

28 MARCH 2004



Devianté Behaviour

Hard Lads are coming, eventually!

Slow progress is better than no progress, but only just.

It's taking its time, but production still continues on Deprivo Devianté Productions' latest film, "Hard Lads".

However it has been quite a while since any filming has been done. Family commitments, miscommunications, vehicular mishaps and the Great British weather have all played their part. But as we move further in to the new year, the production will start to get back on track.

Good News

It's not all bad news. There are already four scenes "in the can", and the shooting schedule has been thrashed out. This means that we should be able to blast through the remaining



"KC" (Keith Crawley) and "Sunshine Band" (Kenny Codona) are the HARD LADS.

scenes once shooting resumes. In April we hope to be able to complete all the scenes with "Mr Big", and at the same time complete many of the exterior location shots.

Behind the Scenes

Plans are also being drawn up for an extensive "Behind the Scenes" documentary,

which will be included on the "Hard Lads" DVD. It will include interviews with all the main cast and crew, together with rare unseen footage and exclusive photographs. The DVD will, of course, be available from the Official Deprivo Devianté Productions Website.

Empire Magazine honours Devianté Staff

The April 2004 edition of internationally renowned film magazine, Empire recognises the talents of Deprivo Devianté Productions' Executive Producer, John G Lighterness. However, to be fair,

unless you look very carefully, you will miss it.

Quote

On the second to last page, under "Spine Quote Honour Roll" John's name can

clearly be seen. His ability to recognise one a line from an episode of "The Simpsons" has enabled him to win a prestigious "Empire" T-Shirt, which he assures us he will wear with pride.

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deprivo devianté's top 10

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Some stuff about films, and why not?

Cinema eh? It's a funny old game. And one that we here at Deprivo Devianté productions want to play. But what of the competition? Well, in the interests of sizing up our opponents, I've been making regular journeys to the local Multiplex. It's a tough, and thankless job, but I'll cope.

Rock

Angling to get a part of the "Teen Metal" action, is the comedy **School of Rock**. Jack Black, one half of Rock God Duo *Tenacious D* pretends to be a substitute teacher while trying to turn a bunch of rich kids into a rock band. Think "Dead Poet's Society"

meets Ozzy Osbourne. If you like Jack Black, then you'll like the film. It would also help to know a thing or two about classic rock bands. It's not as bad as it could have been, and there are a few moments of darker humour. The perfect film for one of those Hang-over Sundays.

Lost

Also hogging screen time, and bagging an Oscar for writer/director Sophia Coppola, is **Lost in Translation**. The trailers might suggest this is "Groundhog Day in Tokyo", but it's not. It is a character study of two people feeling adrift in their own lives. Unhappy

with their relationships and unable to find any direction. In other words, lost. You see what Sophia did there. They feel lost so she puts them in a foreign country. The characters can't articulate their own desires, so she makes sure no one talks to them in clear English. It's not that this is a bad film, far from it. However, it has been talked up into something it isn't. It is amusing, and it is touching, and it would be nothing without Bill Murray, but it is not a gut busting comedy or a smart art house movie. It is something in between. Perhaps a "Brief Encounter" for the 21 Century.

But probably not.

If Retro is so cool, why aren't Bucks Fizz?

The music industry seems to have found it's reverse gear. Or maybe it's just me. There has been a pattern forming amongst the CD's I've been buying lately. The Darkness, The White Stripes, Franz Ferdinand, My Morning Jacket, even Tenacious D. They can all be filed under Retro. While the Darkness and Tenacious D go there for comic effect, the rest seem to be taking themselves seriously. The White Stripes even took

*Even Weegie Fop
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the extreme step of recording their album *Elephant* on archaic analogue equipment. They state proudly that "no computers were used during the writing, recording, mixing or mastering of this record." It's a shame they put in all that effort, and then brought the album out on CD. Even Weegie Fop Rockers Franz Ferdinand have gone all retrotastic. Their album, cunningly entitled *Franz Ferdinand*, sounds like a

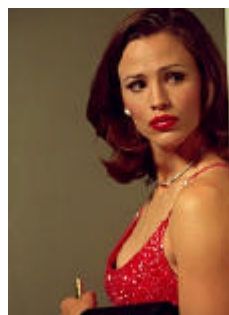
bunch of 80's New Wave bands in a blender. It sounds good, but you can't help hearing Blondie mixed with Talking Heads, and the opening chords from Interstellar Overdrive thrown in for good measure. Surely, it can only be a matter of time until we get a hip new band demanding that we start "Making our Minds up!" and ripping their skirts off. And if you think I'm just scare mongering, just ask yourself if you ever thought you would hear a cover version of "Mandy" in the charts. Thought not.

