of the limo (i hope to go! d he wasn't in the same one as asia) he RAN across the street where I was before i moved and went down the street shaking hands. it was a huge wave of screaming...it was incredible. i was getting kind of scared i wasn't going to see him but i did and touched him ahh.

thanks to Kim

full length feature film from Multi-Facial???

Diesel plans to approach Steven Spielberg about helping him make his award-winning short Multi-Facial into a feature film, reports [E! Online](#).

"I don't know what he'll say about it," Diesel shrugs. Check in with him after XXX's first weekend. The 20-minute short, which Diesel wrote, directed and financed, documents his life as a struggling actor in New York, trying to land roles written for many different ethnicities. It caught the director's eye and got Vin cast as the mouthy Italian in Saving Private Ryan.

xXx2 and Hannibal tidbit from [Aint-it-Cool News](#)

Last thursday I was in the Miami XXX junket talking with Vin Diesel and Rob Cohen. A couple of interesting tidbits.

Vin Diesel is gonna play as you already know Hannibal, the African who crossed the Alps riding an army of elephants in order to conquer Rome.

He said that the script is being written by David "Gladiator" Franzoni and he is executive producing the movie as he did in XXX. He's doing the film with Revolution Studios and he hasn't

chosen a director yet. He has a list of three possible big names.

As for the XXX sequel, is called XXX2 (with the "2" as "square") and Rob Cohen is planning to set it in Asia. XXX part 2 will happen in South America, possibly in Argentina because he is a great fan of the country.

Oh! And he said Asia Argento won't be in XXX2

on the contrary - reports FilmForce.IGN.com - Asia Argento has signed for two xXx movies, and she certainly hopes to be in the sequel

08/09/2002 Kim has visited the xXx premiere and the Jay Leno Show. Here comes her phantastic email about the events:

I just got back from a 7 hour drive from L.A. I went down there at first to see him at the premiere. When I found out I was going to be there when he was on Leno I also decided to go to Leno. I woke up yesterday at 2:00 a.m to get to the NBC studio to get tickets at 8 in the morning. I waited in line for tickets for 4 hours, and after I got the tickets I waited in line for the studio audience b/c if u get a ticket u are not guaranteed a ticket. so I waited another 8 hours about 13 hours total in line to get into Jay Leno.

When I finally got into the studio I was in heaven. i was in the second row on the floor. I mean I got to touch Jay's hand and had a perfect view of Vin. When Vin came on I started screaming like a maniac. i waved to him and held up my GQ magazine and he started laughing. He was SOOO Cute. His shoes looked a little funny, they were shoes but really high semi-boots. He looked sooo! much better in person than on tv (but he looked good on tv so...)

Anyway after Leno my friend and I went to the premiere. I saw soo many stars. I'll post another message about that later. but then Vin came out and he did the cutest thing he ran over to the fans and high fived us and shook our hands. When he came over to my section I was screaming hysterically. He looked at me and said thanks for coming and shook my hand. I swear I couldn't let go, i kept holding on. His hands are SOOO Soft and BIG. I TOUCHED HIS HAND, I was 6 inches away from this god. he was so sweet. I'll write more later. I have tons of pics, once i get them developed I will scan them into the computer.

Bit Chat: Vin Diesel in 'XXX' - and the interviewer mentions VX!

Martin:You do know in terms of the fanclubs, that, I don't know if you've ever searched under your name on Google or something. you got Vin Diesel World, The Definitive Vin Diesel Fanclub, VinXperience. Have you ever done a googlesearch on your name?

Vin:A Googlesearch on my own name.. I think we, .. my buddy showed me like 50 sites, some odd sites.

Martin:What did you think of that were you flattered?

Vin:I'm flattered

Martin:.. or were you creeped out?

Vin:No, no, I'm nothing but flattered. I think it's cool and I think many of those who make the sites are very artistic and that they put together some amazing stuff.

click [here](#) for the full interview!

08/02/2002 BREAKTHROUGH PICS: VIN BREAKDANCING IN AN INSTRUCTION BREAK DANCE VIDEO TITLED "BREAKIN IN THE USA" BACK FROM THE OLD '80S

- 5 min clip of the break video is online!

[click here to see the incredible & talented mr 17 years old Vin Diesel!](#)

- info about the Breakdance video

Title = BREAKIN' IN THE U.S.A.

Cat. Number = V5739

Year = 1984

Color/B&W = color

Runtime = 50

Audience = I-S

Description = Presents break dancing taught by the pros from New York's Schuzan Studios. Gives detailed instructions on warming up, dressing right, and dance techniques. Learn the Electric Boogie, Moonwalk, Spin Glide, the Rope, the Wall, the Robot, and more.

taken from [The Southern India Education Center Video Catalog](#)

- Vin to establish trust funds for Harry O'Connor's children

Something You Don't Know About Vin Diesel: After cover stories in Entertainment Weekly and GQ, it might seem like there's nothing left to learn about the fast and furious rise of Vin Diesel. But while working on the Prague set of XXX in the final days of shooting the potential blockbuster, the aerial coordinator and stuntman Harry O'Connor lost his life performing a relatively simple parasailing feat. You may have heard about the tragic accident, but you didn't hear that because he was doubling Diesel at the time, along with Revolution Studios, Vin is establishing trust funds to insure that his three children will be able to attend the college of their dreams.

Anderson Jones's Movie Scoop - [E! Online](#)

08/01/2002 xXx comic book is coming

Dark Horse Comics laid out their plans for the remaining months of 2002 and the coming year Wednesday night at the San Diego Comic Con International Preview Night.

The first quarter of 2003 will see the Dark Horse prequel and sequel to the upcoming xXx (Triple X) film starring Vin Diesel. Along with the "before" and "after" projects, the publisher has plans to publish other xXx projects, starring characters from the film.

07/31 - "El Diablo" release date pushed back

according to [FilmJerk.com](#), there's one more Vin movie delay

Here's what it said:

Untitled Vin Diesel (aka El Dorado) (New Line): Formerly January 10 2003 Wide. Now March 8 2003 Wide.

(note: btw, FilmJerk has it as Dorado, LOL, not me!)

Diesel Teases Riddick Trilogy

Vin Diesel told [SCI FI Wire](#) that he is confirmed for a trilogy of sequels to Pitch Black, the sleeper 2000 SF hit in which Diesel played a convict. The first of the three follow-up movies is titled The Chronicles of Riddick. **"If you're familiar with the [J.R.R.] Tolkien novels, in the same way that Hobbit is prequel to The Lord of the Rings, Pitch Black is a prequel to The**

Chronicles of Riddick [trilogy]," Diesel said in an interview. **None of the three Chronicles will be prequels to Pitch Black, as has been rumored,** Diesel added.

The three films will deal with "the universe that Riddick is involved with," Diesel said. **"It's got this extensive story that [director] David Twohy's putting together. He calls it the evil Star Wars."** Diesel wouldn't reveal any more specific details, but did say why he chose to stick with the Riddick franchise, while turning down further Fast and the Furious movies.

"I always loved the Riddick character, and I thought that the Riddick character spoke to our generation," Diesel said. **"It was one of the first times that I saw an audience root for the convict, and I thought that was interesting, the concept of the audience rooting for a guy who's been prejudged, ruled out and given up on and misrepresented. The idea of us judging this guy, Riddick, by his actions, as opposed to his past, is interesting to me."**

Hannibal scriptwriter found

Only a week or so after Vin Diesel became attached to a project about the life of third century warlord HANNIBAL of Carthage, David Franzoni, one of the scripters of GLADIATOR, has been tapped to pen the script.

