



FARSCAPE

Cast Bios

BEN BROWDER

“Commander John Crichton”

Ben Browder portrays Commander John Crichton, a 20th-Century American astronaut that was accidentally shot through a wormhole to the other side of the universe. A stranger in a strange land, he finds that his only friends are a band of fugitives on board a living ship named Moya.

Browder is best known to television audiences for his role as “Sam,” Neve Campbell’s boyfriend in the Fox series *Party of Five*. In addition, he appeared in several TV movies including *Paper Mansions: The Dottie West Story* starring Michelle Lee, *Danielle Steel’s Secrets* starring Christopher Plummer and Josie Bissett, *Innocent Victims* with Rick Schroeder, and *A Wing and A Prayer* with Patty Duke. His serial TV credits include guest-starring roles in *Melrose Place*, *Grace Under Fire*, *Murder She Wrote* and *Boys of Twilight* with Wilford Brimley.

Browder made his feature film debut in *Memphis Belle*. He also appeared in *Nevada* with Gabrielle Anwar and Kirstie Alley, *A Kiss Before Dying* with Matt Dillon, and the independent feature *Boogie Boy*, directed by Craig Hamann.

Browder appeared in the Broadway production of *The Merchant of Venice* starring Dustin Hoffman as well as regional theatre productions.

Born in Memphis, TN, and raised in Charlotte, NC, where his family owns and operates a NASCAR Busch series racecar, Browder is a graduate of Furman University in Greenville, SC. He received his acting training at Central School of Speech and Drama in London.

CLAUDIA BLACK

“Officer Aeryn Sun”

Claudia Black portrays Aeryn Sun, a Sebacean Peacekeeper. Born to be a warrior and sublimate her feelings, Aeryn is a commando-trained pilot who finds herself romantically drawn to Crichton despite her natural inclinations.

Black will star as Pandora in Anne Rice’s upcoming feature *Queen of the Damned* alongside Aaliyah and Stuart Townsend. Due to be released October 2001, *Queen of the Damned* will be her second feature film following USA Films’ sci-fi hit sleeper *Pitch Black* which premiered February 2000.

Black has appeared in many of Australia’s popular TV series and movies. She is well-known to Australian audiences for her portrayal of the hermaphrodite Jill Mayhew in *Good Guys Bad Guys*, and the leading role of Angela Kostapas in *City Life*.

She also appeared in the series *GP*, *Police Rescue*, *A Country Practice*, *Water Rats* and *Seven Deadly Sins*, in addition to several guest-starring roles in *Hercules* and *Beastmaster*. A finalist in the 1990 Globe Shakespeare competition, Black's theatre credits include Portia in the European tour of *The Merchant of Venice*, Jo in *Little Women*, *The World Knot* for the Bicentennial Opera, *Spotlight on Women*, *Portrait of Dorian Gray*, *Loose Ends*, and *Pick Ups* for the Belvoir Street Theatre.

ANTHONY SIMCOE

"Ka D'Argo"

Anthony Simcoe portrays Ka D'Argo, a Luxan warrior wrongfully imprisoned by the Peacekeepers. His life-long mission to find his lost son has finally been fulfilled in the second season but the reunion is bittersweet.

Simcoe is best known for his role as Steve Kerrigan in the popular Australian comedy feature *The Castle*, released in May 1999 by Miramax in the U.S. He also was featured in the Australian film *Mr. Reliable*. His other television credits include guest-starring roles in *Beastmaster* and the Australian series *A Country Practice*, *Home and Away*, *Water Rats* and *English at Work*.

Simcoe's extensive theatre credits include Footloose Theatre Company's *World Games*; Sydney Street Theatre Space's *Craving*, in which he wrote and performed; Stables Theatre's *Three Winters Green*; Q.T.C.'s *Peter Pan*; Griffin Theatre's *Complaints* and The Murray River Performing Group's production of *Double Deception* at the Hothouse Theatre.

A graduate of the internationally renowned National Institute of Dramatic Arts (NIDA) in Sydney, Australia, Simcoe holds an MFA in Drama specializing in actor training, and degrees from universities and acting schools in Australia and Europe, in addition to lecturing for NIDA.

VIRGINIA HEY

"Pa'u Zotoh Zhaan"

Virginia Hey portrays Pa'u Zotoh Zhaan, a Delvian Priestess who possesses mystical powers and is constantly battling to suppress the evil rage within her that threatens to consume her soul.

A former high fashion model from the 70s and 80s, Hey has become one of Australia's most successful actresses. Hey made her film debut as the Warrior Woman in George Miller's *Mad Max 2: Road Warrior* starring Mel Gibson. She also starred in the James Bond film *The Living Daylights*, *Castaway* directed by Nicholas Roeg, *Mussolini*, *Return of Captain Invincible*, *Norman Loves Rose*, and most recently *Signal One*.

Some of her television movie roles include *Crazy Like A Fox* for USA Network; *Big Deal* for BBC television; *Timeslip* for HBO; *Vietnam* directed by John Duigan; *Home and Away*; and *Neighbors* and *Prisoner* for Grundy Television. Among her television credits are appearances in *Roar*, *Flipper*, *Mission Impossible*, and *Dolphin Cove*.

-more-

GIGI EDGLEY

“Chiana”

Gigi Edgley portrays Chiana, an impetuous young thief and D’Argo’s lover. A fickle comrade, her loyalties to herself and her friends are constantly at odds.

Edgley’s television credits include a guest starring role as Penny in the popular Australian television series *Water Rats* and as Erica Watson in the mini-series *Day of the Roses*.

