

MSN Live and Girls On
Present
Vin Diesel,
"Pitch Black"
October 19, 2000

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Digital Dish Diva says:

Welcome to MSN Live, brought to you tonight by Oxygen and Girls On. The Final Word in Entertainment. Yours. See for yourself at <http://girlson.oxygen.com> Tonight we are pleased to present a very special chat event with Vin Diesel who stars in the film, "Pitch Black" which releases on DVD on October 24.

Digital Dish Diva says:

A spaceship crashes on a hot planet with three suns. Among the survivors are a cop, the Captain and a prisoner (Vin Diesel.) What will happen when the eclipse begins? Who will survive? Get "Pitch Black" and find out!

Digital Dish Diva says:

Vin, welcome back. It's great to see you again!

Vin Diesel says:

It's great to be back here! Thank you all for joining!

Digital Dish Diva says:

Naturegirl says: Hi Vin. I haven't seen "Pitch Black" but my boyfriend has. Can you tell me about the film? I'm getting it for him for his birthday.

Vin Diesel says:

I don't want to spoil it for you. I can just tell you that it's a sci-fi film that we tried to incorporate as much character that hopefully is entertaining and has subliminal messages, if you dig deep enough.

Digital Dish Diva says:

krisb81 Asks: What's up Vin! You've made a positive influence on my life, and I thank you. How is your character the same (or different) in your upcoming film, "Redline," compared to your character in "Pitch Black"?

Vin Diesel says:

There's an interesting theme that goes along with all the characters I play, that my mother pointed out, it's this guy that actually protects, the idea that you have to be strong to protect your sensitivity. You should cherish and celebrate that. You should cherish and protect that, and in both films I play strong, formidable guys. They have a heart and a soul.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Calliste1 says: Where was the film filmed?

Vin Diesel says:

It was filmed in Australia in the outback, in an opal-mining town with a strong Aboriginal influence.

Digital Dish Diva says:

AsunderPeach Asks: How long did you have to wear those contacts?

Vin Diesel says:

I had to wear them for the duration of the shoot, but only while I was shooting. For the first month I could only wear them for about 10 minutes at a time because they were a prototype and they were hard to wear. We were shooting in a very dusty climate so it was crazy. I wore them too long, I have a new appreciation for those people that wear contacts.

Digital Dish Diva says:

VIN_RULES says: Are the contacts available to buy?

Vin Diesel says:

I don't know, that's a good question.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Tracy110 says: After shooting a session, did you ever leave the set still feeling like Riddick?

Vin Diesel says:

Of course I did! You know, as an actor you want to try to stay in character as much as possible. I think you go to a darker place when you play a darker character. We stayed at this one hotel which was partly underground and the walls were excavated and painted red, so the walls looked like someone was trapped in there and clawed their way out. That helps your character too.

Digital Dish Diva says:

null Asks: Did you really dislocate your shoulders in "Pitch Black"?

Vin Diesel says:

No, I didn't do it all the way, I was about 3 inches away from pulling the stunt off myself. Which caused the producers a lot of anxiety because they had already spent so much already for the shot.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Greddy5808 Asks: Are you going to be in any upcoming movies? I thought you did a wonderful performance in "Pitch Black."

Vin Diesel says:

Thank you! On January 15th a film comes out called "Knockaround Guys" with John Malkovich, Dennis Hopper, Seth Green--a bunch of great guys directed by Bryan Koppelman. It's a New York flavored film. I'm filming a movie right now called "Redline" that should come out March 23rd. And I'm SUPER excited about the next film I'm shooting called "Diablo" November 27. Lorenz Tate is co-staring in the film.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Can you tell us what this film is about?

Vin Diesel says:

It's about the drug traffic world. It's about life. I play a DEA agent whose wife is assassinated in front of him. It's a huge action film.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Where are you shooting this film?

Vin Diesel says:

We're shooting in Mexico and L.A.

Digital Dish Diva says:

So, you are close to home.

Vin Diesel says:

I actually prefer to shoot away from home. Most actors prefer to shoot in L.A. if they live there. I have a better time if I don't have to deal with my life at the end of the day. I like shooting abroad because it makes it easier to stay in the role.

Digital Dish Diva says:

raega says: Vin, you are in excellent shape. Did you have to work out a lot for this movie?