Diesel will play the legendary attacker of Rome, who used elephants to cross the Italian alps in a bid to attack Rome from the north, and not from the southern sea as the empire expected.

HANNIBAL is being developed at Revolution Studios, which is about to release the spy flick XXX, and which has already asked for a XXX sequel.

xXx screen count

[Box Office Mojo](#) reports that xXx will open on 2800+ screens next week. Spy Kids 2 will sneak onto 2500+ screens and Blood Work gets 2,200+.

'XXX's' CG stunt

Leave it to home-brewed Hollywood software to handle the hard knocks. In Revolution Studios' upcoming "XXX," which opens Aug. 9, VFX facility Digital Domain used its own proprietary software to make it appear as if Vin Diesel did all his own stunts. The heads of stuntmen, wearing helmets and flame-retardant ski masks while jumping motorcycles over explosive razor wire fences, were replaced by an extremely detailed computer-generated model of Diesel's head and neck. An authentic-looking CG version of the actor's bald pate was possible because the team at DD worked out a new code -- based on computationally brain-racking subsurface scattering techniques (which controlled how light appeared to reflect off his skin) -- to give Diesel's head a realistic glow. DD ended up swapping Diesel's head in more than 40 scenes in which stuntmen parachute, snowboard, airboard and motorcycle through extremes. (Sheigh Crabtree)

taken from [The Hollywood Reporter](#)

07/25 - xXx production notes

*As the Triple-X company came down to the end of four months of hard shooting in Los Angeles and Prague, what was abundantly clear to everyone was how right the chemistry had been between filmmakers and cast. "This was one of the most collaborative and positive experiences I have had on any set and that comes directly from Rob, Neal and Vin," says executive producer Todd Garner. **"Rob and Vin have an incredible relationship,"** notes producer Neal H. Moritz. **"It's almost a father/son thing in a way, with constant give and take. Vin is a dynamic force not only in front of the camera, but also in helping us get the script into shape and molding the character. He knows the character of Xander Cage better than anybody and was really able to get that onto the screen."***

full production note from XanderZone is available [here](#)

xXx soundtrack site goes online

video clips, sound files, pics and many more @ [the official site](#)

xXx Soundtrak Official Online Team

you loved the soundtrack? you want to help to promote it? if you join the [xXx soundtrack official online team](#), you will get Xtra info, and a chance to win autographed posters and tickets to the xXx screenings. [join now](#) to help promote the movie's soundtrack!

07/23 - xXx screening at the 2002 Comic Con festival

Aug 1st: xXx screening

Aug 2nd: 4:00 Columbia Pictures/Revolution Studios: XXX and Tooth Fairy—Last night Sony/Revolution screened XXX (which opens in theaters Aug. 9) for us and today Vin Diesel's co-star (and Maxim's current cover girl) Asia Argento will appear to greet fans and sign autographs. (Fans also know her as legendary horror director Dario Argento's daughter). Also, Emma Caulfield (Anya on Buffy) will be appearing in person to preview her upcoming horror/thriller Tooth Fairy: The Ghost of Matilda Dixon and answer your questions about the film.
Room 20

Ridley Scott to direct Vin's Hannibal ?!

according to news.telegraph.co.uk, non less director, but the Gladiator, Hannibal (the cannibal version) and Black Hawk Down director will lead Vin on elephants straight to Roma:

Two of the biggest names in Hollywood are locked in a battle to film the first modern-day biopic of Hannibal, the Carthaginian general who led his elephants over the Alps into Rome.

Ridley Scott, the British director of Gladiator, is attempting to bring his historical epic to the screen before Denzel Washington, who won this year's Oscar for Best Actor in Training Day.

[...] Now, however, Washington faces being beaten to the big screen by Scott, who has the might of Sony behind his Hannibal project. Scott has signed up America's fastest rising star, Vin Diesel, the brawny and bullish New York actor who charges L10 million a film, for the lead role.

you can read the full article [here](#)

xXx soundtrack preview

listen both soundtracks @ [Getmusic.com](#)

quick links: [rock album](#); [rap album](#)

(Windows Media Player required)

you can be aware of the fact that **I Mother Earth** is still not on this listing, but there's an article in [chartattack.com](#) about IME:

In the interim, IME fans can get their fix via the new Vin Diesel movie XXX. The beefy movie has an equally beefy soundtrack which includes one disc of rock tracks by the likes of Rammstein, Queens Of The Stone Age and, uh, Moby and a rap disc with Mr. Cheeks, Nelly and N.E.R.D. IME appear on the first disc with a brand new song called "Juicy."

07/18/2002 - Starz Encore and Revolution Unveil 'Xtreme Experience of Your Lifetime' Contest and Promotion

/PRNewswire/ -- Starz Encore and Revolution Studios will offer a multifaceted joint promotion and national consumer contest that ties together the premiere of two films starring the newest, hottest action star Vin Diesel -- the August 9 theatrical release of Revolution's "XXX" and the July 27 pay-TV premiere on STARZ! of last summer's box office hit "The Fast and the Furious." Contestants will earn a chance to win a trip for two to the location and a visit to the movie set of the already announced "XXX" sequel, and various other movie related prizes such as

autographed "XXX" scripts, posters, and "XXX" premiums.

Beginning July 15, 2002 through August 17, 2002, Starz Super Pak viewers will see the following:

-- Promotional spots featuring Diesel tagged with contest information directing them to log on to www.starzsuperpak.com to register for the "Xtreme Experience of Your Lifetime Contest";

-- a "XXX" "On the Set" will play immediately following the Saturday premiere of *The Fast and the Furious* at 8:00 p.m. EST on Saturday, July 27 on STARZ!. This 15 minute show includes action packed behind-the-scenes footage and interviews with Diesel (Xander Cage), director Rob Cohen and Samuel L. Jackson (NSA Agent Augustus Gibbons) among others;

-- a short-form "XXX" "In Theaters Now";

-- a "Hollywood One-on-One" hosted by Scott Patrick with interviews featuring Diesel, Jackson and Asia Argento (Yelena);

Knockaround Guys review

a very negative review has showed up on Ain't it Cool News. Its full with spoilers, so i won't post but one quote here, visit [AICN for the full review](#)

Vin Diesel is Vin Diesel, actions speak louder than words and he is all action. He looks like an action star, talks like one and after this summer, he will be one. Only thing that can hurt him is if people see this movie. Stay away.

07/15/2002 Hannibal update

Variety has posted a new article today about Han on the elephants

***Inside Move: Hannibal pic stirs rival Alp hunters
Gentlemen, start your elephants!***

By CLAUDE BRODESSER

They say an elephant never forgets. Hollywood of course, is another matter. Last week's news that Vin Diesel is contemplating a turn playing the Carthaginian general Hannibal for Sony-based Revolution Studios no doubt jogged more than a few executive memories.

Nowhere more so than at Sony's Columbia Pictures, which has been developing its own "Hannibal" with producer Doug Wick for the last five years.

Hannibal, who famously traversed the Alps to attack Rome with a pack of pachyderms in the third century B.C., has proved a tough nut to crack.

Wick has of late been meeting with writers, including William Nicholson, to come up with the right take.

