

## Interview with actress Julianna Robinson of Aaah! Zombies!!



Julianna Robinson co-starred alongside Matthew Davis, Betsy Beutler, Michael Grant Terry, Colby French and Joel McCrary for what is sure to be a new cult classic in director Matthew Kohnen's Aaah! Zombies!! (aka Wasting Away). The Screamfest award winner turns the zombie film on its head by being oddball comedy that's told from the perspective of the brain munching monsters themselves. Here is what Julianna Robinson had to say about being a part of this film and remember "zombies are people too!".

### So who is Julianna Robinson and what are you all about?

"Who are you?" said the caterpillar. I'm the girl who who falls in holes because she dreams too much.



### So how did you become involved with Aaah! Zombies!!? What was it about the film that attracted you to it?

The guys who wrote the film were driving down Hollywood Blvd one day and they saw me eating a human head near the corner of Vine. It was type-casting really. The script was hilarious and the Kohnen brothers (the co-writers and also director and producer) are solid, good people and I just really wanted to do it. It sounded like it would be fun and it was. Tons of fun.

This was your biggest role to date at the time. What was it like transitioning into a role that demanded you on screen more often?

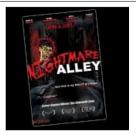
#### What was it like transitioning from TV work to feature film work?

I feel like growing up doing theatre really prepares you well as an actor. Theatre is demanding in a different way than film and TV of course, but it really does prepare your instrument fully to help you move between media more adeptly. I would say in general that with film you have time for more takes than with TV, but when you're making a film on a budget like this one, it's really tough to do more than 3 takes. But we had fun together and it worked out well regardless I think.



### The film had a pretty strong cast. What was it like working with everyone? How was Matthew Davis?

The cast was a gift really. We all got along very well and still keep in touch. Matthew Davis is funny and down to earth and drives a Prius



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and hangs out with everyone on set. He's a wonderful person as is everyone else involved with the film.

### What was the zombie makeup like? What kind of on screen zombie action did you engage in?

The zombie makeup was airbrushed on us and therefore wasn't really all that heavy. It was basically some airbrushed zombie veins and dark eyes. The zombie contacts however were a giant pain in the ass!! I had to put Matt's contacts in one night because they were really difficult to get in and were pretty uncomfortable. Getting to play the zombie parts of the film were my favorite. Coming from a dance background I feel much more comfortable when I'm allowed to be physical and I think we all really had fun making our zombies unique and sympathetic.



# What did the film require of you from a physical standpoint?

Staying up all night. We shot at night and I think that was really the hardest part. It was a solid month of being a vampire.

### What is one of your favorite on set memories from filming Aaah! Zombies!!?

The very first night of shooting we're at Griffith Park. We're shooting the scene where we're all sitting at the picnic table. We get to the set around 10pm, we're introduced for the very first time, we get into our wardrobe and makeup and we head to the set. It's about midnight and a little LA mist has started to creep into the park. The crew is finishing some lighting and we're just chatting and getting to know one another. And then we see this fat, white rabbit about 20 feet from us and he's just staring at us with these giant, pink, fairy tale eyes. We sat speechless and watched him. And then he hopped away. We decided a that moment that it was a good omen. I believe it was.



### So what is your thoughts on being a part of Aaah! Zombies!!? What do you think of the final product?

I loved being a part of this film. The crew and cast were like family. I craved going to set. It made me happy to be

there and I love the final product. I'm really proud of it. A lot of people worked tremendously hard and long hours on nearly no budget to put together a witty and soulful piece of art that just happens to have zombies. Brilliant!



After Aaah! Zombies!! you did one other film and then was absent for two years from films and TV. Why?

Oh Brandon, this question is like a mirror and in it is reflected,

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"Jules you're a loser slacker get a job." I'm teasing you. No seriously, I don't know. I feel like there are a lot of factors to why actors don't work for periods of time. It's not because I wasn't trying or going on auditions. A good friend of mine recently said to me, "Jules, I'm leaving acting. It's the lottery and I'm just not going to win." He's right in a way. Acting is a bit like the lottery and no I haven't hit the big one yet, but I'm still playing; I'm still in the game. It's my greatest love. I won't be too far from it for very long.



#### So what's next for you?

Well, I've been doing some theatre and I'm writing a novel. It started out as a script but I've turned it into a book. I'm having fun with it. I like to do lots of different things otherwise I get bored. If you find a good script for me to be in, you send along.

### Any final comments?

I think it's really important to keep independent film alive. So please, I beseech you, go out there and seek out indie movies. They're almost always little gems that a lot of folks worked their butts off to get out in the world. Indie movies will inspire you to want to

go out and create art yourself. So go...rent Aaah! Zombies!! today.

To check out my review of Aaah! Zombies!! visit: http://www.bigdaddyhorrorreviews.com/2010/10/aaah-zombies.html



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6 of 6