

THREE COMMITTED STAR TRAVELLERS

Although it was never aired on German television, the science-fiction show "Firefly" was able to build a small, but persistent fan base here. Just curious about the current product of "Buffy"-creator Joss Whedon, many obtained the English-language DVD-Box. Only the excellent sales of this Box-set in the USA (the show having been cancelled after the first season due to lacklustre ratings) allowed production of the movie "Serenity", not only to the creator's, but also the actors delight. This was perceivable during the interview, which Filmszene was allowed to conduct in Hamburg with Joss Whedon as well as Nathan Fillion (Captain Reynolds) and Summer Glau (River).

Interview with Nathan Fillion and Summer Glau:

Filmszene: Nathan, there were reports that when Firefly had been cancelled, you were not just disappointed, but downright angry at those responsible at Fox.

Nathan Fillion: Yes, I wanted my revenge (laughs). It's not directed against the people at Fox who supported and trusted us all the time. My wrath is directed against the person who made the decision to cancel us so early, because this was a stupid decision. Our show had incredible potential and the fans loved it. It was a huge satisfaction that we were able to make the movie.

Filmszene: Apparently you quickly built a good relationship to show creator Joss Whedon, since he gave you a new job immediately after the sudden end of "Firefly".

Fillion: Yes, he gave me a recurring role ("Caleb") in the last "Buffy"-season and after the awesome experience with "Firefly" I was absolutely willing to work again with Joss. We bridged the time well and also have many plans yet to come.

Filmszene: Summer, you too were part of the show and were anxious to be in the movie?

Summer Glau: Sure, because with Joss it's just incredibly fun. He's keeping us high-spirited and constantly motivates us anew. I'm not that experienced yet, but I don't know if there will be something like "Firefly" or "Serenity" again. I believe we're at least as harmonic a family as the colleagues of "Star Trek".

Filmszene: "Serenity" is your first motion picture. A big difference to television?

Glau: Not really in this case, regarding the people involved and atmosphere. Of course the expenditure in production is completely different. For example, when our spaceship was shot at in the show, we would all waver and roll from left to right. This time, our stage was a huge mobile platform as stage and we were really jolted - you didn't have to pretend anymore.

Filmszene: Arguably you had the toughest job anyway and for some time acted as real battle machine. Apparently, many people didn't think you could do it.

Glau: Neither did I, I was quite afraid to goof up. Eventually, three months of intensive training and constant cajoling from Joss helped.

Filmszene: Nathan, is the impression right that your character comes across a bit tougher and more unaffable than in the show?

Fillion: No, that's absolutely correct and intended. The Captain went through a few transformations. He already was a bit gruff and not everybody's darling at the very

beginning. But during the course of the show we had to soften it up upon instruction from above. You know, they want to see nice and friendly persons during prime time. There were no such constraints in the movie and we were allowed to step it up again.

Filmszene: Independent from "Serenity"'s success, what's next for you?

Fillion: A Thriller called "Slither" next year.

Filmszene: Success for that and thanks for the talk.

Original interview: <http://www.filmszene.de/kino/s/serenityinterview.html>
Translated from German by Malte for **Summer-Glau.net**