Revolution says it will spend the next year wrestling Ross Leckie's novel "Hannibal" into a script, finding itself in the unusual situation of competing with its own studio backers.

Meanwhile, Fox has spent the last couple of years developing David Klass' "Hannibal" project, which once had the eye of Denzel Washington.

A similar logjam has hit poor Alexander the Great. While Dino De Laurentiis readies his pic on the conquering Macedonian at Universal Pictures, Oliver Stone is developing an "Alexander" pic

at Intermedia Films, Martin Scorsese is developing another with Initial Entertainment Group, and cabler HBO is prepping a fall miniseries .

Whichever studio gets to the "Hannibal" finish line first, legal jousting over the title seems inevitable: Execs half-jokingly point to MGM's 2001 cannibalism thriller of the same name as a potential trouble spot.

Huffed one Sony wag: "Can you imagine MGM's reaction? We'd probably have to call it 'Remember: The Tusk That Shagged Me.' "

07/13 - xXx Is the Sign of the Times for Planes Flying Into Los Angeles

CULVER CITY, July 12 /PRNewswire/ -- XXX is the sign of the times for planes flying into Los Angeles. As jets make their final approach into Los Angeles International Airport, they fly directly over a high profile rooftop featuring a 50,000 square foot logo for the upcoming action adventure film from Revolution Studios and Columbia Pictures, XXX.

This is the first time the landmark Hollywood Park rooftop has been used to promote a major motion picture. Millions of passengers arriving into Los Angeles will fly over the icon, which is also appearing nationwide on billboards, bus sides, trailers, posters and other marketing materials.

The red and black design is 100' high X 500' wide and boldly includes the film's August 9th release date. It took painters more than two weeks and 900 gallons of paint to complete the project.

The XXX rooftop will be seen by inbound travelers for at least two months from July 1 through Labor Day weekend in September.

source: [yahoo!](#) / PR Newswire

more songs on the xXx soundtrack?

after posting up the song list yesterday, Bidon emaled me with an other list, that has 12 songs on the rock album. it was published on the [I Mother Earth](#) webpage on July 9th, detto on the group's [official site](#).

1. Rammstein "Feuer Frei"
2. Drowning Pool "Bodies"
3. Hatebreed "I Will Be Heard"
4. Queens Of The Stone Age "Millionaire"
6. Mushroomhead "Before I Die"
7. Flaw "Get Up Again"
8. Moby "Landing"
9. Gavin Rossdale "Adrenaline"
10. Fermin IV "004"
11. Orbital "Technologique"
12. 4LYN "Me Vs.Me"
13. I Mother Earth "Juicy"

it might happen that they were left out from the final album, as the [PR Newswire](#) article stated: *Universal Records will release Music From and Inspired By XXX, the much-anticipated soundtrack to the upcoming Revolution Studios/Sony Pictures film on August 6. The CD set is comprised of one rock and one hip hop CD, both with 10 tracks.*

however amazon.com only lists 9 songs on the rock album: "Before I die" is missing, too from Mushroomhead.

we'll know more as soon as [the official xXx soundtrac website](#) will go online.

thanks to Bidon

07/12/2002 - xXx Sountrack listings

PR Newswire has posted up **the song lists from the upcoming xXx soundtracks.**

DISC 1: ROCK ALBUM

- 1 **RAMMSTEIN** FEUER FREI
- 2 **DROWNING POOL** BODIES (VRENNA XXX MIX)
- 3 **HATEBREED** I WILL BE HEARD
- 4 **QUEENS OF THE STONE AGE** MILLIONAIRE
- 5 **MUSHROOMHEAD** BEFORE I DIE
- 6 **FLAW** GET UP AGAIN
- 7 **MOBY** LANDING
- 8 **GAVIN ROSSDALE** ADRENALINE
- 9 **FERMIN IV** 004
- 10 **ORBITAL** TECHNOLOGICQUE PARK

DISC 2: HIP HOP ALBUM

- 1 **NELLY** featuring **TOYA** STICK OUT YA WRIST
- 2 **LIL' WAYNE** LOOK AT ME
- 3 **N.E.R.D.** featuring **KELIS & PUSHA T** TRUTH OR DARE
- 4 **PASTOR TROY** featuring **MS. JADE** ARE WE CUTTIN'
- 5 **BIG TYMERS** STILL FLY
- 6 **MACK 10** featuring **ICE CUBE, W.C. & BUTCH CASSIDY** CONNECTED FOR LIFE
- 7 **MR. CHEEKS** featuring **MISSY ELLIOTT & P. DIDDY** LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! (REMIX)
- 8 **POSTABOY** featuring **RASHAD** I'M OKAY
- 9 **DANI STEVENSON** YO, YO, YO
- 10 **JOI** LICK

And where is Vin lately? Having fun on Puff Daddy's party:

PARIS was burning at Sean "Puffy" Combs' party for his Sean John line Tuesday night at Les Bains Douches nightclub. His Diddyness turned up with former fiancée Kim Porter on his arm and posed for pictures with Rick and Kathy Hilton, parents of those high-stepping Hilton sisters. Ma and Pa Hilton danced on a table and threw down shots with a crowd that included Mick Jagger, Tom Ford, Vin Diesel, Eva Herzigova and Karen Mulder. Meanwhile, Anna Wintour, Marjorie Gubelman, Cornelia Guest and Naomi Campbell mingled at the Plaza Athenee's Le Bar.

the first two xXx reviews (from Ain't-it-Cool News)

[review #1](#)

Vin is an extreme athlete who is recruited to be a spy, goes to eastern Europe to fight former Russian soldiers, gets the girl and saves the day. None of that matters, because he does all that in ways cooler than any spy before him could imagine. The Vin makes Bond look like the British priss he is. The Vin makes you want to be a spy, because then you would be a badass snowboarding, skateboarding, skydiving, motorcycle jumping, ass kicking, getting all the girls mother. If you liked "Fast and the Furious" or just thought it was kind of cool to watch, then this is that movie cranked to 11. Go see it, and dig The Vin.

People you know what you are getting here, but it is more fun to watch than anything I've seen this summer, but that PG-13 sucks. You will know what I mean when Vin starts macking on the ladies.

[review #2](#)

Lets start the ball rolling with xXx. Hands down, xXx is FUN. This movie is one hell of a roller coaster ride that'll leave everyone smiling the whole way through, whether it's the AMAZING

action sequences or the hilarious "Arnold" style one-liners (kudos to Vin for realizing that it's between him and the Rock to take Arnolds thrown, and delivering some of the flattest, yet most quotable lines of the year). Now keep in mind this film is not any achievement in cinema, nor does it do anything to further the spy genre, or make any kind of artistic impact on the world. IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO! If you go into this movie for the pure thrill of enjoying the ride you will. The movie doesn't take itself seriously, and neither should the audience.

07/09/2002 Vin stars as Hannibal

Revolution Studios has set Vin Diesel to star as Hannibal, the third century B.C. Carthaginian general who rode an elephant across the Alps to attack Rome. Revolution has acquired screen rights to the Ross Leckie novel "Hannibal" for a film that Diesel and his One Race Prods. partner George Zakk will produce.

[click here](#) to read more

source: Variety

07/07/2002 100 000 hit!!!

today VinXperience has gotten the 100 000th visit:)

and a lil' info for today: xXx will premiere on Aug 5th @ Mann's Village in Westwood at 7:30 pm.

