

**Highlights from the interview of ARMAND ASSANTE after the premiere of the Russian movie 'Mirror Wars – First Reflection' to the radio station 'Echo Moskvv'**

(Thank's to translation by: Natalia and Julia into english, correction: Karen..2007)

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The interviewer is **Alexei Dykhovichny, presenter of Echo Moskvv**



**Armand Assante in a  
Radio Studio in Russia 2005**

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A.D. - ...The premiere of Mirror Wars was yesterday....Armand, yesterday you watched the movie with spectators who attended the show, didn't you?

A.A. – Yes.

A.D. – How did you like the movie?

A.A. – I really enjoyed the film, I think that it is rather entertaining.

At the same time, the movie is about reality: there are very progressive military technologies accessible to both terrorists and weapons dealers.

The film underscores the importance of sharing and coordinating information, the importance of collaboration between the countries so that a catastrophe will never happen.

We have reached the point when we ought to advance our thinking and co-operate because of two inevitabilities: the first one – the need to respond to environmental catastrophes, the second one of course, the need to protect all our nations from man-made global catastrophes, from terrorism.

A.D. - ....I want to tell our audience that although you may not know the name Armand Assante, you would definitely recognize this actor when you see him.

Armand smiles as though he understands me...In general, this movie is fully Russian.

**All the directors, producers and script writers are Russian.**

There are only three Hollywood actors in the movie: they are **Armand Assante, Malcolm McDowell** and **Rutger Hauer**....What do you think, Armand, will this movie be popular in the USA?

A.A. – I think - it is a very good movie; it is very interesting movie for USA, but, of course, this is a Russian film and a Russian story.

Certainly, everything will depend on marketing strategy and distribution channels.

No one can predict the succes of the movie now.

On the whole, the main point of the movie is that at present we no longer have any choice.

Our nations must work together.

Now we have faced the fact that we created very dangerous technologies. In my opinion, this movie is appropriate for United States audience, especially because in the end the story leaves some hope for peace.

Although the film is the entertainment, I like very much that all the characters in the movie are smart and self-motivated people.

Early in the movie, you can not say right away, - which character is a hero and which is a villain.

All together they work for the welfare of everybody. Sometimes the work for general welfare has a very high price. There are no simple answers, no easy choices.

So, I think that it will be the interesting movie for an American audience - but I could not predict whether it will be a commercial success.

That will depend on the money invested in marketing.

Of course, you can not ignore the fact that it was an independent Russian movie.

And I am very happy that I was a part of this movie....

A.D. – Armand, could I ask you to lay aside diplomacy and tell me your opinion about professionalism of the movie team, certainly, I mean here the Russian side (script, direction etc.)?

A.A. – I think that it was a world class team.

It met world standards.

The Team's work was effective both from economic and artistic points of view.

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A.D. - ....Why did you take part in the movie? What happened?

A.A. It happened suddenly, - I was phoned and I received an offer...I read the scenario and understood that it was an interesting and intelligent movie and I decided to take part in it...But the most remarkable thing about this movie is, that when young people watch it, they will not only enjoy it, but they will think about the kind of world they live in.

They will learn the dangers of all these new technologies, these advanced military complexes in the world, not only military complexes in the world, not only military industrial establishment in Russia and the USA, but all over the world.

I think that is an intelligent film for young people.

It is not some kind of 'black and white' movie like "James Bond" where it is always clear who is good or who is bad. It's that kind of intelligent movie which inspires young people to make their own decisions.

Who is living up to their responsibilities ?

Who makes the right moral decisions and who does not ?

In general, I find "Mirror Wars" to be a realistic movie about important issues.

A.D. Did you become interested in terrorism related problems while working on the film or were you previously in the subject ?

A.A. I have been studying this subject for over 30 years, it is a personal interest.

Even 30 years ago, I realized that military technology would become a greater problem as society became more global. We must be more responsible than ever before.

And Armand Assante ends saying:

One of the reasons I did participate in this movie is: that initially my character is not the main hero.

My character appealed to me because he is a free and independent thinker.

The beauty of my character is that he is independent, intellectual and strong.

He must make serious decisions and find the truth.