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Nic's Information Club Bi-Weekly Newsletter

Volume 5 Issue 2

January 20, 2007

Happy 5th Anniversary N.I.C

When N.I.C. was founded in January, 2003 fans were awaiting the release of "The Matchstick Men". Since then Nic has released six more movie , married , became a father for a second time, received his Honorary Doctorate, participated in various humanitarian causes and much more. It has certainly been a busy four years. With the Hugh list of future film and other projects the next four years look to be just as full and exciting Nic.

Of course the next big event on the Nic watchers calendar is the February release of "Ghost Rider". 2007 will also see the release of "Next" "Time to Kill" and " National Treasure 2: The Book Of Secrets". As always we will do our best to keep you informed on all these happenings. Now it's time to sit back and enjoy your newsletter.

Fiona

NEWS/MOVIE UPDATES

Nicolas Cage uses mythology to overcome his problems



December 27, 2006

Nicolas Cage uses mythology to overcome his problems. The 'Ghost Rider' actor believes the ethics and philosophy contained within myths are just as relevant today as they were when they were written, in some cases almost three thousand years ago. He said: "I like the Greek myths and I love mythology and you can use it. Right now I am very interested in Arthurian mythology and I think these things are there for a reason and you can use that to get through difficult walks of life."

Meanwhile, Cage has confessed he is thrilled about getting the opportunity to play 'Ghost Rider' in the new comic book movie of the same name. The self-confessed comic book obsessive stars as stunt motorcyclist Johnny Blaze, who in the Marvel universe sells his soul to Satan in order to save the life of his mentor and ends up becoming a vengeful vigilante with a flaming skull for a head. Cage admits he jumped at the chance at playing the anti-hero because he was such a fan of the series as a child. He said: "It's not standard superhero fare, it doesn't follow any of those traditional rules. As a boy I was really attracted to the monsters that were in the Marvel universal, the Hulk and Ghost Rider, because I couldn't understand how something so terrifying could also be good, and it appealed to whatever complexities I was feeling about life, that paradox to me is inherently interesting. "

CAGE CONVINCES CARPENTER THAT MUSICAL LOVE IS OR REAL

[NICOLAS CAGE](#) persuaded RICHARD CARPENTER to embrace his CARPENTERS-loving comic book superhero GHOST RIDER by personally calling the pianist and confessing his love for his late sister. Cage decided his tormented movie character should share his own fondness for The Carpenters but he initially struggled to convince Richard Carpenter that he wouldn't be poking fun at the hitmaking siblings. He reveals, "I made him a KAREN CARPENTER fan. I love Karen Carpenter's voice, honestly, and Richard Carpenter didn't want to participate at first, but I explained how much I cared about Karen's voice and thought it was the most beautiful voice of all time. It was genuine so he was OK with it. "We even got the rights to use (The Carpenters hit) SUPERSTAR on the soundtrack. You should check out [SONIC YOUTH](#) doing it. "My point there was that the Ghost Rider alter-ego, JOHNNY BLAZE, is trying to keep the devil away, and Karen Carpenter and jelly beans relax him. "If he was a chain-smoking, Jack Daniels-guzzling guy, which is originally how he was drawn, he'd be inviting the devil in and I thought he'd be trying to avoid the devil.

The actor discusses his love for the character, playing a superhero, and why he isn't upset about not playing Superman

As one of the most diverse and gifted actors of his generation, Nicolas Cage has a way of making every role he does his own. Wanting to play a comic book hero for many years now, Cage finally got his chance in director Mark Steven Johnson's [Ghost Rider](#).



In order to save his dying father, young stunt cyclist Johnny Blaze (Nicolas Cage) sells his soul to Mephistopheles and sadly parts from the pure-hearted Roxanne Simpson (Eva Mendes), the love of his life. Years later, Johnny's path crosses again with Roxanne, now a gogetting reporter, and also with Mephistopheles, who offers to release Johnny's soul if Johnny becomes the fabled, fiery [Ghost Rider](#), a supernatural agent of vengeance and justice. Mephistopheles charges Johnny with defeating the despicable Blackheart, Mephistopheles' nemesis and son, who plans to displace his father and create a new hell even more terrible than the old one.