07/04/2002 "Untitled Vin Diesel Project" attacks the cinemas on Jan 10th, 2003.

the other long-time forgotten VD project is on the start line as well, according to Variety. But january is traditionally the award season, so i bet, the former Diablo will be re-scheduled soon to a more prosperous spring date.

07/02/2002 KGuys gets a new release day

this mobster flick has been re-scheduled again, moved up to Oct 11th. according to Comingsoon.net, there will 13 other movies open that day, including Jackie Chan's Tuxedo and Pokemon 4ever
(full article on the message board)

NEWS ARCHIVE 2002 Oct -Dec

12/13 FRIDAY 13th: HAPPY HOLIDAYS - VX GOES TO AN XMAS VACATION

KGuys DVD release day + details

Knockaround Guys is slated to release on February 25, 2003 at a retail price of \$26.95. While this crime caper didn't do very well, it is still getting the special edition treatment. The disc (a DVD-14) is double sided so the pan & scan version can be included on the flipside without the extras.

The features include:

- Widescreen Anamorphic 2.35:1
- Dolby Digital EX and DTS 6.1 ES Soundtracks
- Audio Commentary
- Deleted Scenes
- 2 Theatrical Trailers
- CD-ROM accessible screenplay

source: Corona Test Pattern

xXx region#2 info: big special edition coming

xXx DVD R2 release day: 2003.03.24

According to dvd.index.hu, next to the xXx DVD, there will be a special edition box set, containing The Fast And The Furious and Pitch Black. No prices, or other kind of details are known yet, neither do I know if its only valid to Region#2 (Europe), or the special box will be released in the USA, too.

Vin's no longer involved with the Conan movie, says director

TheArnoldFans.com interviewed John Milius about his involvement with King Conan. **Milius informed the site that, if he does indeed make the film, then he's considering casting wrestler "Triple X" as the titular barbarian's estranged son, Kon. While Milius likes The Rock, he doesn't see him as Kon. Vin Diesel is also no longer under consideration for the role.**

article taken from IGN FilmForce

12/12 Diesel's Dame Night Out

Hollywood superstar Vin Diesel may have a reputation as a hard man - but that doesn't stop him from enjoying the theatre. The XXX hunk was in London and decided to catch a performance of The Breath Of Life starring Dames Judi Dench and Maggie Smith but wasn't offered the VIP treatment. When Diesel attempted to make a low-key entrance to the show via the stage door he was met with a very English dismissal. The doorman said, "Sorry, mate, not even the Queen of England is allowed to come through here, if she's not in the cast." However, the problems at the door did not leave The Fast And The Furious star in a rage and he thoroughly enjoyed the play - especially Dench's critically acclaimed turn. His spokesperson confirmed that he had sent the acting legend a bouquet the very next day and said, "He loved the play."

(IMDb)

Lycos Announces the Most Popular Searches of 2002

The following people, movies and fads had strong showings in 2002. Based on growing search queries, The Lycos 50 predicts these are the ones to watch in 2003: Upcoming movie sequels Matrix Reloaded, X-Men 2 and Terminator 3; R & B singer Beyonce Knowles; actress Jennifer Garner starring in both Alias and Daredevil; high school basketball phenomenon, LeBron James; video games Sims Online and Doom III; Russian lesbian pop duo t.A.T.u. (pronounced "tattoo"); Norwegian actress Kristanna Loken, who will play the evil female cyborg T-X in July's Terminator 3; Nickelodeon kids' TV show "Dora the Explorer"; ABC's "The Bachelorette"; and the wildly popular new kids' toy, Beyblade.

Top 10 Men:

1) Eminem	6) Orlando Bloom
2) Nelly	7) Elvis Presley
3) Osama bin Laden	8) Josh Hartnett
4) Tupac Shakur	9) Vin Diesel
5) Ja Rule	10) Michael Jackson

12/11/2002 Quick update: Different ending to "A Man Apart"?

From Premiere Magazine:

Diesel's Unfinished Business

Why is New Line sitting on his two-year-old film, A Man Apart?

Vin Diesel has proven his action hero mettle, so why is New Line sitting on its two-year-old Diesel starrer, *A Man Apart*? The action flick, about a drug lord named Diablo (Timothy Olyphant) and the DEA agent (Diesel) sent to take him down, was conceived as a franchise, but the studio has bumped the film's release date four times and discarded two titles. (The original title, *Diablo*, inspired a lawsuit from the maker of a identically named video game.)

The main reason for the delay is that, some 18 months after the picture wrapped principal photography, New Line is still wondering if the \$31 million film would benefit from a different ending. But with director F. Gary Gray currently shooting *The Italian Job*, that would mean hiring another helmer (possibly *15 Minutes*'s John Herzfeld) and scheduling a star who's even busier than he was two years ago. Then there's the money: a reshoot would cost the studio an extra \$3.5 to \$5 million. Regardless of what New Line decides to do--tinker or take its chances with what's already in the can--*A Man Apart* is scheduled to hit theaters this April.

12/05/2002 Riddick vs Darth Maul? + Vin Wins VH1 bald award

VH1 Bald Award winner

"What can you say when you're bald and bad and bewildered by such an original award," quipped actor Vin Diesel, honored in the "You Can't Spell Bald Without Bad" category.

more info @ [yahoo](#)

Riddick vs Darth Maul

AICN reports: Hey folks, Harry here... after having his excellent *BELOW* dumped into an overstuffed market, its nice to see David Twohy getting a chance to really unleash a full on balls to the wall hardcore science fiction action adventure film series with *THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK*... Now, the below doesn't mean that Ray Park will be in that film, only that he'll most likely be looked at for a part in the film. I'm dying to get my hands on the script to this project. Hopefully - I'll find it under my Christmas tree... Here ya go...
Hey there Harry! Here's something I hope you find worthy of posting.

Last night I went to the "Meet the Writer" series at the Arclight where the featured film was "The Fugitive" with writer David Twohy. It's amazing how cool and how much fun this film still is after 10 years. Did you know that one of the drafts for the film had Gerard as the bad guy?

*In addition to talking about the featured film they also discussed his upcoming writing/directing effort a semi-sequel to *Pitch Black* - "*The Chronicles of Riddick*". Apparently this one will be more of the action-adventure genre and will sport a much heftier budget. Of course the larger budget is due to Vin Diesel who will be starring once more and of course he's had a few hit films so Universal is willing to plunk down some hard cash on what sounds to be one of their summer flagships with a July 2004 release. Twohy wouldn't go too much into the story other then we'll find out a lot more about Riddick.*

During the break I overheard a conversation between Twohy and someone who sounded like he was a talent rep. The rep was talking to Twohy about how great a fit Sith bad boy Ray Park would be in the film. It even sounded like they had a meeting scheduled with Ray. It'll be interesting to see how the rest of this develops and how this because one of the big movies of Summer 2004.

Hope this is news-worthy and if you do use it please call me:

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Jedi

12/04/2002 Riddick info

Coming Attractions reports: An anonymous insider we know well tells us that the ink is dry on the shooting dates for **The Chronicles of Riddick**. The movie **begins its first day of principal**

photography on April 21, 2003 and is scheduled to wrap filming on August 31, 2003. Filming is still scheduled to take place in Vancouver, Canada. [Name withheld.]

12/03/2002 Spiderman 3 update from ImpactWrestling.com

Also over the weekend, I had reported that Vin Diesel and The Rock were in some sort of a bidding war as to who would play the character Venom in the next Spiderman movie. The word I am getting now is that WWE and The Rocks price was too high and that he was pretty much out of the running.

