

NEWS

'DANIEL'S DAUGHTER'

CAST BIOS

LAURA LEIGHTON (Catherine) – Versatile actress Laura Leighton is best known as the scheming Sydney Andrews on the hit Fox drama “Melrose Place,” a role which earned her a Golden Globe nomination and an US Magazine Entertainer of The Year Award.

Born in Iowa City, Iowa, to a mid-western family, Leighton found a passion early on for the arts. Shortly after graduating from West High (ironically located on Melrose Avenue), she left Iowa to tour the country with the song and dance troupe “Young Americans.”

Leighton eventually moved on to study acting, and soon after, began landing television commercials and was cast in a guest spot on Aaron Spelling’s “Melrose Place,” which soon turned into a permanent gig. As viewers gripped to their love/hate relationship with Sydney, the success of this nighttime drama became enormous. She played the character for the better part of four years, when her character was killed off in May 1997. She later joined the cast of Spelling’s “Beverly Hills, 90210” for several episodes, appearing in a role Spelling created specifically for her.

In 2003 she made her return to series television in Jerry Bruckheimer’s “Skin” on FOX and followed it up when she appeared opposite Tim Daly on the ABC private detective series “Eyes.” Most recently, Leighton has made guest star appearances on such series as “CSI: Miami,” “Boston Legal,” “Shark,” “Damages,” and “Law and Order SVU.” In August of 2007, she appeared in the Lifetime Television movie “Love Notes.” She also recently wrapped production on “The Burrowers”, a new horror/thriller from Sony/LionsGate.

Leighton’s other credits include Showtime’s “Naked City,” independent film “The Clean and Narrow,” and “Seven Girlfriends,” with Tim Daly, Jami Gertz and Mimi Rogers.

Over the years, Leighton has lent her name and energy to several charities, especially ones focusing on AIDS research, including AIDS Project LA, The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, AMFAR and the Step Up Women’s Network.

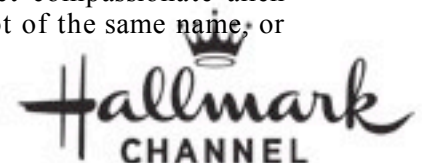
In June 1999, Leighton married her “Melrose Place” costar Doug Savant, who currently stars as Tom Scavo on the ABC hit “Desperate Housewives.” The pair has two children together, a six-year-old son, Jack and a two-year-old daughter, Lucy, as well as two children from Doug’s previous marriage.

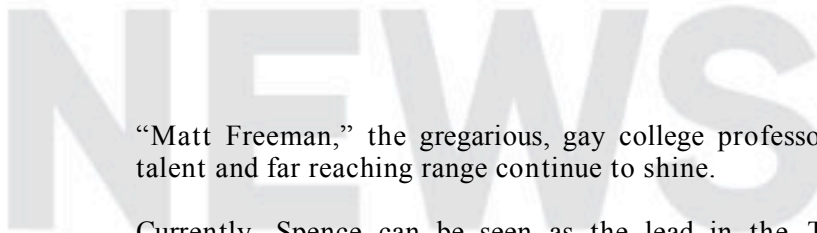
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SEBASTIAN SPENCE (Connor) – Sebastian Spence has come a long way from his theatrical roots in St. John’s, Newfoundland. Whether playing a stoic, aggressive, yet compassionate alien hunter in “First Wave,” “The Lone Ranger’s” brother, in the Sony/WB’s pilot of the same name, or





“Matt Freeman,” the gregarious, gay college professor in The WB’s “Dawson’s Creek,” Spence’s talent and far reaching range continue to shine.

Currently, Spence can be seen as the lead in the TV series "Sophie Parker," which shoots in Montreal. In addition, he recently finished a lead role in the SciFi movie of the week “Tornado,” directed by Tibor Takacs.

Spence’s recent TV roles include a lead on the CBS Mini series “C-7,” a recurring role on SciFi’s cult hit “Battlestar Galactica,” guest starring roles in PAX’s “Young Blades,” The CW’s “Supernatural,” “The X-Files,” “The Outer Limits” and lead roles in the Lifetime films “Obsession” and “To Have and To Hold.” He also recently wrapped production a pilot for the Canadian Broadcasting Company’s sitcom pilot, “Sofie.”

Spence was the solo lead in Francis Ford Coppola’s hit series “First Wave,” a dark, suspense filled show that aired on SciFi for a worldwide audience. He starred as Cade Foster, ex-thief and prophesized saviour of mankind. He was cast in the role while still a regular in the Showtime action series “Fast Track,” playing a cocky young race car driver.

