

See METALLICA's JAMES HETFIELD Act In New Clip From Upcoming Dark Western Thriller 'The Thicket'

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Tubi Films has released a new clip its upcoming dark western thriller "**The Thicket**", which includes a role by **METALLICA's James Hetfield**. Check it out below.

Based on **Joe R. Lansdale's** novel of the same name, "**The Thicket**" will be released in theaters on Friday, September 6.

Peter Dinklage plays **Shorty**, a bounty hunter enlisted to find a woman who has been kidnapped by a violent killer. The movie, which is set at the turn of the 20th century, follows **Shorty** and his fellow trackers as they travel into a violent and chaotic place known as the Big Thicket.

"**The Thicket**" also stars **Juliette Lewis** ("Yellowjackets"), **Esmé Creed-Miles** ("Hanna"), **Levon Hawke** ("The Crowded Room"), **Leslie Grace** ("In The Heights"), **Gbenga**

Akinnagbe ("The Old Man"), **Macon Blair** ("I Care A Lot"), **Ned Dennehy** ("Peaky Blinders"), **Andrew Schulz** ("Infamous") and **Arliss Howard** ("Mank").

Production on the film took place last year with "**Blitz**" director **Elliott Lester** behind the camera and **Christopher Kelly** penning the script.

Lester told Collider about adding **Hetfield** to the film: "The casting of **James Hetfield** in '**The Thicket**' is a story that feels almost destined. It all began with a dream — one morning I woke up with a clear vision that **James** had to be in the movie. **James Hetfield**, a Rock God, embodies a raw poetry that fit perfectly with the character we envisioned. From that moment, **Peter Dinklage** and I were relentless in our pursuit. We tried every possible avenue: his manager, mutual friends, anyone who could help us reach him. Our breakthrough came when writer/director **Sacha Gervasi** [**Anvil! The Story Of Anvil**], who had a connection to **James**, stepped in. Despite our efforts, we were unsure if **James** would even consider the role. We sent him the script, along with a Hail Mary, and waited. To our delight, within days we heard that **James** was interested. The meeting that followed confirmed our hopes. **James** could not have been more humble. He revealed that he had always wanted to do a dark western, aligning perfectly with our film's vision. From that point on, **James** was incredible. He was hard-working, diligent, and fully embraced his role with a passion that brought a unique intensity to the film. The journey with **James** has been extraordinary, and his presence truly elevates '**The Thicket**' to a new level."

Back in 2019, **Hetfield** had a part in the Netflix thriller "**Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil And Vile**". That film followed the relationship between notorious serial killer **Ted Bundy**, played by **Zac Efron**, and his longtime girlfriend, played by **Lily Collins**, who at the time had no knowledge of the crimes. **Hetfield** played officer **Bob Hayward**, a no-nonsense Utah highway patrol veteran who was the first law enforcement officer to arrest **Bundy** in 1975 after pulling the killer over and discovering burglary tools in his car but wisely suspecting much worse. While **Hetfield** had played himself in other films and television productions, this was his first dramatic role taking on a different character.

Five years ago, **Efron** praised the **METALLICA** guitarist/vocalist's acting chops during an appearance on "**Jimmy Kimmel Live!**", saying: "**James Hetfield**, to his credit, and absolutely nailed the part, he just crushed it. It's like he's been acting his own life. He had no fear. He did a great job. I was ready to maybe give **James Hetfield** [an acting] tip, but he didn't ask for a single one. **James Hetfield** is the shit!"



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