11/29/2002 Will Vin Diesel take on Spider-Man?

No sooner has shooting begun on the second Spider-Man movie than reports are flying around about casting for the third.

xXx star Vin Diesel and ex-wrestler and Scorpion King star Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson are allegedly fighting it out for the role of evil symbiot Venom.

Christian Bale and Sam Rockwell have been mooted as possibilities for the part of spike-fisted bad boy Carnage.

Marvel comics is believed to have asked director Sam Raimi to use long-time Spidey enemies duo Venom and Carnage in Spider-Man III.

The comic group is anxious that they be lead characters rather than supporting villains.

Spider-Man II, also known as The Amazing Spider-Man, begins shooting early next year. Eight-legged mechanical freak Doctor Octopus provides Spidey's opposition.

more info on venom: spiderfan.org

source: teletext.com

11/19/2002 KGuys final BO results:

only 5 weeks after its theatrical release KGuys ran out from the cinemas on 11/14th, gathering 11,660,180 dollars altogether, which barely covers the production costs. KGuys was held back for more than two years, and the poor reviews didn't help either to promote the film. Noone expected this one to be the next xXx, but guess not I am the only one who is disappointed with these numbers. One movie down - hopefully it won't have any bad effect on Vin's credibility & future career.

Date	Rank	Weeknd Gross	% Change	Theater Count	Average	Gross-to-Date	Week #
Oct 11-13	9	\$5,016,852	-	1,806	\$2,777	\$5,016,852	1
Oct 18-20	13	\$2,455,142	-51.1%	1,806	\$1,359	\$9,411,345	2
Oct 25-27	20	\$808,580	-67.1%	1,304	\$620	\$11,067,255	3
Nov	35	\$161,309	-80.1%	277	\$582	\$11,509,12	4

1-3						7	
Nov 8-10	53	\$55,025	-65.9%	108	\$509	\$11,632,420	5

data courtesy of boxofficemojo.com

11/12/2002 Vin plans to launch his own game company

On a recent teleconference to discuss the impending New Year's Day launch of xXx on DVD, the self-avowed geek announced plans to form **Tigon Games**, his very own videogame company. **"So many people had been approaching me to attach my name to this kind of project lately, I figured the time was right to get out there and do something on my own," says the enigmatic entrepreneur. As for what exactly that "something" encompasses, he promises ongoing developments across every genre for all top console platforms will soon be underway.**

[click here to can read the full interview in](#)

11/08/2002 Vin talks Guys & Dolls & making his own CD

Diesel picks out 'Doll' of his dreams

We know he can carry a couple of bad guys out of a warehouse, but can he carry a tune?

Yes, Vin Diesel is about to sing!

"I'm talking to Nicole Kidman about doing a musical remake of 'Guys and Dolls,' " Diesel said in a Wednesday teleconference to promote the DVD release of "XXX" in December. **"That would be the antithesis of something like 'XXX,' to say the least,"** Diesel said.

GLARE wondered whether Diesel has had much training in musical theater. "I've always loved all kinds of movies," Diesel says. **"I grew up with a father who was heavily into theater arts, and musicals were a big part of it. So, I've always loved musicals."**

But can Vin even sing? **"I don't know about good,"** he said, laughing. **"But I can carry a tune."** As for how close this is to happening, Diesel said, **"Well ... [Kidman's] excited about the idea. So, I think it might happen. I've got a couple of other movies to do first, though."**

Does this mean that Vin Diesel plans to cut a CD? **"No way! I don't want to torture my fans by attempting a singing career,"** he said, laughing. **"I think a musical would be just enough."**

Cindy Pearlman (Chicago Sun-Times)

Vin in Ted's Awful Truth

Vin Diesel and His Oscar-Worthy Other Half are making more than a few high-powered Tinseltown play-uhs quietly chuckle. Apparently, V.D. wants to emote as benevolently as possible in the few-cha; no action-only man is he. "He wants to be the next Tom Hanks!" screamed one half-mil-salaried suit, who took a recent meeting with the XXX star.

"Maybe he can just go do Shakespeare in one movie and get it out of his system, like Keanu," offered another high-powered studio exec who greenlights pics for a living. Oh, how typical for the myopic minds of this avaricious town: Once a guy (or gal) hits it big with a successful genre, the casting powers that be seem to require Seeing Eye pooches to imagine their cash cows in diff roles. How convenient to suddenly forget Mr. D. got his start with edgy, challenging roles in flicks like Strays and Saving Private Ryan.

Even though the Vinner is lined up out the wazoo with ac-shun flickers, including The Chronicles of Riddick and XXX2, he also has the Alps-aspiring character study Hannibal the Conqueror in the works, not to mention (and most interesting to moi) tawks to do a remake of Guys and Dolls with Nicole Kidman. Now, that strut-stretch I'd like to see. Also something more than a few prurient peeps would like to view, no doubt, are...

Ted Casablanca (E!Online)

11/06/2002 Vinnie is nominated to the VH1 "Big in 2002 Awards"

showtime: Sunday, Dec 15th, 2002

I Believe I Can Spy -- nominees include Beyonce Knowles as Foxy Cleopatra in "Goldmember," Eddie Griffin as Undercover Brother in "Undercover Brother," **Vin Diesel as Xander Cage in "XXX,"** Matt Damon as Jason Bourne in "The Bourne Identity," Owen Wilson as Alexander Scott & Eddie Murphy as Kelly Robinson in "I-Spy."

You Can't Spell "Bald" with "Bad" -- nominees include Ari Fleischer, **Vin Diesel**, Shaq, Michael Chiklis, Dr. Evil.

you can cast your vote in the following category:

"MacGyver Would be Proud" Award (Best Use of Props in a Movie)

Remember the time you opened a beer bottle using the bumper of your mom's Volvo? Like that.

Minority Report - Eyeballs used for identification

XXX - Lunch tray Vin Diesel uses to snowboard down a mountain

Bourne Identity - Pen Jason Bourne uses to stab his enemy

My Big Fat Greek Wedding - Windex

Signs - Tin Foil hats worn to ward off alien mind reading

Spiderman - Human spider wrestling costume made from sweat suit and markers

for more details , visit the [VH1 website](#)

Final Domestic XXX BO results

As of 10/27 XXX run out of the cinemas, closing with **\$141,204,016**.

Even XXX opened with 3 more million dollars that TFATF did, this sum of a money is 3 million less TFATF gathered altogether.

On the other side, XXX has reached near 100 000 000\$ worldwide, while TFATF stopped with only appr. 60 000 000\$.

It should have been better, but congrat to the XXX cast&crew:)
They still made an international hit from XXX.

11/04/2002 XXX International Box Office Results

Friday's All Saints Day holiday in parts of Europe had a serendipitous effect on the weekend B.O., in particular paying off for "XXX" and "Red Dragon."

The frame's top earner, Vin Diesel vehicle "XXX," captured an estimated \$12.4 million on 3,725 screens, propelling the foreign come to \$96 million; **expect it to hit \$100 million by Thursday.**

Launching in its last two major markets, the Rob Cohen-helmed actioner nabbed roughly \$2 million on 330 in Italy (ahead of the bows of "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" and "Planet of the Apes")

and \$720,000 on 72 in Belgium (beating recent debutantes "Red Dragon" and "Signs").

