

Hollywood Exclusive - Ask Stacy

by Marilyn Beck & Stacy Jenel Smi

DEAR STACY: Could we have some information about the star of "Hannibal Rising," Gaspar Ulliel? â€” Martha C., Brooklyn, N.Y.

DEAR MARTHA: The 24-year-old former model, who hails from the upscale Parisian suburb of Boulogne-Billancourt, is certainly a hot property â€” as evidenced by adoring fans' postings on the Internet, as well as by his name being bandied about for high-profile fare, including "New Moon," the sequel to "Twilight." His parents are fashion stylists. Gaspar began acting while still a student at the University of Saint-Denis, where he studied cinema. He has quite a few credits in French TV movies and series, as well as films. He's been linked romantically with a number of beautiful actresses and models. The role of young Hannibal Lecter was only his second English language movie part. Now, along with a string of French films, he has the independent English language feature "The Vintner's Luck," with Vera Farmiga and Keisha Castle-Hughes, due for release in July. The distinctive star on his cheek, by the way, was caused by a dog's scratch when he was a child.

DEAR STACY: I used to watch a show called "Getting to Know Me" on PBS. It was about a little girl learning about herself and life with her family. I would like to know if this show is on DVD or VHS. â€” Beverly G., Tupelo, Miss.

DEAR BEVERLY: That 1980s series, centered on a sister and brother and their grandma, isn't commercially available, but with enough demand, who knows? It is fondly remembered by many.

DEAR STACY: We watched "West Side Story" the other day, and got to wondering whatever became of Richard Beymer? â€” Anna C., Pasadena, Calif.

DEAR ANNA: Beymer â€” aka Tony to "WSS" fans â€” is 71 now and lives in Fairfield, Iowa â€” a couple hundred miles away from his hometown of Avoca, Iowa. His long list of acting credits ranges from films ("The Longest Day," "The Diary of Anne Frank") to numerous guest star shots on episodic TV shows ("Family Law," "Profiler," "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine") to his role on "Twin Peaks" as Benjamin Horne in 1990 â€” to an indie feature called "Sadie's Waltz" last year. His filmmaking credits range from an avant-garde movie called "The Innerview" in 1974 to his award-winning 1964 documentary "A Regular Bouquet: Mississippi Summer," documenting the Freedom Summer of the Civil Rights Movement, with which he was involved. He's a photographer and painter, and in 2007 self-published an autobiographical novel called "Imposter: Or Whatever Happened to Richard Beymer?"

DEAR STACY: I haven't seen Mara Wilson on TV or in movies for a long time. How old is she now and what has she been up to? â€” Pat A., Bronx, N.Y.

DEAR PAT: Wilson, 21, is a senior at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. She recently presented a one-woman show that ran for three days at the school. It was entitled "Weren't You That Girl?" In it, Wilson, who has been keeping a low profile, focusing on writing plays, recounted stories from her days as a child star and talked about the real Mara versus the public figure. She told Karina Grudnikov of the NYU online publication NYU Local that she might like to try acting in a film again "just as an experiment, but I know that I could never do the mainstream thing again."

DEAR STACY: Could TV networks have a way of notifying the fans who watch a TV show that this is the last episode and the show has been canceled? How about putting a notice on the bottom of the screen at the end of the show? â€” J.U., Bayonne, N.J.

DEAR J.U.: They certainly could do that if they wanted to, but the traditional wisdom is that announcing a show's cancellation could lead viewers to stop tuning in at a given time, never a good idea from the networks' point of view.

DEAR STACY: A bet is riding on this one. I say that's Gary Sinise's voice we've heard in the Army commercials. My neighbor says I'm wrong. It's not a star. â€” Bill Y., Youngstown, Ohio

DEAR BILL: You win. The "CSI: NY" star and staunch military supporter, who's frequently out entertaining troops with his band (named Lt. Dan Band), has indeed lent his voice to Army spots.

DEAR STACY: Whatever happened to Jack Narz, who used to host "Beat the Clock" and other game shows? â€” Mel T., Brooklyn, N.Y.

DEAR MEL: Narz, whose credits also included "Concentration," "Now You See It" and "Dotto," died last year at 85 after suffering two strokes.

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