Goggle

Box

What happened to Channel Five? It used to be all soft porn and documentaries about Hitler (always a worrying combination). But in the last year it has bought up some of the best US crime shows. It stole the excellent *Alias* from Channel 4, then it picked up *CSI:Miami* to go with its roster of classy US Cop shows. Securing the *Law & Order* spin offs, allows it to put together a *CSI/Law & Order* double header, twice a week. And with riskier shows like *Boom-*

town and *The Shield*, they seem to be carving a niche for themselves as the cutting edge Crime Show Station. And a good thing too, as all us Brits can manage is the woeful Bill and the truly awful Mersey Beat, which has to



Jennifer Garner in *Alias*
© 2004 ABC Television

vie with *River City* for the "Worst Actors in Christendom" award. There is the occasional sighting of a Jonathan Creek, but you really can't call three episodes a year a series. No matter how good they are. Although with Cracker returning to TV screens, there may be some hope left for British cop shows. Now if only they'd bring back the Sweeney, I'd be a much happier man. Till then I'll rely on the US boys in *Blue* to keep crime off the streets, and on the box.

BLEEDING THUMBS

Only three months into the year, and already I've completed more PS2 games than I ever did on the venerable Spectrum. Those old games were so much harder. Most had no way of saving your progress, so you had to play them all the way through in one go. You rarely got the option to change difficulty settings, and the graphics were often more of a hindrance than a help. Remember the joys of colour clash?

Addiction

But then, those games were so addictive. We would spend hours trying to get Willie to pick up all the rubbish in his house, or helping Bub and Bob rescue their kid-

napped girlfriends from someone nasty. Then there were waves of invading aliens to obliterate. Which brings me to Mace Griffin: Bounty Hunter for the PS2, in which you have to shoot waves of invading inter-dimensional aliens. This is a Sci-Fi first person shooter, which boasts the voice of Henry Rollins as Mace Griffin. To be honest, it's not much of a boast, but the game is fun.

Social responsibility

Another game which has fun in spades is Return to Castle Wolfenstein. This is a reworking of the original 3D First Person Shooter. Set during WWII, it follows BJ Blazkowicz from Egypt to the

Heart of Germany in a bid to stop some supernatural Nazi Schemes. The game encourages you to blow away Nazi's at every opportunity. Who says computer games can't be socially responsible?

Fight Fans

For the Beat 'em Up brigade, there is Soulcaliber II, which is really a Slash 'em Up, as most characters use swords instead of fists. The Weapon Master mode allows you to go on quests to earn cash to buy better weapons and unlock bonus material.

Mince

And then there is Enter the Matrix, and the less said about that, the better.

Letters to the Editor

As this is our first newsletter, there are no letters to the Editor.

But hopefully that will change. Feel free to write in with suggestions, complaints, even articles, stories, poems, jokes, news, views, artwork, pictures, anything that means I don't have to write all this stuff myself.

Submissions may be edited for space, but that's all. You keep the

copyright to all your submissions, I just get to include it in the newsletter.

Oh yeah, and I can't pay for anything. It's not like you paid to read this. Or even wanted to read it, you just got it dumped into your email. So if it's free publicity your

looking for, then this is the place.

**We'll plug
anything.
Nothing is too
small or too weird.**

We'll plug anything. Mostly we'll plug our own films, but if you want to tell the world anything, then let me know. Nothing is too small or too weird. OK, some things are small and weird, but we'll

stick it in here anyway.

Random Synaptic firings from an Unmedicated Mind

As another burst of filming on Hard Lads approaches, my mind turns to future projects. The next project for Deprivo Devianté Productions is a remake of our 1993 Star Wars Spoof, *Star Wars: The Kendo Version*. But once that has been completed we will have to find another story worthy of our talents.

Fly Fishing

Many years ago there was serious discussion of mak-

ing a parody of Clive Barkers' Hellraiser films. However, in our version, instead of a puzzle box opening the gates of hell, it would

be a copy of Fly Fishing by J. R. Hartley. At the time a lack of funds, and the need for complex special effects put us off the idea. But now, with our

greater budgets and the successful use of CGI in both Lump and Hard Lads, it looks like a far less daunting prospect.

