



Starrbooty

BOOTY BUMP

*RuPaul's back and bad-ass
in Outfest's blacksploitation spoof, Starrbooty.*

BY KEN KNOX

After entertaining the masses as Supermodel of the World, RuPaul is back—and badder than ever—as Starrbooty, a kick-ass heroine carved right out of the same mold that formed blacksploitation bitches Foxy Brown and Cleopatra Jones. In the feature film *Starrbooty*, the police “woman” must endure putting up with horny johns and performing cunnilingus on Lady Bunny after she goes undercover as a streetwalker in New York’s Meat Packing District to find her niece’s kidnapper. We caught up with Ru to discuss the making of her raunchier-than-raunchy dragsploitation flick.

So, how does one go from supermodel of the world to a trash-talkin’, blowjob-givin’, ass-whoopin’ undercover hooker in the Meat Packing District of New York?

RuPaul: Well, I’ll tell you exactly how one does that. One starts as a trash-talkin’ hooker in the Meat Market, and then goes to supermodel of the world. I just had to basically revert back to where I came from, because I had been the Starrbooty role for more than 20 years.

Does reconnecting with the character all these years later have any special significance for you?

Yeah, it does actually. I had become America’s drag queen sweetheart for so many years—and that’s very boring and very confining. ... It’s great for other people to have a representative, but it’s boring to have to do it, because there’s no more going into bathroom stalls and creating a little fellowship with other people (laughs). ... Drag became fun again, because drag stopped being fun the day I got famous.

Obviously, you were inspired by the blacksploitation films of the ‘70s. What about those films influenced you most?

It was the empowerment of these women and the people who had been downtrodden rising up. But *Starrbooty*

is really a spoof on those films, because it’s about taking the piss out of self-righteousness. Those characters—Foxy Brown and Cleopatra Jones—are very self-righteous, and take it upon themselves to right the wrongs of society. And that’s a very dangerous area to get into. It’s not a very Zen or Buddhist way of looking at the world. But I always love a movie where bitches are kicking ass. I’m the first in line.

In one of the making-of webisodes, you talk about how making the film was like a public service announcement of sorts. Care to elaborate on that?

The movie is a love letter to not only the Republicans, but also to the politically correct liberals who have made our life a fucked-up mess where you can’t do or say anything [fun]. ... Everybody will be offended by this movie, which means I did it right (laughs).

You get to wear some pretty wild costumes in *Starrbooty*. How hard is it to kick-fight in high heels without falling over?

You know, it’s like the Superman costume. It really makes you so much stronger. It’s so much easier to maneuver in life when you’re in a discarded Mary Jane Girls outfit.

If you and Foxy Brown were to stand off in a duel in the streets, who do you think would come out with their panties not in a wad?

Well, I’m afraid Foxy Brown would have to fall, because *Starrbooty*—underneath all that paint and powder—is a man who can really kick ass!

And then some!

See *Starrbooty* at Outfest on July 21 at 9:30 p.m. at the Regent Showcase. For more information, visit www.outfest.org.