In his first film, “Boys of St. Vincent,” Spence won high praise for his outstanding portrayal of Kevin Reevey, a tortured young man trying to live a normal life, yet forced to confront his past of childhood sexual abuse in an orphanage at the hands of the very priests entrusted with his care. Spence was proud to have been part of this film, which was nominated by Rolling Stone Magazine and USA Today as one of the top films of 1994.

Upon the heels of that performance, Spence was tagged by acclaimed Canadian indie filmmaker Mina Shum to co-star in her dark comedy “Drive She Said,” in which he played Jonathan, an uptight, commitment-phobic young man. Other roles in his multifaceted career include playing an elite smoke-jumping firefighter in “Firestorm,” and a cross-dressing Mob boss’s son in the film “Crossing,” which won silver at *Cinequest* in the Emerging Maverick/ First Feature category.

Never one to be typecast, Spence revels in the vast range of characters he has been called on to play. Early years in theatre prepared him well for such variety. His numerous stage credits include such notable plays as *King Lear*, *Crime and Punishment*, *Wolf in the Fold*, and *The Great Fire Show*.

It is no coincidence that Spence chose acting as his profession. His father, the late Michael Cook, was a renowned playwright and his mother, Janis Spence, is also a successful playwright and actor. So, in truth Sebastian Spence is simply keeping up the family tradition.

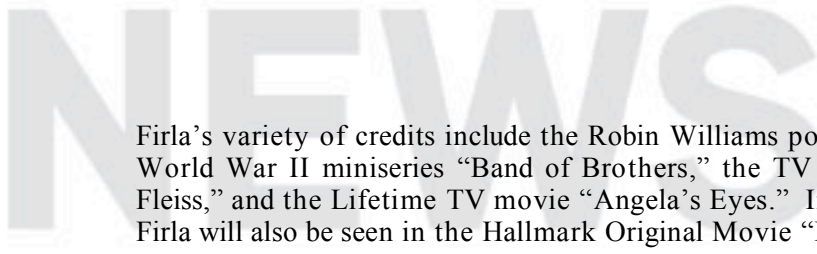
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BRANDON FIRLA (Jeffrey Lerner) – Born in Calgary, Brandon Firla trained with improv guru Keith Johnstone before moving to England to study at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts.

Brandon has many film and television appearances to his credit, most notably, playing one of the leads on the sitcom “Billable Hours,” which just finished shooting its 2nd season. “Billable Hours” airs on the Showcase network, which features original programming and top-tier series from around the world, including US cable networks.





Firla's variety of credits include the Robin Williams political satire "Man of the Year" and the HBO World War II miniseries "Band of Brothers," the TV movie "Call Me: The Rise and Fall of Heidi Fleiss," and the Lifetime TV movie "Angela's Eyes." In addition to his work in "Daniel's Daughter," Firla will also be seen in the Hallmark Original Movie "Bridal Fever," premiering February 2008.

Recently, Firla and his brother Kurt (collectively known as the Rumoli Bros.) won a Canadian Comedy Award for their controversial 2006 production of *SARSical: The Musical About a Real Showstopper*, their satirical take on Toronto's SARS crisis. Presented at the historic Factory Theatre, *SARSical* drew packed houses, critical raves, and just a bit of hate mail.

The Rumoli Bros premiered their latest project this summer at the 2007 Toronto Fringe Festival.

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KELLI FOX (Fiona) – One of Canada's most prominent theatrical actresses and sister to TV icon Michael J. Fox, Kelli Fox has played some of the most coveted roles in English theatre.

In her ten years at the Shaw Festival Kelli starred in many productions including *The Crucible*, *Rutherford and Son*, *Waiting for the Parade*, *Plough and the Stars*, *Three Sisters*, *Candida* (in the title role), *Playboy of the Western World*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *Joy* and *Major Barbara* (in the title role). Her tour de force performance as Virginia Woolf in *A Room of One's Own* garnered Fox the Ottawa Critic's Circle Award for outstanding lead actress.

Most recently Fox starred in *Top Girls* (Soulpepper Theatre Co.), and the groundbreaking *Scorched* (Tarragon Theatre). Other recent favorites include *Hamlet*, in the title role (Geva Theatre), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre) and the Canadian premiere of *Frozen* (Citadel Theatre). Fox is now preparing for her debut at the Stratford Festival where she will star in *Trojan Woman* and Joanna Glass's newest work, *Palmer Park*.

On the rare occasion when Fox is not working she feeds her passion for travel. She makes her home in Toronto, Canada.

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