We recently caught up with Cage at a sneak preview of some [Ghost Rider](#) footage held at Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

Is it true that a few Halloweens back you dressed up as Ghost Rider?

Nicolas Cage: Well, it was very brief. It was a good time. I always liked the character.

What was it like to finally make this film and play this character?

Nicolas Cage: When Mark came on board, he wrote this version, I think it opened up the character to a wider audience. I want the kids to go see the movie. Yeah, there's some scary moments in it but more scary like 1950s, Vincent Price, B-movie which was fun. The spirit of it was I wanted it to be very playful. There's a lot of humor in the movie. He's an absurdist character and I think that's a good thing. That gives me a chance to bring comedy to it. He's not a chain smoking, hard drinking badass. What I wanted to contribute to it was Johnny can keep the devil away. He's trying to stay relaxed by listening to Karen Carpenter and eating jelly beans out of a

martini glass. He knows at any moment that could creep up on him. You can always take a negative and turn it into a positive. I think that's the spirit of Johnny Blaze. His soul has been abducted by the devil, that's as big as it gets, yet he's figuring out a way to turn it around.

How did you first come across Ghost Rider?

Nicolas Cage: I was living in Long Beach , CA and I was about 7 years old. I went into the market around the corner in the neighborhood and I saw it on the stand. This flaming skull and it was really colorful. It was the first one. He's on the bike and he's coming right at you. I bought it and I took it home, and I remember just staring at the cover in my room by myself for hours. My brother was like, "What's the matter with Nicolas?" I don't know why, I just thought it was trippy, and scary and cool. I think I was trying to comprehend how something scary could also be good. As a boy, I grappled with nightmares and things like that, so I was trying to get control of the nightmares by maybe making friends with them. [Ghost Rider](#) was like the perfect way to do that. Here was a nightmare who was also a friend.

What was your initial reaction when you saw a final CG'd Ghost Rider?

Nicolas Cage: I was thrilled. I thought they did a brilliant job, the whole team. It could have been really goofy. Instead it's gorgeous. I think what they did with the fire, which we all know is the hardest thing to create with digital effects, is excellent because it's real and yet it's more than real. Then to make a skull expressive is also difficult to do. So you have to find ways of making that also expressive.

How was it having your skull captured for the movie?

Nicolas Cage: They had to do it digitally. They had to put the sensors on me and they graphed my skull somehow with x-rays... I don't know how they did it. That's me, which is kinda weird.

Was doing this film different than all the other films you've done, simply because of the character?

Nicolas Cage: It was because it was new. It's no secret that I've been trying to get involved with a comic book film for a while. For whatever reason it just didn't come together, in this case it did so this is the one that was meant to be. I was really excited that it was this one because this one was personal. I would get very excited that I was making a monster movie, you know? I had not done that before, something funny and scary.

Did this movie quench your desire to do a superhero film? Or, has it only fueled it?

Nicolas Cage: No, I'm satisfied. I think that this was the one and I've done this now and, unless there was a really great script to a sequel, I'd probably feel like I'd done what I had to do. I would come back and do another one if there was a great script for it.

Did you do a lot of your own motorbike stunts in the movie?

Nicolas Cage: I did a lot of it but I didn't do all of it.

You mentioned if the story to Ghost Rider 2 was good you would consider doing a sequel? Do you have any idea where you see that going?

Nicolas Cage: Well, I think, there's a line in the movie somewhere where Johnny Blaze says to the

police force that he really admires the job that they do, and that when he finishes his stunt cycle career, he intends to apply his skills as a motorcycle policeman. So I could see Johnny Blaze as a superbike cop.

You have a lot projects that you're attached too, can you clarify where some of them stand?

