



stunts but continues to be involved in projects utilizing his talent as an actor and being behind the camera. Kent explains, "I have a stunt school here in Vancouver. People can find my school on Facebook under Peter Kent's School of Hard Knocks. I teach stunts and do stunts for some of my own characters, like the film *Hangar 14* which I've just finished. I had a big fight scene with Steve Austin. But that's the limits to what it is. I'll do fight scenes but no more of the really dangerous stuff. I'm 53 now, and I've got my two little boys to worry about and I can't go out there and try to get myself hurt."

Stunts are an integral part of all action movies, which can range from a simple fall to the more intricate and sophisticated set ups which puts that special flavour into the movie to mesmerize the audience. Of course, there is an inherent risk in the performance of all stunt work, but with the best training and developed experience the risk factor is greatly lowered.

Kent is cognizant of his physical limitations now and the amount of abuse his body's taken over the 15-year period. However, he continues to do fight scenes, which are more or less not as dangerous as some of the more heavy duty stunts where you are prone to greater injury.

Peter Kent's
School of
Hard

Knocks stunt school attracts any inspiring men and women, and the inclination is to keep the cases to ten people or less, so each student has plenty of one-on-one training. Some of the areas which the school specialises in include full burns, stair falls, fighting, high falls; pretty much everything except for car driving. The course lasts for six weeks and is fairly intense as you can imagine.

Kent explains, "If you've seen a stuntman do a full burn, imagine doing one when you've never done one before in your life. It can be pretty terrifying. But I can tell you that out of all the students which have gone through my school, not one of them has been injured and every one of them has done a terrific burn and done a great job of it." The action movie industry is no doubt a genre which is always looking out for talent. Peter's passion for what he does and his dedication and commitment to his craft is visible as he pursues other areas such as directing and writing. He tells me he has a screen play completed pertinent to an action movie and is in pursuit of selling this.

"In truth, I really love the industry. I love all aspects of it. I love being behind the camera. I love producing. I love screen writing, acting. I love acting. I like doing the stunts and I like directing. So, I like doing everything in the business and I enjoy the camaraderie which comes with it all. It's such a team effort; it's not just one person. A lot of the times you get these prima donna actors thinking it's all about them; and it's not. To make that one guy or girl look good it probably takes over a hundred people. And you have to recognise that."

For more info on Peter Kent's School of Hard Knocks please visit the school's Facebook.

FIAZ RAFIQ

