



# DETERMINED DIRECTOR GETS FILM OFF THE GROUND AND INTO ORBIT

I've had the pleasure to work with," Jackson told Hollywood Canada.

The film stars David Ferry as a washed-up cargo ship captain hauling miscellaneous supplies from galaxy to galaxy. He doesn't realize, however, that he's being used as a pawn to transport a rare drug known as Horizon.

Co-starring with Ferry is Olga Prokhorova (see interview below) as an alien who requires the drug to survive. Their two spaceships engage in a dogfight along with other ships and they crash-land on a desert planet.

The two natural enemies must resolve their differences and work together in order to sur-

vive.

"I'm having a lot of fun on this film," said Ferry. "I've seen the rushes and they're just fantastic. John (Dyer) is just a super cinematographer."

The desert planet has two suns: one red, the other blue. This makes for visually intriguing lighting effects suggesting both warmth and cold and are used interchangeably to complement situation mood.

The technology of the ships and their subsequent debris were put together from bits and pieces retrieved from an aviation junkyard. One of the biggest finds was a huge bag of brand, new parts slated for assembly of the

defunct Avro Arrow.

The clever script will be complemented by some truly impressive special effects including a dangerous black hole on board a military



David Ferry as Capt. Pascal

ship and Star Wars-like space battles.

*Strange Horizons* is expected to make its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in France later this spring and will then be seen at the Canadian film festivals later this summer before opening to the general public this fall.

## KGB chased movie star Prokhorova to Canada

Although it may appear so, life is not always as easy for top box office movie stars as we may think.

Take Olga Prokhorova: She was Russia's biggest female movie star. Everywhere she went she saw herself on billboards, T-shirts, posters and in the newspapers and magazines. And everyone saw her and tried to see her. The media is calling her the Russian Bo Derek.

"I was what you call a sex symbol in this country," she recalls.

But that fame had a price -- a price Olga was not prepared to pay.

She was constantly invited to diplomatic affairs and eventually struck up a friendship with someone from the Danish embassy. Then, several weeks later, she received the phone call that would eventually change her life.

"I was asked to come to the (Mosfilm) studio to see my boss," she recalls. "No big deal, I thought. But when I arrived, he wasn't there. Instead, there were two KGB agents sitting in his office."

They confronted her with a list of names from which she identified her Danish friend. They then produced photographs of them from the past several weeks and asked Olga to spy for them using a pocket tape recorder.

"I told them I wouldn't do that," she said. "I was afraid so I told them that I didn't know how to work electronic gadgets, but I did promise I'd do what I could."

They made her sign an agreement and soon after, they were calling almost daily for "reports". The pressure and the deceit were too much for Olga and she decided she must leave Russia.

She soon fell in love with someone from the Canadian embassy and after divorcing her Russian husband, filmmaker Alexei Saltikov (*No Return, The Ivanovs*), she married the Canadian and emigrated to Toronto, where she now resides.