

Universal Monsters to visit "MOCKINGBIRD LANE"

Written by Samuel Zimmerman
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The Blu-rays won't be your only fix of classic creatures, as Bryan Fuller is pulling from the Universal archives for his MUNSTERS reboot.

The Hollywood Reporter sat down with PUSHING DAISIES creator Bryan Fuller to talk the tone of his hourlong reboot of THE MUNSTERS. Most excitingly, it was revealed that much in the way a series like ONCE UPON A TIME weaves a host of fairy tales throughout, Fuller will utilize the beloved Universal Monsters, with The Phantom [of the Opera] and the Creature [from the Black Lagoon] already confirmed.

He explains, "ONCE UPON A TIME has fairy tales. We have Universal Monsters, which for me are the fairy tales of my youth. That's where I grew up, loving The Munsters, The Wolfman, Frankenstein, Dracula, the Metaluna monster from SILENT EARTH and the Mole People. I would love to rope in all of those characters from those stories, as well as get the Cat People and get those types of things. But we can't just do Monster of the Week; they have to have a reason for being in the story -- an emotional capacity -- for us to interact with their characters."

When asked if the monsters will be practical, Fuller is a bit dodgy, praising the original's design, but not confirming if the often cheap digital of television will be employed. Let's hope not.

Speaking to the lead characters of the series, Fuller talked switching the show's perspective to that of Herman's and the parallels they'll be drawing from a monster family to many of our own lives. "It's an ensemble, but the emotional point of view is from Herman because it really is about a father who is realizing his child is taking after the other side of the family. He has so few things in his life that are his, and his son Eddie was one of them -- and now Eddie's more like Grandpa than he is Herman. Everything is a metaphor for something that you can identify with in a relationship; the fact that Herman is in a constant state of decay, and he's married to someone who doesn't age. We get to play with all those insecurities. The fact that he was made by his father-in-law and then has to live up to those standards; he's always trying to find his own identity."

He also notes, "The Munsters actually do what monsters do: they eat people and they have to live with the ramifications of being monstrous."

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Early images from this past weekend's Comic-Con panel indicate The Munsters will in fact be much more monstrous inside than out, as the first still (yet to be officially released), looks like a normal, if eccentric, family. Maybe they'll transform? Of course we'll have to wait, 'til next summer it seems, to see if MOCKINGBIRD LANE is a worthy endeavor, but it's a comfort of sorts that new incarnations of classic monsters are currently en route to our homes.

For all Fuller had to say, you can read the entire interview [here](#).