Nicolas Cage: I don't know exactly what the next film will be but it's looking like [National Treasure 2](#). It's being written as we speak. The hope is that it's going to be happening. It deals with Abraham Lincoln and Confederate gold; the assassination. It's interesting stuff. What I like about the [National Treasure](#) potential as a series, is that it deals with history, and it's also entertaining. That's always a good thing. There are worse things to do than to stimulate young people's minds about history as you're entertaining them.

Everyone's still attached from the first film?

Nicolas Cage: Yeah.

What about Sean Bean?

Nicolas Cage: I'm not sure how it's going to work just yet.

Can you explain what your character has in relation to Sam Elliot's in [Ghost Rider](#)?

Nicolas Cage: Well, a lot and I don't want to give it away; but it's a lot. Sam's character is the Caretaker. He's the one that understands the mythology, and understands the history of the Ghost Rider, and sort of is the mentor to the Ghost Rider. He explains to Johnny Blaze what his problem is and what he's in danger of. There is a reveal that is bigger than that.

Did this project take away any of your disappointment about Superman not happening?

Nicolas Cage: No, I'm not disappointed by that at all. I don't hold on to things. I let things go when they don't work out. I also believe that the right cast for a movie is usually the one that winds up in the movie. I think the [Superman](#) movie that came out was a good movie, it was a very nostalgic movie but I'm not interested in repeating things. I would rather, and I was going to turn that character on it's ear, which obviously wasn't what the studio wanted because they went with a more traditional approach. [Ghost Rider](#), for me, is a better match because it gives me the chance to do the unique approach to things that I want to do. And to maybe introduce the character to a wider audience. There's a hardcore group of [Ghost Rider](#) fans and I want to make them very happy, but I also want to introduce [Ghost Rider](#) to the mainstream.

[Ghost Rider](#) opens February 16, 2007 from Columbia Pictures.

<http://www.superheroflix.com/news/61/16161.php>

Another Ghost Rider Interview

http://www.moviesonline.ca/movienews_10831.html

National Treasure: The Book of Secrets Details Revealed

Posted on: Wednesday, January 03 2007 @ 05:26 AM PST by [Peter Sciretta](#)

I admit it, I really really dug National Treasure. It was a brainlessly fun popcorn movie. So I'm

actually excited to see the sequel.

Buena Vista Pictures has officially announced the the title for the sequel will be *National Treasure: The Book of Secrets*. The subtitle refers to the infamous 18 pages which are actually missing from John Wilkes Booth's library. What information was in those 18 pages leads Nicolas Cage on another treasure hunt which is also said to involve Abraham Lincoln.

According to [The People's Almanac](#): "Criticism of the government's handling of the assassination investigation began not long after the trial was concluded and has continued to the present. In 1866 Congressman Andrew J. Rogers of New Jersey , a member of the House select committee on the assassination of Lincoln , filed a minority report in which he accused the government of falsifying evidence and testimony at the trial. In 1867 Col. Lafayette C. Baker, former head of the secret service, revealed that he had handed over a diary kept by Booth to Secretary Stanton, who hid it. When the diary was subsequently found, in a War Dept. file, 18 pages of it were mysteriously missing. Over a century later, in 1977, David Balsiger and Charles E. Sellier, Jr., claimed to have discovered the missing 18 pages and other documents that prove highly placed government officials not only conspired to kidnap Lincoln , but covered up many details of the assassination in order to keep their plot from being discovered."

Sounds very interesting. The plot will most likely revolve around confederate gold that was hidden for the rising of the south.

Director Jon Turteltaub and stars Nicolas Cage, Justin Bartha, Diane Kruger, Jon Voight and Harvey Keitel have signed to return for the sequel, which is being targeted for a December 21st 2007 release

<http://www.slashfilm.com/article.php/20070103nationaltreasure2>

Indian comics get star quality

January 05, 2007 *Edition 1*

MUMBAI: Several Hollywood stars such as Nicolas Cage and Guy Ritchie are helping Oscar-nominated Indian director Shekhar Kapur produce a comic book series inspired by Indian mythology, a newspaper has reported.

