

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ACTOR MICHAEL DORN STARS IN DOCUMENTARY
ABOUT KLINGON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

Earthlings: Ugly Bags of Mostly Water to Screen at Cannes Film Market, May 12 – 23, 2004

DENVER, COLO. (April 30, 2004) – Producers of the entertaining documentary, *Earthlings: Ugly Bags of Mostly Water*, revealed today that Actor Michael Dorn, recognized worldwide for his role as ‘Worf’ in the Star Trek film and television franchise, stars in the documentary film about Klingon language and culture. *Earthlings* will make its international debut at the Cannes Film Market, May 12 – 23 (booth 23.01, Palais des Festivals).

“The perspective of Michael Dorn, the world’s most recognized Klingon, provides both serious and comedic elements to the project,” said *Earthlings* Director Alexandre Philippe. “This is a man who embodies all the elements of a Klingon warrior: honor, respect, ferocity. For years, Klingon fans have looked to the Worf character for their education in Klingon culture.”

The entertaining documentary *Earthlings: Ugly Bags of Mostly Water* captures the lives, passions and quirks of the members of the Klingon Language Institute during their annual qep’a’ (conference). Klingon is, of course, the warrior language invented by Linguist Marc Okrand for the Star Trek television show and movie franchise.

While Mr. Dorn is enthusiastic and amazed at the growth and popularity of Klingon language and culture, he does mention (while reciting some Shakespeare) that the translation of Hamlet into Klingon might be a disservice to the complexity of the author’s intention.

Nevertheless, the movement to transliterate the tragedy into Klingon began as a throw-away line during *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country* in which a Klingon Chief proclaims that to truly understand Hamlet it must be read, “In the original Klingon.” The first version of Hamlet in the Klingon language was published in 1996. Since then the comedy Much Ado About Nothing and virtually all of the renowned author’s sonnets are now available in Klingon.

Mr. Dorn also relates the positive effects that speaking Klingon might have on political communications, as the language is more clear and direct since it is comprised of only 2,500 words.

Beyond Mr. Dorn, other ‘ugly bags of mostly water’ (a term used to describe Terrans, humans on earth), the Picture Show introduces Rich Yampell (Captain Krankor), the musical composer for whom the Klingon national anthem, ‘taHaj wo’ (‘Long Live the Empire’) might turn out to be his only hit song, Dr. d’Armond Speers, a Denver-based linguist who spoke only Klingon to his son until age three-and-a-half, and Michael J. Oetting, a studious postal worker, who attends the 2003 qep’a’ to pass a language facility exam because he wants to gain respect for himself and officially possess the grand spirit of a Klingon warrior.

For more information about *Earthlings: Ugly Bags of Mostly Water*, please visit www.earthlings-movie.com

#

Source: SONEW Productions
Media Contact: Robin Rothman
r³ communications
Tel: 720-945-1313
E: rrothman.pba@comcast.net