Vin Diesel says:

Yeah, but I work out in different ways for each film depending on the character and obviously I won't work out for a film like "Boiler Room." For "Diablo" I have to train in Jujitsu just to add authenticity to the character. So my joints are usually sore. (laughs)

Digital Dish Diva says:

ChèYènnè Asks: Can you please ask him if there will ever be a "Pitch Black II" in the future?

Vin Diesel says:

Yes there is! To the best of my knowledge David Hayter who wrote "X-Men" is finishing up the first part right now. They are trying to make the sequel kind of like they did the Terminator, how the first film was low budget but the sequel was explosive.

Digital Dish Diva says:

plumlocks Asks: Are you worried about being typecast at all?

Digital Dish Diva says:

Ever think of doing comedy?

Vin Diesel says:

I would love to do comedy! I think a true actor has to always worry about being type-cast. I was acting before I ever matured into a man so my physical presence was something that came many years after I started acting. So, yes, I do have to worry about being type-cast and I try and take the necessary precautions, to constantly keep my options open.

Digital Dish Diva says:

browneyedSELENA Asks: Vin, I have heard rumors that you were working on writing a script about a navy seal. Is there any truth to these rumors?

Vin Diesel says:

I was working on a script about a Navy Seal and I know there are legalities in play, so I'm kind of waiting on all that. I'm working on a few different projects simultaneously.

Digital Dish Diva says:

JLO27 Asks: How did you like doing the voice for the "Iron Giant"?

Digital Dish Diva says:

Will you do more voiceovers?

Vin Diesel says:

JLO, I would love to do more voiceovers. It will be hard to top "Iron Giant." I fell in love with the script and character. I wanted to do something for my niece and nephew that are 2 and 3 that couldn't see any of my other films. I also did it because some day I'm going to have a 5 yr. old and he's going to be asked on that first day of school "What does your daddy do?" and he'll be able to say "He's the Iron Giant!"

Digital Dish Diva says:

Did your niece and nephew see the film and did they recognize your voice?

Vin Diesel says:

Yes, they think it's the biggest thing in the world. They have all the posters and toys. I think I'm referred to more as the Iron Giant than Uncle Vin! (laughs)

Digital Dish Diva says:

papermoon says: Do you have an official website?

Vin Diesel says:

No, but I've been flipping through the websites and were so damn flattering! The one that was so accurate and classy was the Definitive Vin Diesel site.

Vin Diesel says:

The Definitive Vin Diesel site is really brilliant and classy. I have to say thank you for doing such a great job! Someone from the estrogen brigade sent me, I think her name is Arianna, sent me a Yoga mat that I actually use. Her letter was so amazing, it should be published, she talked about multiculturalism and how someone came along and celebrated his cultural ambiguity. So I don't know if I need to do a website because these people are doing a much better job than I could come up with.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Grimnirr Asks: I have heard that you have an interest in role-playing games. Do you still play, and if so, how does role-playing compare with acting?

Vin Diesel says:

Well I've played Dungeons and Dragons since I was about 12 years old and for me we would get to a play, after about 2 hours, we'd all start to assume our roles and talk like the characters we were playing. It was great because it kept me out of drugs and being reckless like a kid can become. It was a great hobby that was thought provoking. If you play a pure sense of D&D you are playing strategies. That's the role playing game I've played the most and been a strong advocate, I don't know if it would relate to my acting, but if you play D&D right you really are assuming a character and demonstrating how you would stand when confronted by something.

Digital Dish Diva says:

PANDJ says: Since you grew up in an artistic community what artistic talents besides acting did you take away from it?

Vin Diesel says:

I was kind of engrossed in the whole 'acting' thing. I think what I took away from the

community was that you could be artistic without being successful. Some of the greatest artists I've known are ones that the public will never see. These artists to art for the sake of art. I think I've taken that in my work, where art is behind my work.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Switching gears a little. Moviegeek1 Asks: So how many fights would you say you were in as a bouncer?

Vin Diesel says:

More than I care to remember. The jobs we do to support our art. . .(laughs)

Digital Dish Diva says:

krisb81 Asks: If you could work with one actor (or actress) who would it be and why?

Vin Diesel says:

I'd love to work with Morgan Freeman. There's a lot of actors and directors I'd like to work with.

