Whether you realize it or not, you’ve definitely seen prolific actor Peter Stormare before. Not surprising, since the Swedish-born character actor/director has starred in over 100 different films and television series in the last 30 years, from big budget to indie, network to cable, American to Swedish and dozens of countries in between. And, of course, that memorable 2011 Super Bowl commercial for Budweiser...“Tiny Dancer” in a wild-west saloon, anyone?

On January 18th, Stormare will star in THE LAST STAND (trailer here), the Lionsgate film that marks the big screen return of Arnold Schwarzenegger. In the action-comedy that also stars Johnny Knoxville, Forest Whitaker, and marks the American film debut of Korean director Jee-woon Kim, THE LAST STAND features Schwarzenegger as a southwestern sheriff in a sleepy border town who, alongside his inept staff, takes on the escaped leader of a drug cartel hell-bent on crossing the Mexican border.

This month, audiences will see Stormare starring opposite Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton in Paramount’s HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS (trailer here). In this dark spin on the fairy tale, siblings Hansel (Renner) and Gretel (Arterton) are a formidable team of bounty hunters who track and kill witches all over the world. Stormare stars in the blockbuster as ‘Berringer’ in the Tommy Wirkola-directed film that premieres January 25th.

In the can for Stormare are the features SIBERIAN EDUCATION, opposite John Malkovich, the Eli Roth-produced horror movie CLOWN, and the indie comedy MILO with Patrick Warburton. His recent credits include Luc Besson’s futuristic action-comedy LOCKOUT and the indies JEWTOPIA, with Jennifer Love Hewitt, and SMALL APARTMENTS, a comedy with Billy Crystal and Juno Temple. He also appeared in Mel Gibson’s GET THE GRINGO and two Chinese films: the blockbuster TAI CHI HERO and INSEPARABLE, with Kevin Spacey. On the small screen, Stormare shot guest spots on the hit CBS drama “NCIS: Los Angeles” and ABC’s “Body of Proof.”

Stormare began his acting career in the theatre in his early 20s, working with the legendary director Ingmar Bergman in their native Sweden at the Royal National Theater. After earning much praise for his starring turns in “Miss Julie,” “King Lear,” and “Hamlet” among others, Stormare toured with Bergman in the US, doing the aforementioned productions in both New York and Los Angeles in the late 80s. Strong performances lead to an opportunity to star in “Rasputin” off-
Broadway with the renowned Actor’s Studio, and Stormare soon caught the eye of legendary ICM talent agent Sam Cohen, getting him one step closer to realizing his dream of becoming a film actor in America.

After getting his first taste of the film world in several indies, Stormare was then cast in AWAKENING, directed by Penny Marshall. While working off-Broadway again, this time at the Public Theater doing “The Swan,” Stormare struck up a friendship with Frances McDormand. The friendship eventually led to four career-changing days of work on the Coen Brothers cult classic FARGO, where he played the hulking, blonde-haired half of a kidnapping duo alongside Steve Buscemi.

He’d work with the Coen Brothers again in THE BIG LEBOWSKI, and in between he’d star in Spielberg’s THE LOST WORLD: JURASSIC PARK. Roles in ARMAGEDDON (Michael Bay), 8MM (Joel Schumacher), MINORITY REPORT (Spielberg again), BAD BOYS II (Bay again), CONSTANTINE, and THE BROTHERS GRIMM (Terry Gilliam) followed and all the while Stormare continued to do several Swedish and international films as well as television, starring in as a rogue electrician named ‘Slippery Pete’ in “Seinfeld” as well as in the Emmy-nominated television miniseries “Hitler: The Rise of Evil.” He also served as the associate director of the Globe Theater in Tokyo for eight years during his early film career.

Stormare starred in season one of FOX’s hit show “Prison Break” as mob boss ‘John Abruzzi in his most visible television role at the time. His other television credits include a series regular role in the Julia Louis-Dreyfus sitcom “Watching Ellie,” a recurring role in HBO’s “Entourage,” and recent guest spots in FX’s “Wilfred,” USA’s “Covert Affairs,” “Leverage” for TNT,” ABC’s “Body of Proof.” His recent film credits include THE TUXEDO, NACHO LIBRE, and THE IMAGINARIUM OF DR PARNASSUS among others.

In addition to his impressive body of work theatrically, Stormare is passionate about his music and formed a band called Blonde From Fargo, in homage to his breakout role in the Coen Bros film. The five-member rock and roll band includes the guitarist from Roxette, the drummer from Alanis Morissette, and the bass player from Slash’s Snakepit, with Stormare writing all of the music and playing guitar. The band has performed at Lebowski-Fest, as well as toured North America and Europe.

Stormare currently resides in Los Angeles, California.

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