



FARSCAPE

CAST BIOS

BEN BROWDER

“Commander John Crichton”

Ben Browder portrays Commander John Crichton, a 20th-Century American astronaut caught in a space accident that hurls him across many galaxies and into the adventure of a lifetime, in the SCI FI Channel original series *Farscape*.

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 race car, 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 humanoid Sebacean Peacekeeper who was a reluctant passenger in the fleeing prisoner ship, in the SCI FI Channel original series, *Farscape*. Born to be a warrior and sublimate her feelings, Aeryn is a commando-trained pilot who finds herself romantically drawn to Crichton.

Black is currently appearing in USA Films’ *Pitch Black* directed by David Twohy (*The Fugitive*) which premiered in theatres in February 2000.

(more)

***Farscape* Cast Bios/Page Two**

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*.

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.

Black's talents include professional singing with a concentration in jazz and classical music.

ANTHONY SIMCOE "Ka D'Argo"

Anthony Simcoe portrays Ka D'Argo, a Luxan warrior wrongfully imprisoned by the Peacekeepers. He is a member of the group of fugitives now traversing the galaxy in the living ship Moya in the SCI FI Channel original series *Farscape*.

Simcoe is best known for his role as Steve Kerrigan in the popular Australian comedy feature from Working Dog Productions *The Castle*, a film released in May 1999 by Miramax in the U.S. He also was featured in the Australian film *Mr. Reliable*.

His television credits include 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.

(more)

***Farscape* Cast Bios/Page Three**

**VIRGINIA HEY
"Pa'u Zotoh Zhaan"**

Virginia Hey portrays Pa'u Zotoh Zhaan, a Delvian Priestess who possesses mystical powers, in the SCI FI Channel original series *Farscape*.

A former high fashion model from the 70s and 80s, Hey has become one of Australia's most successful actresses. She has appeared in the American series *Roar*, *Flipper*, *Mission Impossible*, and *Dolphin Cove*; *Flesh and Blood* for Channel 4 in the UK; the popular series *E Street* for Westside Productions; and *Pacific Drive* in Australia.

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*.

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.

**GIGI EDGLEY
"Chiana"**

Gigi Edgley portrays Chiana, an impetuous young thief and the latest addition to Moya's crew in SCI FI Channel's original series *Farscape*.

Edgley guest starred as Penny in the popular Australian television series *Water Rats* and appeared 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*, *Princess And The Pea* for the Brisbane Arts Theatre, *Road*, *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.

(more)

***Farscape* Cast Bios/Page Four**

JONATHAN HARDY

Voice Of Rygel

FARSCAPE

Jonathan Hardy provides the voice of Rygel the XVI, the 26-inch tall Hynerian Royal Dominar to over 600 billion subjects, in the SCI FI original series *Farscape*.

New Zealand-born Hardy was a member of numerous theatre companies in the U.K. from 1965 – 1972, before settling in Australia.

From 1972–1991, Hardy was a member of the Melbourne Theatre Company, the Nimrod Theatre Company, the Mercury Theatre Company and the Victoria State Opera, with productions that include *The Importance Of Being Earnest*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Sweet Charity*, *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf*, *The Taming Of The Shrew*, *The Merchant Of Venice*, *Hamlet* and *Richard III*. Hardy has also appeared in productions for the Royal Queensland Theatre Company, The Sydney Theatre Company and the State Theatre Company of South Australia including *The Crucible*, *Romeo And Juliet*, *Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead*, *Waiting For Godot*, *Shadow And Splendour* and *Twelfth Night*.

Hardy's Australian television acting credits include *Rush* for ABC Television, the telemovie *Power Without Glory*, *Bluey*, the series *Prisoner* for Network Ten, the mini-series *Heroes*, *Family and Friends*, *Mission Impossible*, the series *GP* for ABC Television, *The Man From Snowy River*, the series *The Thorn Birds – The Missing Years*, *Twisted Tales*, *Medivac*, *State Coroner* and the popular series *All Saints*.

Feature film credits include *Mad Max*, directed by George Miller and 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* and *Wills & Burke*.

Hardy's film and television writing credits include *The Life Of The Idiot* for Brighton Films, *Breaker Morant*, *Constance*, *Porters TV Series* for Television N.Z. and *Backstage*.

LANI JOHN TUPU

“Captain Bialar Crais” and voice of “Pilot”

Lani John Tupu portrays Capt. Crais, the Peacekeeper officer determined to hunt down the crew of Moya for retribution in his brother's death in the SCI FI original series *Farscape*.

(more)

***Farscape* Cast Bios/Page Five**

Tupu has spent considerable time in front of and behind the camera. Tupu directed *Going Home* for the stage; the critically acclaimed, award-winning short film *Talk of the Town*; and the video *The Main Course*. He also assistant directed the Karen Norris Film *Ole*. He starred in the TV movie *Tanker Incident* and in the TV series *Flipper 2*. His film credits include New World Pictures' *The Punisher* and Energy Source International's *Send A Gorilla*. For over a decade, he 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*.

A founding member of the Walkers And Talkers theatre group in Australia, Tupu has extensive theatre credits. Most recently, he took part in the Bell Shakespeare Company production of *The Tempest*, which toured throughout Australia. He has performed in over forty stage productions for several theatre companies in New Zealand.

As an acting coach, Tupu has taught "Acting For Camera" in Australia and New Zealand. He also runs weekly workshops on "Screen Acting" at the Actors Centre in Sydney, Australia.

Tupu has been nominated for many awards throughout his acting career. 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, he 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 Pygram plays Scorpius, a sadistic alien Peacekeeper commander who joins the hunt for the crew of the living ship Moya in SCI FI's hit original series *Farscape*.

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 films *Risk*, *Farewell to the King* and the suspense drama *Careful He Might Hear You*.

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