Through its third laps, superhero saga has amassed a uniformly strong \$10.8 million in Germany (easing by just 22%), \$14.7 million in the U.K. (down 44%), \$5.6 million in Spain (off 22%, its fall cushioned by All Saints Day) and \$2 million in India. (Variety)

11/01/2002 Our newsletter has a new host!

Due to the recent problems with Bravenet, The newsletter has been moved from Bravenet to YourMailinglistProvider.com. All existing members were added to the new list, so you do not have to do anything, but:

I will send out two newsletters today, one from the old place and one other from the new address. Hopefully you'll get both mails, but if you miss one of the them, or you have already unsubscribed and still got an email, pls contact me or use the form on the [newsletter page](#) to add/removed yourself.

Kriszta

Vin as a puzzle on Wheel Of Fortune

"U know U have made the big time when U R a puzzle on Wheel Of Fortune as our man did tonight :-). Just thoght this would make a cute bit of trivia." thanks to Lillith

10/28 latest Riddick data, and more Vin entries from the Movieline 100 Most list

from Greg's Previews:

Release Date: TBA 2004 (originally announced as aiming for the summer of 2003)

Filming: Production is scheduled to start in **February, 2003** in Vancouver (previously scheduled for April, 2002, then August, then October and then December, 2002; I've been assured the February start date will actually happen .

well, we'll see....

more Movieline Vin

- 36 Most likely to be counting his money right now as you read this: Vin Diesel
- 51 Most in need of on-screen kissing lessons: Vin Diesel
- 97 Most impressive house on MTV's Cribs: Vin Diesel's

taken from Movieline's Fifth Annual Hollywood 100 most

XXX rules the international BO lists 'XXX' seizes first place in 44 territories

Looks like "XXX" finally is accomplishing something that "The Fast and the Furious" failed to do: establish Vin Diesel as a major star overseas.

The super-hero saga seized pole position in 12 markets last week, meaning it's notched No. 1 openings in 44 out of 51 territories thus far (most notably, it bowed in second spot in France and South Korea).

The top-earner in the Oct. 18-20 frame, the Rob Cohen-helmed actioner captured \$18.2 million in 43 countries, and its cume through Oct. 22 vaulted to \$59 million. By Oct. 28, after weekend launches in Japan, Holland and Sweden, it will have eclipsed "The Fast and the Furious" modest \$62.6 million lifetime cume.

The Diesel vehicle charged into the U.K. ahead of "Red Dragon's" debut the prior weekend, as one booker, who noted Sony's strong marketing campaign offset negative reviews, said he

expects the pic to hold stoutly.

(Variety)

10/22/2002 Vin ranked, Vin counted, Vin being envied

Downsizing Denzel

Meet the new, leaner Denzel Washington. "I'm working out now because the fat man was chasing me down," he says in December's issue of Playboy. The "Antwone Fisher Story" director recalls that, as the nominees were called at the last Academy Awards, "I'm there squirming. I'm squirming not because I'm worried about the award but because the suit doesn't fit." Even after two Oscars, he says he's envious of "XXX" star Vin Diesel. "I don't know if [Vin's] a great actor or not," says Denzel. "Who cares? Nobody has asked me to put on tights for one of those superhero movies." Stay hungry, Denzel, maybe they will.

(nydailynews)

hmm Denzel : Hannibal vs Hannibal?

m-Qube Launches a Wireless Marketing Campaign for New Line Cinema's 'Knockaround Guys'

BOSTON, Oct. 22 /PRNewswire/ -- m-Qube, a leading U.S. provider of mobile marketing, launched a short message service (SMS) marketing campaign in the United States in conjunction with the New Line Cinema movie Knockaround Guys, which stars Vin Diesel and John Malkovich. The film debuted in theaters on Friday, October 11, 2002. The interactive text message campaign, which targets the under-25 market, allows movie fans to register a four-person team online and participate in the Knockaround Guys "Bag of Cash" sweepstakes, including interacting with text-message-based trivia quizzes from their mobile phones. The winning teams that answer all three movie related trivia questions correctly qualify for entry to win a \$2500 "Bag of cash" grand prize and a DVD player.

source and full article: [PR Newswire](#)

Movieline 100 Most list: Vin and \$\$\$

MOVIELINE magazine has come out with its fifth annual "100 Most" list, and the winners are:

Most Public Career Suicide: Mike Ovitz

Most in Need of Therapy: Winona Ryder

Most in Need of Hair Plugs: Matt Lauer

Most Likely to Be Wearing White Again Come 2003: Jennifer Lopez

Most in Love With Her Frighteningly Buff Arms: Madonna)

Most Likely Rethinking Her Career Right Now: Rosie O'Donnell

Most Likely to Be Having Sex Right Now As You Read This: Pamela Anderson and Kid Rock

Most Likely to Be Counting His Money Right Now As You Read This: Vin Diesel

Most Convincing Argument to Build a Wall on the Border Between the U.S. and Canada:

Tom Green

Most Anticipated Comeback: Demi Moore

Most Shockingly In-Shape For a 50+ Woman: Susan Sarandon)

Most Sweet Despite Being So Sexy: Salma Hayek

Most Creepy Factoid: Chris Judd and Ben Affleck have the same birthday. There are 87 more, but you get the idea.

two more Vins from the list:

51 Most in need of on-screen kissing lessons: Vin Diesel

97 Most impressive house on MTV's Cries: Vin Diesel's

Vin is #9 on E!'s Sexiest Men in Entertainment

1. Benjamin Bratt

2. Ben Affleck
3. Colin Farrell
4. Brad Pitt
5. Ewan McGregor
6. Enrique Iglesias
7. Rick Fox
8. Hugh Jackman
- 9. Vin Diesel**
10. George Clooney

for the full list, visit [E! Online](#)

'XXX' accelerating o'seas Diesel starrer strong in 12 foreign bows

The fall B.O. revved faster than Vin Diesel last weekend as "XXX" saw turbo-charged bows in 12 markets while "Signs," "Red Dragon" and "The Bourne Identity" energized other territories.

The frame's pacesetter, "XXX" gunned up \$18.2 million from 4,300 engagements in 43 countries, hoisting cume to \$56.2 million. With the pic tracking strongly in Japan ahead of its debut this weekend and Italy, Sweden, Holland and Belgium ahead, Columbia TriStar Intl. senior exec VP Mark Zucker believes **it has a shot at reaching \$150 million from the Sony and Revolution territories combined. (and that means a total BO of 300 000 000\$ combined national and international - Krioszta)**

The Diesel vehicle clocked \$5.3 million on 607 screens in the U.K., including Thursday night sneaks (8% up on "Red Dragon's" debut last weekend); \$4.5 million on 937 in Germany (17% ahead of "Signs" recent entry); and \$2.3 million on 453 in Spain.

Actioner also grabbed pole position in Switzerland (rustling up \$731,000 on 89), Austria (\$726,000 on 116) and India (\$580,000 on 223, where it beat "Men in Black II's" bow).

info taken from Variety

10/17/2002 Ron Howard directing Hannibal?!

