

Between THE Lines



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Behind the sex

Documentary asks porn stars the hard questions

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

A new exposé on gay porn stars – here! – is gritty and surprisingly poignant “Everything You Wanted to Know About Gay Porn Stars ... But Were Afraid to Ask” – digs deeper than some of these guys have gone. But the documentary, which premieres Nov. 7, also asks something of us: To sit through six 30-minute episodes, and one hour-long special – the first couple of which are set almost completely in stark, jail cell-like rooms. The guys are shirtless (which helps keep our focus on them), but when it comes down to it, visually, the low-budget and some times amateurishly shot documentary is like sitting in a lifeless classroom, listening to a trig professor ramble on. Luckily, these guys aren’t talking about the difference between sine and cosine, otherwise I would’ve dozed off; they of-

fer the nitty-gritty goods. And leave nothing out.

What was your first on-screen shoot (no pun intended) like? Why porn? Do you watch yourself? And what was it like to suck on something so big? Director John Roecker (“Live Freaky! Die Freaky!”) takes us on a raw journey, interviewing 16 guys who dish about their porn pseudonyms, how it’s been a self-esteem booster, how they managed to squeeze a 12-incher between their cheeks, and how adult films can be the ultimate revenge.

“I thought about my mother,” says Nick Capra, “what she



here! goes behind the sex with latest documentary, premiering Nov. 7



would do if she found out. I’m like, ‘Gosh, she would have a stroke.’ So I was like, ‘Where do I sign up?’”

Roecker’s documentary mixes humor and pathos successfully; shocking us one minute with a tragic rape incident, and making us laugh with candid on-camera sex scenarios (“(I) sucked dick,

ate ass, and got fucked. Oh, and they peed on me”) and when-I-knew stories.

“When did you find out you were gay?” Roecker asks Nick Piston.

Deadpanned, he simply responds: “Corey Hart.”

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► Noah’s Arc

Continued from p. 21

But it also features all the elements of the series that fans have come to love, from Noah’s far over-the-top fashion sense to a sizzling soundtrack. (The soundtrack was produced by Polk and even features two songs by the legendary Phoebe Snow, who makes an appearance at the end of the film.)

The boys are all as fun – and in many cases flamboyant – as ever, and a welcome addition to the Arc is the absolutely adorable Gary LeRoi Gray. Playing Brandon, a student of Chance’s (Douglas Spearman) who is also the latest boy-toy of Ricky (Christian Vincent), Gray is more than just a tasty helping of eye candy, he also pulls at our heartstrings as we follow his struggle to come out to his parents.

Polk’s screenwriting (he co-wrote the script with novelist John R. Gordon) lacks finesse as he fleshes out this storyline – and a few others – though, and borders at times on maudlin. As

a result, interspersed between the love story and the laughs are mini-episodes that read part public-service announcement and part after-school special aimed at troubled gay teens.

Despite its flaws, “Noah’s Arc” the movie holds the same distinction as “Noah’s Arc” the series, and that distinction cannot be overlooked or understated. In short, both are utterly groundbreaking, and never before has such a story been told, at least not with characters

who are both black and gay – and equally proud of both. Polk is to be commended for his vision and persistence (he was marketing the series direct to video before signing the deal with Logo).

He has created rich and colorful characters that keep us smiling and wanting more.

And that may be the real problem. The film really does tie up all the loose ends in these characters lives – and it reads as the perfect series finale. **B**

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