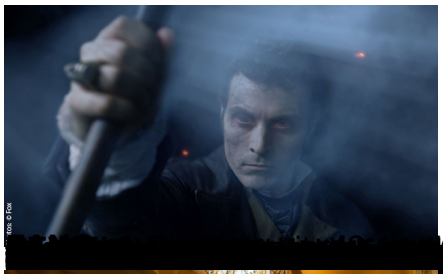
When a movie’s vampire-slaying hero is none other than the President of the United States, it requires an especially strong bloodsucking villain to oppose him. Enter Adam—a character not present in Seth Grahame-Smith’s novel ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER, but created for the film (opening this week from 20th Century Fox) and vividly enacted by British actor Rufus Sewell.

Sewell has been acting for 20 years now in a wide variety of genres, with horror/fantasy credits including BLESS THE CHILD, VINYAN, the made-for-cable SHE CREATURE and, most notably, as the hero of Alex Proyas’ stunning DARK CITY. But Timur Bekmambetov’s historical horror/action epic is his first turn as a creature of the night…

**FANGORIA:** There have been so many different screen portrayals of vampires over the years—when you got the part of Adam, did you approach it in terms of finding a new way to play a vampire, or just portraying this specific character regardless of the fact that he is one?

**RUFUS SEWELL:** Well, I’d never actually played a vampire before, so at that time I couldn’t give a f**k who else had played a vampire, I was so pleased! For me, what was important was not going into it with such lofty notions of redefining the idea of the vampire. But considering the current state of affairs with TWILIGHT, etc., it felt enough just to return to the roots of them being stately, vicious monsters. I know there’s some amazing stuff being done in TRUE BLOOD and so on, but in terms of films, I just liked the fact that they didn’t twinkle, they weren’t involved in little romances and they were evil as f**k. As far as my character was concerned, I thought of him as a politician and a great soldier for his cause and a great president for his people, with a very clear agenda: to find a homeland for his creed.



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