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Keanu Reeves, Still the One

December 19th, 2008 by Adrienne Papp

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Based on the performance of his new movie ***The Day the Earth Stood Still***, Keanu Reeves is still The One when it comes to delivering big budget special effect extravaganzas. Audiences around the world filled theaters and sat still for Reeves' in the remake of the sci-fi classic, making it the top movie of the weekend with a \$31 million debut, according to box office estimates. The new 20th Century Fox release also added \$39 million in 90 overseas markets for a worldwide total of \$70 million.

The movie is a big budget remake of the 1951 tale of an alien named Klaatu and his giant robot enforcer who come to Earth with a warning about the consequences of humanity's destructive nature. In the new version, Reeves delivers a slightly different message. Starring opposite Jennifer Connelly, who plays Helen Benson, a world renowned scientific expert,

Reeves brings serious warning of an impending global crisis - things must change for the Earth to be saved, and it may already be too late. The 'big issue' that the film deals with has been changed from the nuclear arms race of the original to the current crisis of global warming. We see not only a spectacular film, but also one that carries a message that everyone can relate to, and *should be* concerned about. But, it also addresses a question about human nature in its purest form: are we biologically programmed to *only* act when we are up against the wall and even threatened with extinction, or, is it just a bad habit, arrogance and laziness, which less than noble characteristics we *can* change if so *willed*? Which is it? Are we really powerless, or just, well, 'stupid'?

'*The Day the Earth Stood Still* is a visually stunning movie with timely issues,' said Fox distribution executive Chris Aronson. 'Basically, how we treat each other and how we treat this planet that we call home.'

And it's altogether appropriate that Reeves is the one to convey the message. A proven big screen presence in the megahit *Matrix* series, *Speed* and other starring roles, Reeves has not only the ability to deliver the Big Message to Earth, but also has some pretty strong beliefs about extraterrestrial life as well. According to recent interviews, Reeves role in the movie found him wondering about life in other parts of the Universe. He came to the conclusion that there has to be life on other planets and thinks it 'crazy' to think that the Earth contains the only life in the Universe.

Looking at this issue from a closer perspective, like what **quantum physics** has to offer, it seems to me there maybe chances for mankind that we do not have the ability to understand today. It is however time that we found out.

'I've met people who have seen UFOs, but I don't know anyone who has been abducted,' says Reeves. 'How could there not be life on other planets? The universe is so vast. I guess a lot of people won't believe in extraterrestrial life until they see evidence, until an alien lands in Central Park like my character does in the film, but the idea that life doesn't exist anywhere but here is crazy.'

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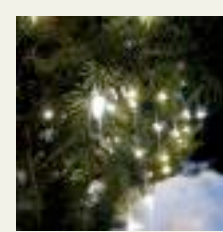
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