Kapur, who directed *Elizabeth* , said rock group Duran Duran were also interested in working with him on the comic books. Richard Branson's Virgin Comics - of which Kapur is a co-founder - will publish the comics that are aimed to appeal to Indian and international audiences, the Mumbai Mirror says.

It says Cage has created the character of a sadhu or an Indian sage, while Ritchie is working on a story. - Reuters

<http://www.capetimes.co.za/index.php?fArticleId=3612790>

MOVIE OF THE WEEK

This week we recall the movies Nic has given us during N.I.C.'s first four years



Matchstick Men

Tagline: lie cheat steal rinse repeat

Plot Outline: A phobic con artist and his protege are on the verge of pulling off lucrative swindle when the con artist's teenage daughter arrives unexpectedly.

National Treasure

Tagline: The greatest adventure history has ever revealed. ([more](#))

Plot Outline: A treasure hunter is in hot pursuit of a mythical treasure that has been passed down for centuries, while his employer turned enemy is onto the same path that he's on.



Lord of War

Tagline: The first and most important rule of gun-running is: never get shot with your own merchandise. ([more](#))

Plot Outline: An arms dealer (Cage) confronts the morality of his work as he is being chased by an Interpol agent (Hawke).

The Weather Man

Tagline: In life, accuracy counts. ([more](#))

Plot Outline: Chicago weather man (Cage), separated from his wife and children, debates whether professional and personal success are mutually exclusive.



The Ant Bully

Tagline: The battle for the lawn is on. ([more](#))

Plot Outline: After Lucas Nickle floods an ant colony with his water gun, he's magically shrunken down to insect size and sentenced to hard labor in the ruins.

World Trade Center

Tagline: The World Saw Evil That Day. Two Men Saw Something Else. ([more](#))

Plot Outline: Two Port Authority police officers become trapped under the rubble of the World Trade Center.





The Wicker Man

Tagline: Some Sacrifices Must Be Made

Plot Outline: A sheriff investigating the disappearance of a young girl from a small island discovers there's a larger mystery to solve among the island's secretive, neo-pagan community

TRIVIA

By: ýþýl

1) How many movies are announced to produced by Nic himself this year and next year?
a) 5 b) 6 c) 7 d) 8

2) What is the last name of Nic in Wicker Man?
a) Malus b) Gates c)Waller d) Campbell

3) Nic was nominated in Razzie Awards by Captain Corelli's Mandolin .
True/False.

4) Which Nic movie was pushed back several months following the terrorist attacks on 9/11?
a)Captain Corelli's Mandolin b)Christmas Carol: The Movie c)Wind talkers d)Adaptation

answers:1)d 2)a 3)False 4)c

QUESTION FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

- 1) *What would you like to see more in the newsletter?*
- 2) *What was/is your favorite Nic Movie?*
- 3) *What is your favorite Nic related poem?*
- 4) *If you could call Nic right now what would you say?*
- 5) *What is it about Nicolas Cage you really like?*

Please send your answers in to be submitted in the next newsletter to mrsган@exemail.com.au

<<<<INFORMATION>>>>

TOP DOG

Please take a moment to add a brick for Nicolas Cage at Top Dog, if we do not add at least 20 bricks a month they will remove Nic's wall again permanently! They will not add it back again from what I was told. So let's all support Nic by adding bricks, go to <http://www.topdogci ty.com/nicolasca ge4.htm>

SUPPORT YOUR GROUP

Please take a minute out each day to vote and show your support for the group.

<http://www.starpag e.net/N// Nicolas Cage/ index.html? VID=959132189>

AT THE GROUP

Gallery - where you can add your own favorite Nic Pic.

<http://photos. groups. yahoo. com/group/ nicinfo/lst>

Files area - where members have added pics and news articles and more.

<http://movies. groups. yahoo. com/group/ nicinfo/files/>

Database - where you can add your birthday, IM info and more.