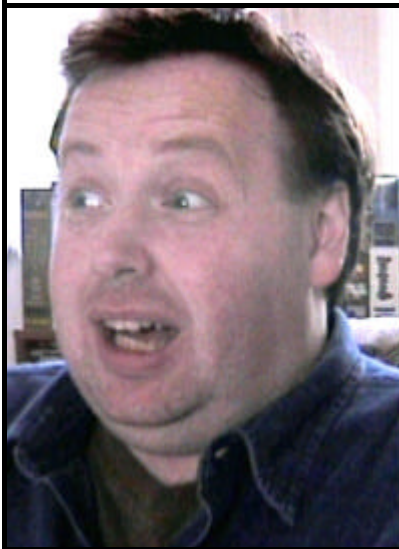
Scary

I'd also like a stab at a proper horror movie. The ability to truly scare an audience is the mark of a skilled director, and so the horror genre is often the best test of a directors talents. Of course we will have to finish Hard Lads before we can do anything else, and that will be a test in itself.



Proof that the filming of Hard Lads has begun

Don't Panic!



**Devianté Behaviour
Will Return!**

If you have enjoyed this edition of Devianté Behaviour, or even if you haven't, please pass it on to someone you know.

This has been a
Deprivo Devianté
Productions
presentation



Email us at:
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The Back Page

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Zombies!

Haiti takes up about a third of the Caribbean island of Hispaniola. It has the most varied terrain in all of the Caribbean, and a population density, appropriately enough, of six hundred and sixty six people per square mile. It is also the spiritual home of the Zombie.

Voodoo

When French settlers brought African slaves to work on their sugar plantations they could not have foreseen how their traditional African religions would mix with Catholicism to produce a whole new religion. Voodoo has a large cast of spirits, who serve as intermediaries between man and the great god Bondye. These spirits have to be served and respected in order to maintain their good will. Along with this belief in a powerful spirit realm, is the idea of the Zombie. A soulless corpse, brought back to life in order to toil in the fields as a slave.

Walking Dead

In reality the Zombies were people who had been drugged into unconsciousness, and then revived, convinced that they had been turned into the walking dead. However this truth did not stop the Zombie becoming sensationalised in pulp tales, and films such as *I Walked with a Zombie*, and *White Zombie*. These movies re-

tained the exotic settings of the original tales, and the magical processes need to create the Zombie. However, the role of the Zombies themselves was only to serve as the pawns of their evil creators. Then in 1968 all that changed.

Messed Up

With George A Romero's *Night of the Living Dead*, all the rules were thrown out. A probe returning from Venus brings with it a strange form of radiation which has the unusual property of reanimating corpses. As well as ditching the super-

natural Zombie creation process, also gone are the exotic locations. Instead we are in rural Pennsylvania, with ordinary people caught up in the terror. Then there are the Zombies themselves. These are not the pawns of an evil magician, sent out to do his bidding. They are ravenous cannibals, with only the desire for human flesh to motivate them.

They relentlessly shamble towards anyone with a pulse in order to kill and eat them, and as a result add then to the growing army of undead. As the Local Sheriff in the movie aptly puts it "They're dead...they're all messed up." With this one film a whole new genre was created, and the Zombie was rede-

fined completely.

Dead Again

The success of *Night of the Living Dead*, led to two sequels, the most satisfying of which was *Dawn of the Dead* in 1979. The story continued from the first film, but followed five survivors who take shelter in an abandoned shopping mall. As well as a great horror movie, it also serves as a wry critique of American consumerism. Other Zombie movies did follow in the 70's and 80's, such as *Return of the Living Dead*, but horror films had moved on. Stalk and Slash movies had come into fashion, and had created icons out of Freddy Krueger, Michael Myers amongst others. With these horror superstars, the anonymous zombie never really had a look in. Then in the 90's the Zombie was resurrected again, this time by a computer game.

Evil

In Japan it was called Biohazard, but we know it as Resident Evil.

Through this series of best selling games the Zombie was brought back to public consciousness. In 2002 the movie of the game was released, and was a success. Soon after the British Zombie movie *28 Days Later* came out. Now with the remake of *Dawn of the Dead* and the comedy *Shaun of the Dead* out soon, Zombies walk the earth again.



Zombies Then...



...Zombies Now