

Alan Tudyk talks Stephen Douglas in "ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER"

Written by Samuel Zimmerman
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In discussing the highly anticipated, and really great, TUCKER & DALE VS EVIL this week, Fango talked to star Alan Tudyk (SERENITY, DODGEBALL) briefly about him following the film with another hybrid of sorts. Although this isn't so much horror/comedy as it is, horror/history(?). We're talking of ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER, of course, in which Tudyk plays real life political rival to Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas. Here's what he had to say about his buffoon of a character and working with director Timur Bekmambetov.

While the title is fairly self-explanatory, ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER, based on the novel by Seth Grahame-Smith, sees our 16th president take up the skill after the death of his mother by bloodsucking. Tudyk essays Douglas, an actual opponent of Lincoln and the other half of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates.

"I can't speak for the whole—that one is such a big movie. As far as my character is concerned, I'm certainly a buffoon. I have this wig on, this kind of bufonty Stephen Douglas wig, I got a little fat suit on. I'm just a tool. I'm an idiot. I don't think I pay proper homage to the genius that was Stephen Douglas," Tudyk laughs. "He was a very important man at one time and I read up all about him and then threw all of that out and played him like a jackass."

"Also, Timur, the director has such a sense of humor. On NIGHT WATCH, I love that movie and it's got so much humor in it. There's just so much humor in a very dark and creepy, sad at times, twisted movie and he's brings that to ABRAHAM. Of all the things he brings, I'm certainly on the silly, kind of odd character. I show up, I'm gone, I show up, I'm gone. I'm a political foil to Abraham Lincoln, so when he needs to talk about slavery, I seem to reappear and say, "It's not that bad. Slavery's good."

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER is currently set for a June 22, 2012 release.
Benjamin Walker and Mary Elizabeth Winstead co-star.