

Comedy writer goes cannibal with "JUNKYARD DOG"

Written by Chris Alexander
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When we got word that a direct-to-DVD thriller called JUNKYARD DOG was coming to disc and VOD this week, we shrugged. DTV horror movies are a penny a pound and the appearance of a new one isn't exactly cause to strike up the band, but a closer look at the credit block revealed an interesting cast, specifically lead Vivica A. Fox (KILL BILL) and professional lunatic Brad Dourif, strong screen presences all. And then there was the trailer, a slick – but not too slick – bit of grimy, intense terror. But the element that sealed the deal for the coverage you're about to read is that the man who wrote and directed JUNKYARD DOG under the banner of his Bass Entertainment Group was Kim Bass, one of the head writers of one of the funniest sketch com TV shows in history, IN LIVING COLOR.

At first, it makes no sense. What could a man who has devoted his life to broad comedy (he also created the tween sitcom SISTER, SISTER) possibly have to offer a picture trading in forced confinement and cannibalism? Well, a closer look at the late, lamented 90s Fox show is a study in darkness, with vignettes like the skeletal Fire Marshall Bill (played by series regular Jim Carrey), the ludicrous The Head Detective (in which Damon Wayans is rebuilt as a severed head with feet) and Vericosa, the steroidal female body builder (again, a brilliant physical turn by Carrey); indeed, twisted stuff.

And so is JUNKYARD DOG, which sees a normal, attractive man combing the highways looking for young girls to abduct, confine and eat!

“Growing up in a house full of sisters, my father would always say ‘when you borrow the car, always leave a full tank of gas for your mother and sisters’,” says Bass. “I get that now. Predators are everywhere. You and I have probably been stalked by one but for whatever reason it didn't work out. JUNKYARD DOG comes from the idea that if your car breaks down at night, you call a tow truck and you have to trust that some guy who you *don't* know is going to pick you up, you're going to sit up in the cab with him. That's what happens here. A normal, handsome looking guy picks girls up, they trust them, they get in the cab, he gets quiet, and

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then..."

Bass knows his horror, loves the genre in fact, and is ensuring that JUNKYARD DOG has enough grisly shock to please fans of such things. Enter the cannibalism angle, "Hundreds of women go missing every year and they're never found. I got to thinking, *why* is there no trace of them? How do they just disappear? That's when I added the cannibalism. What if the killer ate his victims?"

Part hard boiled police procedural (with a sharp turn by Fox), and part skin crawling, flesh eating Hannibal Lecter horrorshow, don't let JUNKYARD DOG slip off the leash. Find it, see it.

Also from Bass is the wild eyed action flick KILL SPEED. To find out more about both pictures and future genre romps from bass (next up...a western!) head right [here](#).