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'Mothman Prophecies' To Be A Movie

From: Mark Cashman <mcashman@ix.netcom.com>
Date: Tue, 2 Mar 1999 08:32:26 -0500
Fwd Date: Tue, 02 Mar 1999 11:55:34 -0500
Subject: 'Mothman Prophecies' To Be A Movie

Source: <http://www.scifi.com/sfw/issue98/news.html>

Richard Gere May Fly With Mothman

Richard Gere is finalizing a deal to star in Lakeshore Entertainment's upcoming SF film The Mothman Prophecies, according to The Hollywood Reporter. In separate talks, One True Thing director Carl Franklin is reportedly close to reaching an agreement that would see him helm the flick.

Mothman is based on a real-life incident that took place in Point Pleasant, W.Va., during the 1960s. For several weeks following a reported UFO sighting, the townspeople of Point Pleasant allegedly witnessed bizarre phenomena such as psychic visions and the appearance of strange winged creatures."

So who will Gere play? Keel? More on the project (which seems to be only loosely based on the real events -- "Basically well-written, the script tells the story of John Klein, whose wife dies suddenly of a brain tumor, and exactly one year later he finds himself in the town of Point Pleasant, West Virginia -- even though he'd been heading for a destination hundreds of miles in another direction. Strange things are happening in Point Pleasant -- a farmer thinks John has come to his door three nights in a row, even though John just arrived in town, for instance. This same man later describes his encounter with a sort-of human named Indrid Cole who has given him information on an earthquake -- this premonition comes true. Eventually, the weight of the weirdness gets to John, who fears he won't be able to stop a great foreseen tragedy from occurring. He returns to Georgetown, but is beckoned back to Point Pleasant by his new love Connie. A twist at the end is intriguing in a Twilight Zone kind of way, but some might find it predictable and see it coming. The twist does, however, provide for a visual climactic effects sequence. The end would be the only significant effects for the sci-fi project -- the rest of the script is rather straightforward"), can be found at

<http://www.corona.bc.ca/films/details/mothmanprophecies.html>

<http://www.corona.bc.ca/films/details/mothman.html>

<http://www.mothmanmovie.com/>

A closer look indicates that apparently there are actually two projects, one of which is a low-budget (\$60k), limited

distribution independent film ("Mothman is a Live Action Sci-Fi Comedy with a touch of horror...filmed on location in Point Pleasant West Virginia, Redlands California, Fullerton CA., Laguna Hills CA., and Mission Viejo CA.") which has finished shooting and is now in post-production; the other is a larger budget studio film which is in "Development Hell", and is trying to sign Gere. It seems neither is going to be terribly faithful to the book, but I must admit to wondering how this works... did Keel sell the rights to two companies? Or are they both ripping off the book and pretending they didn't base it on Keel's work?

Mark Cashman, creator of The Temporal Doorway at
<http://www.temporaldoorway.com>
- Original digital art, writing, and UFO research -

UFO cases, analysis, classification systems, and more...
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