<http://movies. groups. yahoo. com/group/ nicinfo/database>

Messages - catch up on past posts.

<http://movies. groups. yahoo. com/group/ nicinfo/messages>

STAFF LIST

Colleen - Founder/Owner/ Newsletter Editor/Chat Host
Angela S. - Co owner/Chat Scheduler
MaryAnne - Lead Moderator/Entertainment Coordinator
Ben - Birthdays/welcoming Committee
Nicole - Movie of the week Coordinator
Colleen - Bouncing mail care taker :)
Connie - Chat Host
ýþýl erdinç - Trivia Coordinator
Fiona - Newsletter Editor/Australia Chat Host
Sue - Polls Coordinator

ABOUT THE CLUB

*[N.I.C. *Nic's Information Club*](#) is our main club site where you can..*

Post/Read Messages, Play/Build Polls, Join in the chats on scheduled nights/days. See/add your favorite pic of Nic. add your birthday to the database and receive a NICE special greeting on your day. Visit the calendar for movie updates, chat schedules, movie of the week and more.

<http://movies. groups. yahoo. com/group/ nicinfo/>

[Cagefactor.com](http://cagefactor.com) is our home site where you can go see...

Member's area - Member photos - N.I.C FAQ - Wallpaper of the week - Pic of the week and more... <http://cagefactor.com/NIC.html>

PLEASE READ

If your N.I.C. subscription ever becomes too heavy to handle or you're going on vacation or moving, you can do two things; have your mail options changed to...

- 1 - "Digest" (messages arrive in batches of 25 or fewer, without attachments)
- 2 - "No mail." With "no mail," you can read messages (and open attachments) directly from the Internet. (This is good if you don't have high-speed access.) You can change your mail options yourself by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nicinfo/>. You will be asked to sign in if you've never done so before. If you can't remember your password, request a change to a new one that you can remember. Once you've signed in, you can also access "Chat" and "Files" and "Photos" and other areas of interest.

Please keep the Nics Information Club discussion list fun for everyone

Keep your comments respectful of Nicolas and his family. After all, he is the reason we exist, we do not condone the spread of hurtful tabloid rumors. We do, however, allow tabloid photos, as they tend to be more accurate. If you have doubts about a tidbit you just found, send it to one of the staff members so that the moderating staff can mull it over before sending it to the group.

Even though his house is on the Hollywood Star Tour, Nicolas's home address is not to be posted to the list in an effort to give him an inkling of privacy.

Please keep your comments respectful of other members. By all means, have serious discussions. Just edit out any personal insults before sending. Remember Nicolas' golden rule: "It's ok to be different". Meeting people online from different cultures, religions, perspectives, and backgrounds makes our lives much richer. We can learn a lot from each other. Remember: "It is nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice." (Cage)

****Group Rules****

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#2 Nicolas's home address is not to be posted to the list-Privacy Rule!

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#4 NO Offensive Language!

We all want a nice place to be a part of discussions on Nicolas Cage and we will not tolerate any offensive Language.

#5 Friendly Discussions Only!

Enough Said. :)

Explanation of NNR – SNR - NENR...

NNR is Not Nic Related

SNR is Sorta Nic Related

NENR is Not Exactly Nic Related

"NNR" is used in the subject head when the topic is "not Nic related." This notifies members that they can simply delete the message and not miss any Nic-related discussion. "SNR" is used to mean "sorta Nic related." Please do not forward to the list chain letters or messages whose primary purpose is commercial.

Nic's Information Club

<http://movies.groups.yahoo.com/group/nicinfo/>

NNR (non Nic related) Topics - *A part of the NIC group*

<http://movies.groups.yahoo.com/group/nnr-topics/>

Newsletter Only Group

<http://movies.groups.yahoo.com/group/nicinfo-newsletter/>

This Group/Newsletter is in no way connected with Nicolas Cage himself, or any other fan groups on the web. This is a fan club only-supported by his fans.



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