Regarding Hannibal, contradicting his earlier words, Vin said to the UK Times, that the Ridley Scott directing Hannibal rumor was untrue. But next week he was going to meet Ron Howard (Apollo 13, a Beautiful Mind):

"But what I'm really excited about," purrs Diesel, "is Hannibal", about the Carthaginian general rather than the cannibal killer. It's been a pet project for years. Diesel has commissioned a screenplay from David Franzoni, who wrote Gladiator, although press reports that Ridley Scott will direct are, he says, "untrue". The producer, Joe Roth, is fielding directors now. "I have a meeting with Ron Howard when I get home. It's going to be amazing. We'll have battles, elephants, Carthage "

Sounds ambitious? Dead right. I'm the most ambitious person you ever met."

also Vin finally verified that his mother was Italian: *Multi-Facial's subject-matter remains close to its maker's heart. "My mother is Italian, and the man who raised me and who I consider my father is African-American. I never knew my biological father. I'm multicultural, neither black nor white," he has said. His refusal to pin down his racial origins has been his protest against racial stereotyping in the film industry. As Multi-Facial's final line has it, "My father was a black actor, but he wanted me to go one step further and be an actor. Just an actor."*

10/15 A Man Apart

Greg's Previews reports that This Man's Dominion/El Dibalo/Diablo got a final (?) title: A Man Apart, and a new release date, April 4th, 2003.

- **[xXx director discusses sequel plots](#)**

Rob Cohen let slip the two possible plots he's considering: "I have two scripts in development right now, One takes place in South East Asia and involves the Malaka Straits pirates and other things that go on from there. The other takes place in Washington DC, where I think our most colourful character will go up against all the grey men in Washington. And I can see mountain-biking sequences on the Capitol dome, things like that where, in a domestic context opposed to an exotic context, Xander gets to shakeup, well, George Bush and all that he represents." (Yahoo! Movies UK and Ireland)

- **[Vin Diesel vs Versace](#)**

London was awash with glitz and glamour on Monday night after two rival parties vied for the best slebs. In the red corner the Victoria and Albert Museum in Kensington with its ultra-trendy Versace exhibition. In the blue corner the Odeon Cinema in Leicester Square with the UK premiere of Vin Diesel's xXx. Knockout And the winner? It's a Versace knockout. (BBC)

Vin's Journey in Rome.

Hy girls!

Alex, your special correspondent from Italy is here.

Ok. What I'm going to tell you is the exact diary of his journey here in Rome and what happened, no gossip, but the true truth! :-)

Wednesday.

Ok. He's arrived here in Rome on Wednesday afternoon at the St. Regis Hotel (a very beautiful one). He did nothing special, just remained in the hotel and have some rest (because of the jack lag). Anyway I only knew he was in Rome on Thursday evening.

[click here to read Alex's real journal, where she gets to meet Mr Diesel!](#)

10/13 KGuys weekend BO estimates: No#9 with \$5,040,000

The Top 12 list, according to [Boxofficemojo.com](#):

T W	Title	Weekend Gross	Theater Count	Averag e	Total Gross
1	Red Dragon	\$17,605,000	3,360	\$5,239	\$63,229,000
2	Sweet Home Alabama	\$14,100,000	3,313	\$4,255	\$84,600,000
3	Brown Sugar	\$11,050,000	1,372	\$8,053	\$11,050,000
4	The Transporter	\$9,150,000	2,572	\$3,557	\$9,150,000
5	My Big Fat Greek Wedding	\$7,870,000	2,016	\$3,903	\$158,370,000
6	The Tuxedo	\$7,040,000	2,985	\$2,358	\$37,030,000
7	White Oleander	\$5,660,000	1,510	\$3,748	\$5,660,000
8	Tuck	\$5,520,000	1,185	\$4,658	\$5,520,000

	Everlasting				
9	Knockaround Guys	\$5,040,000	1,806	\$2,790	\$5,040,000
10	Barbershop	\$4,000,000	1,911	\$2,093	\$65,400,000
11	Jonah: A VeggieTales Movie	\$3,800,000	1,174	\$3,236	\$11,100,000
12	The Rules of Attraction	\$2,400,000	1,430	\$1,678	\$2,400,000
.					
-	Below	\$200,000	168	\$1,190	\$200,000

10/10 Twohy talks Riddick and some KGuys stuff

let's start with the best: **Joblo talked to Twohy** mainly about BELOW, but there's plenty of new info for **THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK** as well. I quote the related parts word by word, but do not miss the full interview either!

How far along are you with the RIDDICK CHRONICLES?

We're in pre-production. The script is finished and I've got my production designer on it. Right now we're calling the series the CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK. We're referring to them now as "C-1," "C-2" and "C-3." I'm plotting all three films as we pre-produce this first film. The reason why it's "Chronicles" and not "Pitch Black 2" is because that would give a false impression of this next film, because not only are we changing genres – the first one was a horror film and this one will be action/adventure/sci-fi – but we're also increasing the scope in such a way that isn't true to the original film as well.

Are you planning to shoot "C-2" and "C-3" simultaneously?

If the first one justifies any follow-ups at all, then yeah, we're thinking of doing 2 and 3 together.

Can you give us a peek at what THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK will be about?

All I can say is that it takes that Riddick character and follows him through multiple worlds as he meets multiple adversaries. There's a lot of theology in it. Even though I'm not a religious guy, I am very interested in religion and why people turn to it. In BELOW I'm interested in why people turn to supernatural explanations when there are more plausible ones. I'm not a great believer in the supernatural either, but I find it fascinating when people turn to it.

You shot PITCH BLACK in Australia. Are you planning to shoot CHRONICLES there, too?

No. We would have gone back, but stage space was a little tight there. So we booked Vancouver and sucked up all of their available stage space, only to find out that Darren's new film, THE FOUNTAIN, went down. He had a lot of stage space in Australia reserved and suddenly in the last two weeks all of that stage space has become available again. I would have loved to go to Australia, but now we're booked into Vancouver, so I don't think there's any chance of switching back at this point.

Have you done any casting yet, other than Vin Diesel?

No.

What is the casting process like for such a big studio film?

A lot of people have a say in casting matters, when you're spending as much money as we are on RIDDICK. So, the studio will their favorite people, the casting director will have her favorite people. The producers – and there are at least three producers I know of – have their favorite people. And they're all represented by different agencies. There are a lot of different interests being represented in the whole casting process, and ultimately you just have to remind yourself and remind the studio that you're not gonna cast anybody that you don't want, because sometimes there's a lot of pressure to cast a given person. But if they're not right for the role, you just say, "Look, I'm the one whose responsibility it is to make a good film, and I can't make a good film without the right actor in the role. So don't force this guy down my throat." So you gotta give them a brushback pitch every once in a while.

Do you have any other projects in mind?

CHRONICLES is going to take me about two years, so I try not to think beyond that. But, I'll tell you, someday I'd really like to fall back and do a drama without one goddamned visual effects shot in it.

Do you get frustrated working with visual effects?

No, I love it. But it's so hugely time-consuming. These visual effects films are like doing two films - two normal films, in terms of the time commitment. "Pitch Black" probably had 225 visual effects shots in it. This film, BELOW, has around 200. THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK will have between 750 and 800 visual effects shots. So, it means a protracted post-production period just to accommodate all that stuff. It'll take six to eight months in post-production just to accommodate all of the special effects. That's a huge amount of time.

full interview available at joblo.com

Twohy gave an other interview to ComingSoon.net as well:

Of course, Twohy has another big genre project in the works, the first in a trilogy of sequels to Pitch Black. About those films, all he could reveal was, "Right now we're saying the series is called 'Chronicles of Riddick'. We're referring to it as C1, C2 and C3. I'm plotting all three films as we pre-produce this first film. And we're in active pre-production. I've got a production designer on it. I've got a whole art department of conceptual artists. The script is in. We are being funded by Universal. It's a big deal. The reason why it's 'The Chronicles' and not 'Pitch Black 2' is because that would be a disservice to what we're doing now. Or would give a false impression of this next film. Because not only are we changing genres, the first one was a horror film and this will be action/adventure/sci-fi, but we're also increasing the scope in such a way that isn't true to the original film as well. That was all about one event on one planet with seven people."

