

DEN OF GEEK!

Syfy Paranormal Series Ghost Wars Adds Vincent D'Onofrio, Kim Coates

Vincent D'Onofrio and Kim Coates will headline a Syfy paranormal action series called Ghost Wars.



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Syfy has several interesting and diverse irons set in the proverbial fire of its upcoming schedule. Now, the genre-aimed NBCU cable outlet has announced a new addition in series **Ghost Wars**, described as a paranormal action

series. Yet, the lede here may lie with the high-profile actors the series has procured itself in Vincent D'Onofrio and Kim Coates.

Ghost Wars will manifest as a 13-episode hour-long drama from Nomadic Pictures, set to premiere later in 2017 in the U.S. exclusively on Syfy, subsequently arriving everywhere else around the globe on Netflix. While the prolific film actor D'Onofrio, star of recent television events such as **Emerald City** and **Daredevil**, and Coates, the veteran actor of **Son of Anarchy** fame are the clear headliners, its story – set in a remote Alaskan town – will center on an ethnically Indian outcast named Roman Mercer, played by Avan Jogia (pictured below) of **Tut** and **Twisted**.



While Roman is wrestling with his own demons while absorbing apparent prejudice from the locals, he must channel his repressed psychic powers to save the (initially ungrateful) town from a catastrophe caused by a mysterious outbreak of hauntings. The supporting cast

consist of Kristin Lehman (**Motive**, **The Killing**) and operatic rock legend Meatloaf (**Fight Club**, **The Rocky Horror Picture Show**).

Ghost Wars is the brainchild of creator Simon Barry, a visionary who Syfy has turned to previously for **Van Helsing** and **Continuum** and also headed the upcoming Canadian TV miniseries **Bad Blood**, which also stars Kim Coates. In explaining the series, Barry depicts a nuanced exploration of philosophical issues on top of some obligatory paranormal action, stating:

"**Ghost Wars** is not just a contemporary homage to classic psychological horror, it's also an opportunity to tell stories about human politics and how we shape our beliefs and lives based on our individual perspectives and biases. Science, Humanism, Religion and the Paranormal all get a seat at the table." Adding that the **Ghost Wars** team will, "hopefully elevate this genre series beyond expectations."

Ghost Wars will feature a rotation of directors, notably David Von Ancken, a small screen-centric helmer whose recent resume entries – by no coincidence – contains many projects from which the cast are alumni such as **Hell on Wheels**, **Code Black**, **Salem**, **Tut** and **Californication**. Other episode directors include Leslie Hope (**Aftermath**), Michael Nankin (**Van Helsing**), Mathias Herndl (**Motive**), Jason Priestley (**Private Eyes**) and Simon Barry (**Continuum**).

Ghost Wars has started production in Vancouver, BC on May 1, expected to wrap by the end of August. Thus, with a 2017 premiere ostensibly in place, we can probably expect the series to arrive around late fall.