Digital Dish Diva says:

JLO27 Asks: Is it hard to act in a movie as though there is something there that really isn't?

Digital Dish Diva says:

Are special effects movies hard to act in?

Vin Diesel says:

Yes! Yes it is. Very hard sometimes. One of the more challenging aspects of filming, filming green screens. It is very difficult.

Digital Dish Diva says:

PurpleC0w Asks: if you had to choose between acting or writing/directing, which would you choose?

Vin Diesel says:

I think they all serve different purposes for me, so I don't know if I can weigh them out, or challenge them to one another, or compare them to one another. It's like the difference between reading, seeing movies, and being athletic. They're all wonderful in their own right.

Digital Dish Diva says:

wu_girl Asks: Hey Vin, if you could have any superpower what would it be? By the way the estrogen brigade says hi.

Vin Diesel says:

Probably the power to heal.

Digital Dish Diva says:

That is a generous superpower.

Vin Diesel says:

I think I have the other superpowers covered. (laughs)

Digital Dish Diva says:

novafry Asks: Vin, what is your production company One Race Productions up to right now?

Vin Diesel says:

We just started to deal with New Line and we're going to start engaging in developing pictures. We're literally finding office space while we speak. We're also executive producing "Diablo" so there's all that stuff we're doing.

Digital Dish Diva says:

amarillion Asks: Are you familiar with any of the current bunch of Sci-Fi series out and would be interested in playing a role on any of them?

Vin Diesel says:

I don't watch a lot of TV. I think I just don't have the time to watch TV and I don't watch and I think if I did I would be uninformed and unable to follow it. I'm very engrossed in the film world and I don't know if I could juggle any more of that. I really want to improve the whole film-making thing and that's enough. I think films and TV are different and I put all my concentration in film. I may sound like a purist, but I just love films.

Digital Dish Diva says:

yodaddy says: Hi Vin! Does the picture usually turn out like the script you first read?

Vin Diesel says:

No. It probably never turns out to be like the first read. The objective is to make it better than the script you first read.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Variable_Daisy Asks: Why has "Pitch Black" been held back so much in British cinemas. I have been waiting for months, and it still isn't out yet!

Vin Diesel says:

I don't know, but I'm going to get on that! Thank you for bringing that to my attention! I can't believe it hasn't been released in the UK!

Digital Dish Diva says:

DieselDiva Asks: Vin, would you consider acting in plays in the future? By the way everyone at #Pitch Black scifi.com loves you!

Vin Diesel says:

That's sweet, thank you! That kind of support and positive energy goes a long way and if you've ever wondered if it effects us.. it does! It's empowering to know that people appreciate what you're doing. I started doing theater at a very young age and I will always have a soft spot for theater and at some point in my career will probably feel I need to do that. Fear is the purest form of acting, I however enjoy thoroughly enjoy acting because you have much longer to create this two hour piece. One of the huge pros for theater is the immediate gratification. I don't know if I need that right now as much as I need to further master, or try to master, film and acting in film and ultimately directing and writing film. Films were what got me into acting in the first place.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Audience member Dom has just alerted us that "Pitch Black" opens in the UK on November 10. Thanks, Dom!

Digital Dish Diva says:

wbwatcher Asks: If you were offered the lead in a romantic comedy would you do it?

Vin Diesel says:

Hands down! If you've seen the films that I've done. I'm drawn to romantic stories. I'd

love to! I had a meeting today with my agent and that's what the meeting was about, finding those projects. Yes, I would love to.

Digital Dish Diva says:

We'd love to see you in a romantic comedy, Vin. Please let us know when you are doing one!

Digital Dish Diva says:

Vin, thank you for joining us to talk about "Pitch Black," "Knockaround Guys," "Diablo," and "Redline."

Digital Dish Diva says:

It's been great having you back on MSN Live!

Vin Diesel says:

Thank you so much for supporting me. You don't realize how powerful you are. I hear things, at the agency where they wanted me to consider campaigning for Golden Globe awards, all the awards, Oscars, etc. for "Knockaround Guys" and maybe a supporting role in "Boiler Room." When I asked them what made them think about that and they said, look at the positive support on the Internet! You've really made a difference.

Digital Dish Diva says:

Well, we're behind you, Vin. Check out Vin in the DVD release of "Pitch Black" available October 24.