

Badass Monster Killer Actor Returns to Sacramento

by Matt Burlingame

There are not many who are brave enough to follow their dreams. Leaving everyone and everything they've known behind on the chance that what they are seeking is truly at the end of the rainbow they chase.

Two years ago independent-film actor West Ramsey did just that.

In Sept. 2013 Ramsey left his job of 13 years with the State of California, sold his house, and moved to Portland, Oregon to pursue a career in independent film.

While Sacramento also has a thriving independent film community, the Sacramento native admits the move was about more than just casting opportunities.

"I was being cast in films and working for the state," he explains. "Essentially I had two full time jobs. I needed a change. I wanted an adventure."

Before his film career began, Ramsey was a well-established figure in community theatre. Starting his foray onto the stage in 1991 in a production of *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, he went on to work with companies such as Volcano Theater Company, Garbeau's Dinner Theater, Magic Circle, DMTC and Runaway Stage.

He also served on the board of the now defunct Lambda Players, where he starred in multiple productions including *Baby With The Bathwater*, *Opening Lines* and *Carhops in Bondage*.

"Theater pretty much encompassed me for years," says Ramsey. "Acting, building sets, running light and sound equipment, working on theater boards. Pretty much anything there was to do theatre-wise, I did it."

But his desire to be in films was never truly left behind.

"One day I was on the phone with my friend Jeanie and she told me she was going to be a zombie in a local film," Ramsey recalls. "I asked her to take me with her. It was a short film called *Raise the Dead*, part of a three segment feature film. I also got cast as a curator of evil artifacts in another segment of the film. I had a brief appearance in the third segment with Richard Mull (Bull on *Night Court*) and got to hang out with him at a horror shop in the Bay area. I

haven't stopped playing zombies or filming since."

Ramsey has now appeared in over 100 film projects including 26 feature films, 42 short films, and numerous music videos, commercials and other projects.

He just completed work on an upcoming feature film in which he plays a gay mobster who has a thing for high priced chocolates. He was also cast in a new film called *GLARE* which begins filming in spring 2016.

On Dec. 3 Ramsey returns to Sacramento for the world premiere of TFO Productions' *Badass Monster Killer* directed by Darin Wood. The movie is described as "a freaky, funky thrill ride with demonic pimps, Kung Fu super foxes and terrible sanity-shattering extraterrestrial horrors from beyond space and time."

While the film is not an IMAX production, the screening will take place at the IMAX Theatre, 1121 K St. The film is unrated and contains gratuitous violence, nudity, language, and other mature themes not suitable for children. Ramsey plays the part of a "dumb thug" named Roach Hogan.

When asked what his dream role would be the actor responded, "Anything directed by John Waters, Quentin Tarantino or Peter Jackson." Given Ramsey's track record for finding his rainbow's end, that dream doesn't seem unrealistic.

To learn more about West Ramsey, go to westramsey.com. To learn more about the *Badass Monster Killers* premiere go to badassmonsterkiller.com.



West Ramsey. Photo by Wendy Gregory Photography.



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