The organizers of Actionfest, the first film festival devoted to shoot-'em/kick-'em/chase-'em film fare, have annouced the first round of movies confirmed for their initial event, which takes place Thursday-Sunday, April 15-18 in Asheville, NC. While most of the flicks are devoted to gunplay, martial arts and the like, there are a few titles in there with specific Fangorian appeal.

Actionfest , which will take place at the Carolina Asheville Cinema (1640 Hendersonville Road), is highlighted by personal appearances by Chuck Norris (who will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award) and his director brother Aaron Norris, accompanying rare big-screenings of CODE OF SILENCE and BRADDOCK: MISSING IN ACTION III, and an opening-night showing of CENTURION, the latest from THE DESCENT's Neil Marshall.

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There will also be world premieres of Fouad Mikati's OPERATION: ENDGAME (a.k.a. ROGUES GALLERY), starring Zack Galifanakis, Rob Corddry, Ving Rhames, and Emile De Raven, Robert Lieberman's THE STRANGER, with "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, and Isaac Florentine's UNDISPUTED III: REDEMPTION, pitting Scott Adkins against Marko Zaror. Three features will have their North American premieres: Daniel Lee's Donnie Yen/Sammo Hung vehicle 14 BLADES, João Daniel Tikhomiroff's capoeira drama BESOURO and Rashane Limtrakul's Thai girl-fighting movie RAGING PHOENIX. Finally, there will be U.S. premieres of Krissanapong Rachata's POWER KIDS, about martial-arts tykes battling terrorists (trust us, you don't want to miss this one!) and HK veteran Johnnie To's VENGEANCE, starring Johnny Hallyday.

On a more horrific—and comic—note, Actionfest will host the regional premiere of Eli Craig's TUCKER & DALE VS. EVIL, in which REAPER's Tyler Labine and Alan Tudyk play backwoods yokels mistaken for psycho killers by a group of vacationing college kids. There's also VALHALLA RISING, from BRONSON'S Nicholas Winding Refn, a Viking epic with supernatural overtones, and a retrospective showing of WAKE IN FRIGHT (a.k.a. OUTBACK), Ted Kotcheff's borderline-horrific study of a civilized man going crazy in the Australian Outback.

A bunch more movies and guests have been announced with more to come, so head over to the Actionfest site linked above for more details and updates.

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