

MOVIES 2

Fresh Lemmons.



Q & A

KASI LEMMONS

STAYING PUT IN THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR.

The good ol' boy world of Hollywood hasn't stopped actress/director Kasi Lemmons. Nearly 10 years after her seminal debut, *Eve's Bayou*, the 46-year-old filmmaker directs Don Cheadle in her third feature film, *Talk to Me*, a biopic about the life of radio commentator Ralph Waldo "Petey" Greene. Lemmons is about to give Tinseltown a lesson on how the third time truly is the charm.

Why did you choose Don Cheadle to play "Petey" Green instead of a more comedic actor?

I know something about Don that many people don't know about him—he's *hilarious!* So I knew that Don, while being able to deliver an Oscar-caliber performance, is also extremely fun.

***Eve's Bayou* was successful, but your next film, *The Caveman's Valentine*, seemed**

and half the people would hate. But I run into *Caveman* fans all the time, so I still believe *Caveman* might come back around and be appreciated one day.

Amid all the Hollywood breakups, how have you and actor/director Vondie Curtis-Hall maintained your twelve-year marriage?

We're each other's best cheerleader. There's no competition or jealousy between us. You need that. And we share the same sense of humor, so we laugh all the time.

You have an extended acting résumé. Any future plans in front of the camera?

I'm not really pursuing an acting career. I'm too busy trying to get films made. There are so many beautiful, fabulous, extremely talented actors out there, and I want to help bring them up, not compete with them [*laughs*].

JOEL RANDELL

"I KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT DON CHEADLE THAT MANY PEOPLE DON'T—HE'S HILARIOUS!"

GIANT: What convinced you to direct *Talk to Me*?

I was initially called in as a writer. In the process of working on [rewriting the script], I absolutely fell in love with it. I fell in love with the characters, with the time period and the music.

underappreciated. Was it the sophomore jinx?

Caveman's Valentine was more appreciated on DVD than in its original release. I knew the moment I picked up that script and read it that it was a movie that half the people would love

GIANT

SIMPLY PERFECT.
simplyperfect.com

© 2007 The Patrón Spirits Company, Las Vegas, NV. 40% Alc./Vol.
The perfect way to enjoy Patrón is responsibly.