

Canadian Actor Nigel Vonas to Star in the Upcoming Trilogy 'Mi Navidad'

Actor Nigel Vonas, who is known for his roles on the series "Olympus" and "Supernatural," will star in the upcoming film "Mi Navidad."

LOS ANGELES, CA, USA, May 20, 2016 / EINPresswire.com/ -- [Nigel Vonas](#), the undeniable bad boy of the television world, has been cast to take on the starring role of Ryan Cowitski in the film "[Mi Navidad](#)," which is slated to begin filming later this year.

The first chapter in a highly anticipated trilogy, "Mi Navidad" brings together themes of sexuality, relationships and gender identity as experienced through three families all connected by one man, restaurateur Diego Rodriguez. When Diego heads to his timeshare to await the arrival of his new girlfriend and her family, he is surprised to discover that his family, followed by his ex-wife and her family, have also shown up for Christmas. Using British farce style comedy, "Mi Navidad" puts the LGBT and Latino communities front and center as we follow the hilarious and unpredictable highs and lows of these three families.

The film, which is being produced by Koqui Productions will also star Chicago Horror Film Festival award winner Adam Huss ("Resurrection County," "El Mascarado Massacre") as Diego, Lisa Roumain ("Avatar," "The Affair") as Aricela, Rachel Alig ("Ghostline," "At Granny's House") as Therese and Berna Roberts ("Meet the Fockers," "Natural Selection") as Esperanza.

Vonas' character Ryan Cowitski, an FBI agent assigned to Los Angeles, works directly in counter-terrorism, which places him in charge of the scene of shutting down the port of Long Beach after a credible threat comes in. In the trilogy's subsequent films, after selling off a TV series idea based on his time in training, Cowitski leaves the FBI and becomes a booking agent for stand up comedians.

About selecting Vonas for the role, "Mi Navidad" director P. Alberto Sanchez ("Pocho," "Incomunicado") explains, "I have known Nigel for almost 14 years and he has continued to impress me with the strength and depth of his craft, and I couldn't pass up an opportunity to include him in this comedic, yet powerful film. Initially, a schedule conflict would have interfered with him being in this film as Dante, but due to some rewrites we needed, Nigel was able to step right in as FBI Agent Cowitski. In a fitting turn, the original character he was supposed to play would have been written off after this film, but the Cowitski character allows us to bring him back for the hopeful subsequent sequels to the 'Mi Navidad' story. I can't think of anyone better to bring this character to life in our film."

For Vonas, who has made a name for himself in the industry thanks to his unparalleled finesse when



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it comes to playing dark, intimidating and even demonic characters, "Mi Navidad," a comedy, comes as a welcome change.

The actor admits, "I have loved making people laugh since I was a kid. I love finding the drama behind the character, and letting the comedy come from that drama. There is a very small number of comedy productions in Vancouver, and I am thrilled to be able to finally act in a comedy feature."

Since entering the entertainment industry over a decade ago, Vonas, a Vancouver native, has been working non stop bringing his talent to a long list of films including the action packed sci-fi film "The Chronicles of Riddick" where he acted alongside Vin Diesel, Tony Giglio's ("Extraction," "Timber Falls") crime drama "Chaos," starring Ryan Phillippe and Wesley Snipes, Josh Whittall's award-winning 2006 drama "The Gutter Diaries," Gemini and Leo Award nominee Garwin Sanford's 2008 film "Rain Down," and Darren Rozak's 2008 thriller "The Harvest Project."

What Vonas has probably become best known for to international audiences however is his illustrious work on a plethora of hit television programs. In the last three years he has taken on pivotal characters in The CW's "Supernatural," Showcase's "Continuum," 5USA's "True Justice," FOX's "Almost Human," Syfy's "Olympus," Space's "Primeval: New World," and TNT's "Falling Skies." Fans of The CW's multi-award winning superhero series "Arrow" will also recognize Vonas for his recurring role as Walsh on the fourth season of the show, which is airing now.

Aside from shooting "Mi Navidad," Vonas also recently shot several episodes of the series "Prison Break." The long-awaited return of the series, which earned two Golden Globe nominations before it left the air in 2010, is scheduled to release its fifth season on FOX in early 2017. Although information about the production is being kept under wraps for the most part, we do know that Vonas plays a recurring role as a character of Arab descent. Thanks to his Greek heritage, Vonas carries an ethnically ambiguous appearance that has allowed him to believably portray characters from all over the world, and on top of that he has a natural gift for accents.

"I always welcome the challenges that come with any character I have been cast to play; developing an accent is definitely one of those challenges. An accent goes beyond the pronunciation," explains Vonas. "I always aim to give respect to the region where the accent lives; to respect the people. I learn about their culture as best I can. I study the way they move. The way they converse, eat, drink, socialize. I also definitely get coaching for my accent work. I had a couple of great coaches to work with on 'Prison Break,' and they really helped bring my character to life. 'Prison Break' was an incredible experience for me. So many amazing people are a part of that series. I can't wait to watch the new episodes, and see what the next chapter brings."

The series is also bringing back actors Robert Knepper (T-Bag), Rockmond Dunbar (C-Note), Sarah Wayne Callies (Dr. Sara Tancredi), Dominic Purcell (Lincoln Burrows) and Wentworth Miller (Micheal Scofield).

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