

STEVE BACIC

BASIC INSTINCT

From Taelon puppet to Nietzschean first officer

ON THE SUBJECT of acting technique Steve Bacic's reply is a simple one. "I try not to make things too abstract," he says. "I work more on instincts than logic. Sometimes if you dissect things too much you can get into trouble. I prefer to just dive in, do my thing, and hope that it's semi-believable."

This technique has certainly served the handsome and talented Canadian actor well. In his 14 years in the business, Bacic has succeeded in carving out a comfortable niche for himself on the big and small screens. The actor's feature film roles include those opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger (*The 6th Day*), Richard Dreyfuss (*Another Stakeout*) and Tony Curtis (*Hardball*). On tv, he has worked on a number of made-for-tv movies and guest-starred on several series including *The Commish*, *Da Vinci's Inquest* and *Call of the Wild*.

TV Sci-Fi and Fantasy fans will no doubt remember Bacic from his three appearances on *The X-Files* as well as on such popular series as *Millennium*, *The Sentinel*, *Highlander*, *NightMan* and *First Wave*. Nowadays, he is best known as Gaheris

Rhade, Captain Dylan Hunt's Nietzschean friend and former first officer on Gene Roddenberry's *Andromeda*. However, it was the actor's work on another Gene Roddenberry show, *Earth: Final Conflict*, that led to his part on *Andromeda*. He guest-starred in the third-season *E:FC* episode *Through Your Eyes*. In it, the Taelon's leader, Zo'or (Anita LaSelva), becomes obsessed with learning about human emotions when he transfers his mind into the body of a comatose human, Scott Pierce (Bacic).

Earth Appearance

"What a neat role," says Bacic. "I essentially got to play three different characters. First there was Pierce, but he spent most of his time in a coma, so Zo'or took over or 'possessed' his body. Then, of course, he went a little nutty and it was like a reverse possession as the human emotions began to get the better of the Taelon.

"I had to do some research prior to the start of filming in order to get all of Zo'or's mannerisms and speech patterns down. The producers loaned me tapes of episodes of



Steve Bacic with Von Flores in *Earth: Final Conflict* (left) and as Gaheris Rhade in *Andromeda* (right)