

Armand gave an interview because he was doing the film:

**"Zerkalnie voyni: Otrazhenie pervoye" with location in Moscow 2005**

**The Moscow Magazine "TV-park" № 39 for September 2005**

**by interviewer: Olga Davydova**

(Note: Loyal assantefan: Lyudmila Baykova has translated the russian article and webmaster and danish fan took the liberty to make "a summen up" what was translated since Olgas english although outstanding...it's uncomprehendable russian-english...hope the most is preserved in translation from the english conversation with Armand, into russian news in the Moscow Magazine, into some sort of english by dear Ludmyla and the this entrepretation by me. Forgive us, if we are wrong...we tried the best !)

**Armand Assante is known by russian audience because of Andre Konchalowsky's "The Odyssey"**

again his heart dwelt on a russian director: **Vasily Chiginsky** making the movie: **"Zerkalnie voyni:**

**Otrazhenie pervoye"**

**("Mirror Wars: Reflection One" (International: English title))**

While making the movie he gave an interview to The Moscow Magazine in september 2005.

Armand tells that he recieved a call from the producer: **Oleg Kapanets** who told him about his project to do this movie, then he mailed the script to him and then Armand red it, back home in New York. He found his part (**York**) very interesting. He liked that the plot was so close to reality.

In this movie Russia, USA and other countries have created a dangerous high technology which are rather vulnerable. It could easily come into the hands of terrorists.

It seems to Armand that his hero character, the **CIA agent York**, potentially could become the same villain, as well as character of [Malcolm McDowell](#). But actually York is an idealist with an interesting curiosity.

He wishes that he had more time to study the city of Moscow, now his finally there to make a movie. But it is impossible - there is no time. The shootings go on at an intense sceduale. Sometimes he had to work while cold rain poored down. The day after that take with the rain, they sadly had to interrupt the shooting for that simple reason, he lost his voice. That was ´nt of corse an unpleasant experiance, but he had to think about his role.

He admires the russian staff on the set and declares that the way they make movies in russia is almost the same as in Hollywood, it was all organized well.

There are scenes in the movie were the actors has to be in a battlescene with "things" that are ´nt there, the same way the *seamonster* in Odyssey wasn't there while shooting, the russian interviewer want's to know what Armand feels about that ?

It's OK with him and to him the most important thing about a movie, is always the script. It's important that the plot - the heart of the movie - is the drive of the story behind any special effect, rather than the opposite when the special effects cover up for the lack of a compelling and logic story.

They ask him how it was to work with Andrei Konchallowsky ?

Armand tells , he loves Andrei and he is the most remarkable director he ever worked with. He is an instant dreamer ! Armand declares he had an enormous impact on him. He creates the feelings of the act inside the players while the majority of directors, simply just sit and observe what the actors are doing with their part, and then correct tiny bits here and there. Andrei loves forth the feelings inside you which are nessesary for telling af that very story. He absolutly has the greatest gift of doing that !

The russian interviewer want's to know about his other life back home. I've heard you have a farm ?

"Yes" Armand replays:

"That's correct...for 23 years I lived on a farm. I grow (breed) horses, dogs and bulls .."

(Something might gone wrong in the translation)...the interviewer want's to know if that counts buffaloes ?

"No ...not buffaloes, cows ...cattle... A beef you know !" he explaines. (Note:Armand produces eucological meat and sells it)

He tells about how he loves to spend time at that farm and the work connected with it. He likes to spend his time outdoor in the fresh air riding the horses. He loves breeding animals and love to work with carpenting. This is his relaxation form the work with acting. On a farm it's piecefull, but besides that,.. is very hard physical work.

"It must give you a good physical condition ?", the interviewer suggest's "Yes, the farm is my gym !" armand says.

"By the way" the interviewer remembers "**Yan Anderson** from the group **Jetro Tull** is funned of agriculture too...he once brought seeds of tomatoes to Moscow !"

"Oh, well" Armand smiles " I did´nt know he was a farmer too. He is a great musician...I'm a great fan, I listen to him all the time !"

Then they talk about how Armand himself also loves to play music, and he tells about, ever since he was 14 he played the drums and went on tours. Music is in general is his great passion, he plays the guitar too and and compose songs. As he was 16 he started at the Theatre school at 17 he allready acted at stage of that school. During his 25 years as a performer he took individual lessons from the legendary New Yorker teacher **Mira Rostova**.

Armand tells that his parents supported him all through his career,... not financially, but with moral support from their world of art.

His mother composed and educated music. His father an is artist.

The conversation brings up the talk about his two adult daughters, who are both actively involved with art too. His oldest daughter now 22 years old has just been playing in the first movie of her life. His other daughter now 17 years old study acting and music in New York. But Armand doesn't know whether his daughters will be engaged in the business of performance for good. They should be free to find their own call in life. It's impossible to be engaged in the work of art without a deep passion for that very business.

The Russian admires his name and wants to know if Armand aren't somehow half-Italian?

He explains his family's heritage from both sides. His father's line, came from Naples in Italy and his mother's from Ireland, although his mother was born in New York, as well as his dad.

His grandparents at his father's side came from Italy in the nineteenth century, they were very successful people. Armand explains he has the most contact to his father's side of the family, he often visits his family in Italy and try at least to go there twice a year and visit.

The interviewer suggests that his Italian family, might be noisy?

Armand confirms he grew up in a very noisy family...but not in that literary sense of the word...they were rather politically noisy..expressing themselves, debating issues.

His grandfather did a good job giving his uncles and his father an excellent education. Two of his uncles have entered political circles, and in his home there was constantly a political debate going on. In that sense of the word "noisy" ...was the environment, - he grew up in.

The interviewer asks if there is anything else, he would like to tell about himself?

Armand replies: "I'm an open book...Ask anything you want...and I'll tell you. I don't have any secrets!"

"Tell about your private life!" the Russian interviewer suggests "About my private life?...What would you like to know?"

"All!"

"Oh, - to me...the last 4 years of my life, there has not been much privacy ...only work and a little pleasures. I give my two daughters the most attention possible and often bring them with me traveling. It's important to me to spend as much time with them as possible, my fatherly duties rank high at my list. Maybe one day I would like to have more children! If I can find the right woman? It might even be she's here in Russia.

Who knows!?

That's how the headlines said:

**Armand Assante: I want to have a child with an Russian woman**