As Riddick star Vin Diesel catapults onto Hollywood's A list, Twohy is not surprised. "He had a moral certainty all along that he was going to be a really big star. He just had the moral certainty. And that's great. If you have it and if you can pull it off, wonderful. Whether that's a self-fulfilling prophecy or not, I don't know. But that kind of confidence is great and I find it very infectious on the set and in life. And it's one of the cool things. I look forward to working with him in the future because he's such a force of nature."

'XXX' May Be Sued Over Vin's Vodka of Choice

Columbia Pictures is on the verge of being sued for its film "XXX" by the Russian firm that makes Red Army vodka. In the film, Vin Diesel's character refers to the brand as his favorite drink.

Regata, which co-owns the Red Army trademark, claims that the studio used its product without sanctioning it first. "We have spent three years building up the brand's image," Regata

spokeswoman Tatyana Zakablukova tells the *Financial Times*. "Such use of our brand simply discredits it."

Also suing the studio is San Diego-based High Point Group, which co-owns the trademark in the United States.

"We believe that using the brand without us knowing is inappropriate," adds Zakablukova. "We are aware that many companies pay for their brands to be mentioned in films."

In "XXX" Diesel plays an extreme sports athlete who goes undercover in Prague to help the U.S. government break a dangerous mob organization. The film was recently released in Russia. (Zap2it.com)

10/09 Quick update: getting closer to get a pic from Vin's twin brother

LIZ SMITH - NY post: October 9, 2002 -- Neal's career is boomin'

Neal McDonough, who we noticed in "Band of Brothers" and "Minority Report," just jumps off the screen in "Boomtown" as a competent but conflicted L.A. assistant district attorney. The fact is, everybody's terrific here, including Donnie Wahlberg, Nina Garbiras, Jason Gedrick and Mykelti Williamson.

Prior to the show's premiere, "Boomtown" screening parties were held all over Hollywood for cast and crew. But it was Neal's gathering of old high school chums that was the most fun. (His longtime lady Ruve Robertson was on his arm.) Neal's only nod to showbiz was film producer Christine Peters, who told him, "Neal, you must make a movie with Vin Diesel. Vin has a twin brother you are the spitting image of!" Well, then, why not a movie with all three? They could play fabulous, hunky triplets.

Neal takes compliments modestly, admits he snared the "Boomtown" role only when Jimmy Smits bailed at the last minute, and credits Steven Spielberg for his current good fortune. The fabled director cast Neal in "Minority Report" and tailored the role to fit the young actor. "I am here tonight because of Steven Spielberg," he says.

Neal asked that we not reveal the name of the pub where he held his debut party. "This is my neighborhood, and I don't want all these Hollywood types descending on it!"

10/05 KGuys end spoilers from E! Online MovieScoop

you have been warned!

Knock, Knock...Who Cares? So, you may ask, outside of seeing Vin Diesel in skintight T-shirts, is there any reason to see Knockaround Guys? You know, the New Line film that's been on the shelf for almost two years? Um, no.

But wait, there's an odd gay subtext to the whole thing, which may change your mind. Somewhere in the middle of the flick about baby mobsters, the four wannabe wiseguys find themselves in a small western town on the trail of half a million in dirty cash. Somehow, and stop me if I'm giving too much away, Diesel gets paired with Barry Pepper, and by the end of the film, the two drive off into the sunset over Manhattan in Diesel's van.

Weird, huh?

KGuys theater counts for the premiere week

the mobster flick will open on 1800 screens next week, second biggest release after Transporter (2600 screen), which predicts a solid 4th-6th pace on the Box Office list, ranked after Red Dragon (Ed Norton!!!), Sweet Home Alabam and the Transporter. And watch out for the Rules of Attraction as well!

10/04 new books about Vin

at amazon.com you can pre-order two bboks about Vin's life:

[Vin Diesel: Fueled for Success](#)

[Vin Diesel Xxxposed](#)

click to the links to learn more about/order the books!

10/03 xXx DVD info

xXx Special Edition DVD, available in both widescreen and full screen versions, will feature a single-disc packed with special features, including deleted scenes with a director's commentary; visual effects "How To's"; the "Filmmakers Diary" documentary, and so much more. The xXx Special Edition DVD is priced at \$27.96 SLP and the video is priced for rental. In support of this high-wattage mega-hit, CTHE is mounting a comprehensive and expansive marketing campaign.

Presented in both English & French 5.1, an aspect ration of 2:35 for the Widescreen and 1:33 for the Full Screen version, here are the DVD features to look forward to:

- Digitally Mastered Audio & Anamorphic Video
- Director's Commentary
- A Filmmaker's Diary Documentary
- Diesel Powered Featurette
- "The GTO is Back" Featurette
- Deleted Scenes with Optional Director's Commentary
- Designing The World of XXX Featurette
- Building Speed: The Vehicles of XXX Featurette
- Storyboard Comparisons
- Multi-Angle Deconstructions
- Visual Effects "How To's"
- Music Video: Gavin Rossdale "Adrenaline"
- Weblinks & DVD ROM
- Animated Interactive Menus
- Motion Scene Selections

The film will also be available on English & Spanish subtitled VHS.

10/01 xXX DVD release day: 12.31.2002

Columbia TriStar has announced the DVD release of xXx in dual widescreen and full frame special edition versions on December 31st. (Chud.com)

expected extras (based on a Rob Cohen interview with [Video Store Magazine](#))

- appr. 1 hour long **making of xXx**
- **commentary and** have **subcommentaries** done by Dean Semler, the cameraman; by Chris Lebenzon, the editor; by John Frazier who does the special effects; and by Joel Hynek, the visual effects supervisor.
- one **deleted scene** "That was on the way to Prague, [Diesel] sits down and he's got his mission on a DVD player and this kid sits down next to him and thinks it's a video game, like video games have

sophisticated intros with characters that tell you what your mission is. He's explaining to the kid what he has to do in terms of a video game. It had some cute dialogue in it but didn't do anything we hadn't already done with [Diesel's character]." (Rich Wilkes, same interview as above)

xxx french site opens

The official french xxx site is worth to watch - even when you don't speak a language:) here's a little guide to the pages, and if you can't seem to find the, hit the gun, that's where the sitemap is.

simulation room - here are the games hosted

projector room - click to the movie screen, and see two outtakes/action scenes from the movie, trailer in french + movie stills

equipment room - skins, wallpapers, e-cards

master XXX -listen the soundtrack + bios, story in french

To enter the site, choose pop-up (and the site comes up as a pop-up window) or plain écran (this way you get the site in full screen.) Once inside the house, you can visit various rooms, with signs to say where to go. Choose the projector room to see two outtakes/action scenes (QT or WMP) or choose simulation room to play with one of the 3 flash games (jeux=games): like snowboarding or shooting the bad guys url: <http://www.xxx-lefilm.com>