Edgley’s numerous theatre credits include *Kakos*, *Kill Everything You Love*, *The Rover*, *Boy’s Life*, *The Land of the Real Girls*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Caged Birds*, *Blue People*, and *Princess and The Pea* for the Brisbane Arts Theatre, *Road* and *Picnic At Hanging Rock* for the Twelfth Night Theatre and *Les Miserables* for the Gold Coast Arts Theatre.

From 1994 to 1995, Edgley trained at various workshops at the National Institute of Dramatic Art. She then moved to Queensland and in 1998 received a B.A. in Drama from Queensland University of Technology Academy of the Arts.

JONATHAN HARDY

Voice of “Rygel”

Jonathan Hardy provides the voice of Rygel the XVI, the 26-inch tall exiled Hynerian Royal Dominar to over 600 billion subjects. More often than not, this “floating stomach” can be found in cahoots with Chiana regarding one scheme or another.

Some of Hardy’s television acting credits include *Rush* for ABC Television, the series *Prisoner* for Network Ten, *Mission Impossible*, *The Man From Snowy River*, *The Thorn Birds – The Missing Years*, and the popular series *All Saints*.

His feature film credits include *Mad Max*, starring Mel Gibson; *The Blind Geronimo*; *The Adventures Of Barry McKenzie* directed by Bruce Beresford; *Devil’s Playground*; *The Mango Tree*; *Lonely Hearts*; *Constance*; *The Delinquents* starring Kylie Minogue; *Jova*; *Wills & Burke* and *Moulin Rouge*.

An actor and writer for the stage, television and screen, Jonathan’s latest foray was directing *Die Fledermaus* for the New Zealand Opera. New Zealand-born Hardy was a member of numerous theatre companies in the U.K. before settling in Australia where in the course of twenty years he became a member of the Melbourne Theatre Company, the Nimrod Theatre Company, the Mercury Theatre Company and the Victoria State Opera.

-more-

LANI JOHN TUPU

“Captain Bialar Crais” and voice of “Pilot”

Lani John Tupu portrays Capt. Crais, a former Peacekeeper officer who swore to hunt down Crichton in retribution for his brother’s death. After a confrontation with Scorpius, Crais was forced to abandon his command and has since become an uncomfortable ally of the Moya crew.

Tupu has spent considerable time in front of and behind the camera. As a director, he directed the critically acclaimed award-winning short film *Talk of the Town*; the video *The Main Course*, and also assistant directed the Karen Norris Film *Ole*. As an actor, he starred in the TV movie *Tanker Incident*, the television series *Flipper 2* and has guest-starred in many television programs, both in his native New Zealand and in the U.S. including *Mission Impossible*, *The Feds* and *Time Trax*. His film credits include New World Pictures’ *The Punisher* and Energy Source International’s *Send a Gorilla*.

A founding member of the Walkers And Talkers theatre group in Australia, Tupu has extensive theatre credits performing in over forty stage productions for several theatre companies in New Zealand. In 1993, he received an award for Best Dramatic Performance from the New Zealand Film Television Awards. He was nominated for the “Best New Talent” at the 1984 Feltex Television Awards and in 1985, was nominated for “Best Actor.” Tupu was also a finalist at the 1986 Listener Film Television Awards for the “Male Performance Supporting Role” in Film for *Send A Gorilla*. He received a Best Actor award for *Talk of the Town*, which he directed, at the Dreamaker Festival in Ontario, Canada.

Tupu was educated at Rongotai College in Wellington, New Zealand and Wellington Teachers Training College. He was trained at the New Zealand Drama School. He currently resides in Sydney, Australia.

WAYNE PYGRAM

“Scorpius”

Wayne Pogrom plays Scorpius, a sadistic alien Peacekeeper who has dogged the Moya crew across the Uncharted Territory for the wormhole knowledge locked in Crichton’s brain. Now that he has retrieved a chip he had implanted in Crichton’s head, it’s only a matter of time until Scorpius becomes the most powerful being in the galaxy.

A seasoned theatrical actor, Pygram has appeared in numerous productions in his native Australia. His extensive stage credits including classic dramatic works such as *Sweet Bird of Youth*, *Macbeth* and *King Lear*, as well as the musicals *Tommy*, *Cabaret* and *Grease*.

Pygram’s talents have gone beyond theater to include Australian television and film. He appeared in the sci-fi TV series *The Lost World* and *Time Trax*, and the feature films *Risk*, *Farewell to the King* and the suspense drama *Careful He Might Hear You*.

-more-

PAUL GODDARD

“Stark”

Paul Goddard plays Stark, a schizophrenic savant whose hatred for Scorpius is rivaled only by his love for the Banik slave race from which he came.

A graduate from Australia's National Institute of Dramatic Art in 1984, Goddard is one of Australia's most accomplished actors. He made an impact worldwide with his role as Agent Brown in *The Matrix*, starring Keanu Reeves. Other film credits include Jane Campion's *Holy Smoke*, Kennedy Miller's *Babe*, *Billy's Holiday* directed by Richard Wherrett and *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*. Some of his Television credits include Channel Nine's popular *Water Rats*, *Big Sky*, *Hart to Hart*, *GP*, *A Country Practice* and *Sons and Daughters*.

Among Goddard's numerous theatre credits are his award-winning performances in *Cabaret*, for which he won the 1997 Glugs Award and Colleen Clifford Memorial Award for “Most Outstanding Performance in a Musical”, and *Angels In America* for which he won the 1993 Sydney Theatre Critics' Circle Award for “Most Outstanding Performer”.