

## FEATURE

by Jonathan McCann

# 60 Seconds With...

# CRAIG HENDERSON



Craig Henderson, 28, is a young Scottish-born actor, whose star is on the rise. He has won critical acclaim for movies such as *The Toybox* and his most recent offering is called *Making Waves*, which was released at the end of November. He has worked with Liz Hurley in commercials for Magnum ice cream and is also a well-respected stage actor. While studying at Edinburgh University he lived in the south side of the city for many years before moving to London to pursue his acting dream.

**Jonathan McCann:** First things first, what can you tell me about your recent film *Making Waves*?

**Craig Henderson:** It's basically a warm, feel-good romantic comedy about a group of people that communicate through ham radio, and two of them fall in love and decide to go on a date. My character works in a video store but he pretends that he is a world travelled journalist who sells yachts in his spare time! The film is set in 1999 and is partly based on fact as a man in Scotland was communicating with the Russian cosmonaut trapped on the Mir Space Station at that time.

**JM:** You starred with Liz Hurley in a series of commercials for Magnum ice cream. Was that an enjoyable experience?

**CH:** She was a pleasure, it was an extremely enjoyable. We filmed in Turkey and the ad's are very popular in South Africa, Australia and Mexico. Unfortunatley I arrived with a winter white Scottish complexion, so every day before filming, two make up artists had

to bronze me up with fake tan! Even then the director still thought I was too pale on the first day!

**JM:** You earned plaudits for your performance in *The Toybox*. Do you see yourself making another film in the horror genre?

**CH:** Definitely! I really liked the fact that the character was different from the parts I usually play. The clever thing about the script was you never knew which character would flip over the edge. Friends of mine who saw the movie said the character was just like me and I would like to think that's because I did my job and not because I'm scizophrenic! I found it enjoyably dark.

**JM:** You have been involved in theatre work, is that a more demanding experience than film and TV?

**CH:** For me it is. I love filming, it has always come naturally to me, I love the technical aspect of camera work. Before stepping out

on stage I feel physically sick and worry that I may forget my lines. Although every stage actor I have spoken to say that they have similar emotions, so I am in good company.

**JM:** You have a degree in Classic Archeology and Ancient History from Edinburgh University. If there was one historical discovery you could make what would it be?

**CH:** It would have to be the discovery of the tomb of the Royal Macedonian Family in Vergina in Northern Greece. If I had made that discovery I'd be there digging and not doing what I'm doing! I loved my subject and for me Edinburgh University is the best University in Britain and I have great memories of my time there.

**JM:** South Edinburgh has a fascianting historical backround. Where are your favourite places to visit when you are in the capital?

**CH:** My favourite place is The Craggs. I would go running up there and I remember the first time I went to the top without stopping, it

was a drink worthy achievement! To have that in the middle of Edinburgh is incredible, you can't beat it. It feels like you are hill walking even though you are in a city and it can't be rivaled by any other place."

**JM:** Do you think you would ever move back to Edinburgh?

**CH:** I would love to get back to Edinburgh, although a lot of my family live there. At the moment I am between London and LA but I would love to get a nice place in Marchmont again with big old bay windows!

• *Making Waves* is out now on DVD priced £19.99

