

# MONSTER INVASION

The FANGORIA Fright File of up-to-the-minute newsbreaks and other horrible happenings!

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**Lance Henriksen reprises one of his best roles in *Alien³*. Will Bishop take the Queen this time around?**

est hour, fighting the hellish embryo that's quickly maturing into a chestbuster.

Bishop is the most popular creation of Lance Henriksen, a ferociously intense character actor who's parlayed his good-guy success in *Aliens* into portrayals of such depraved evil-doers as *Near Dark*'s vampiric gunslinger, *Pumpkinhead*'s vengeance-crazed farmer and *The Pit and the Pendulum*'s Grand Inquisitor. Effortlessly moving between the horror genre and such pop action films as *Johnny Handsome* and *Stone Cold*, Henriksen now returns to a beloved character who's gone to pieces.

"*Alien³* allowed me to revisit a part I know very well, and it was heartbreaking to see Bishop in this condition," Henriksen remarks. "There's a feeling of melancholy when Ripley reconnects me, and it was so touching that I almost started to cry. But a lot of that sadness came from Sigourney Weaver, who gives a wonderful performance. Compared to what she goes through in this film, my part was like going to the set in England, having a cup of coffee, then grabbing a plane home!"

But Henriksen would end up returning to a Hollywood soundstage for one of the film's numerous reshoots, as 20th Century Fox, in addition to adding new FX sequences, decided to rethink Henriksen's fate. The actor's human character, known as Bishop II, originally ended up with an ax in the head, a victim of

Ripley's and the inmates' mistrust of the Company. Now, Bishop II survives, and is allowed to demonstrate that he really does value Ripley's life above a creature the Company can use for weapons research. "Bishop II genuinely wants to save her, and the story changes really helped *Alien³*," Henriksen asserts. "The part grew while the material was being developed, yet Bishop's fate was always in the hands of the gods. I'd read scripts where he was the star, and others that had Bishop just walking through. I never knew if he would survive until the final draft."

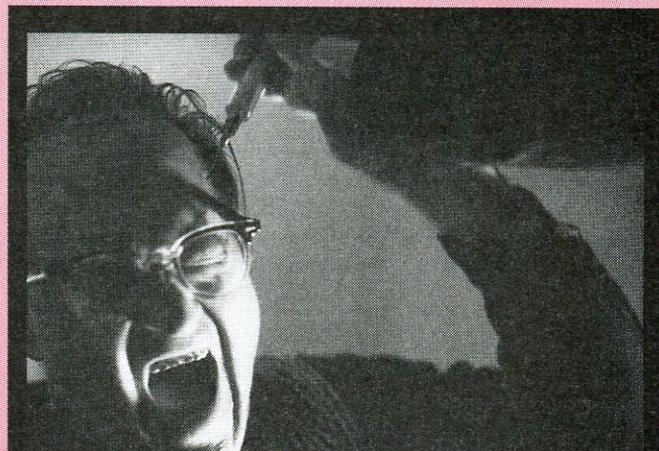
With his flesh intact after the new, improved climax of *Alien³*, Henriksen is looking forward to appearing in future sequels, especially if they stick to the original's nightmarish vision. "*Alien³* shows how many stories are left, because the movies' cores

have always been H.R. Giger's designs," he offers. "I like to get into the artist's mind, which is a distant planet to visit. His paintings are where I live and breathe when I'm thinking about the Bishop roles."

When not on the set, Henriksen often finds himself fighting his own character-driven mindset, with angry cops, disembodied androids and maniac bikers jumping into his head like Method-acting flashbacks. "The parts become your lifestyle, and I have to concentrate on clearing my head from one movie to the next. I just want to get back to who I am," the actor says. "But I don't have one complaint about the films I've been getting, though I'd really like to get back and do more genre pictures after *Alien³*. Everything's coming out this year, so it looks like there'll be a real Lance rush!"

—Daniel Schweiger

**"ALIEN³":** Few characters get a second chance against the head-ripping beast of *Alien³*, and Bishop's key to survival might be having no body at all. Last seen getting torn in half by *Aliens*' queen monster, the android with a soul now appears in two versions for this sequel, due to open May 22. As the film begins, a facehugger causes Ripley's medical chamber to eject from the Sulaco, crash-landing into the acidic ocean of a prison planet. Salvaging her biomechanical friend, Ripley energizes Bishop's remains to confirm her suspicions that an alien horror is growing inside her body. But help is on the way in the form of Bishop's human template, a Company scientist who arrives at Ripley's dark-



**Cult actor Tracey Walter is just one of the victims in *Liquid Dreams*, a futuristic thriller in which a young woman's search for her sister's killer leads her through a decadent society and into the perverse world of Neuro-Vid—the ultimate televised thrill. Northern Arts Entertainment releases the Mark Manos-directed film this spring.**

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