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CREATING FOR READING

He started life playing second fiddle to an ape in *Donkey Kong*. Thirteen years later, he's better known than Mickey Mouse — and now Mario has his own film! N-FORCE reports...



A view over the neon streets of Dinosaur in actual fact the film's concept was an abandoned cinematic factory in North Carolina. The elaborate look was designed by David Snyder.



From fairy tale to ugly steers. Was the one on the left a steiner giving a background that is indistinguishable from said 3D. On top of that, no expense was spared creating the inhabitants of Dinosaur — the dinosaurs lower eight feet tall and the actors have to wear giant boots, three-fingered gloves and helmets to allow the

film," he says. "I'd done Roger Rabbit. I'd done Hook. I didn't want to become like Dick Van Dyke."  
But producer Joffe was persistent and sent him script after script... and eventually he said yes.  
"Bob Hoskins was always our number-one choice, and we were in Italy when he decided to do it," says director Miller. "He's a superstar because he's an everyman. It's his ordinariness that makes him a hero."  
To Mario fans several things are decidedly odd — Bowser, the all-time bad guy and Mario's arch-enemy, is now Drew's long lost father, and Yoshi has to be seen to be believed — he's changed from a pudgy green



# MARIO AT THE MOVIES

**D**EEP in the bowels of a five-story abandoned camera factory in Wilmington, North Carolina, via, might as being made — Mario maged. The installation is home to a new world, a world where dinosaurs rule and men are just apes with hair hair.

It's here that directors Rocky Morton and Annabel Jankel (the team behind *Max* and *Reservoir Dogs*) producers Jake Eberts (Chances of Fire) and Robert Joffe (The Flying Saucers) and production designer David Snyder (Blade

**Worlds apart**  
Why did dinosaurs disappear from the earth? Were they wiped out by climatic changes, or just victims of evolution? Neither, according to the Mario movie — 45 million years ago a gigantic meteorite hit our planet with such force that it split the time lines and created a parallel universe. Evolution carried on and men flourished in the world we know, but in the parallel



universe of Dinosaur dinosaurs continued to exist.

But all is not well. The dinosaurs have exhausted the food supplies of their land and a vicious fungus is spreading, slowly choking

Dinosaur. The solution? Take over our world! That is what King Koopa (played by Dennis Hopper) plans to do with his army of Goombas and horrific di-evolution machines.

Back in New York, pretty fossil scientist Daisy (played by Mariel) is in trouble. Her excavation site is flooded and she must get the water out before it ruins the delicate fossils she has unearthed. She needs a plumber fast, so who's the gonnas call? Mario Bros! Soon the handworking duo

characters' heads to be turned Yoshi is controlled by a gang of nine puppets via 70 cables and comes complete with ten animatronic movements and two torqued brass ones? No problem, to you only \$300,000.

The live in the scene where the animatronic movements and two torqued brass ones? No problem, to you only \$300,000.

## In the pipeline

Equally remarkable is the casting of Bob Hoskins — it's no secret that he did not enjoy the brightly lit, long take scenes of the cartoon and live action in *Mario Bros.* "I didn't like the script at first and I really don't want to do another kid's

movie to an ugly Tennessee Rex. But producer Joffe insists "Every element of the film is based on the game. Our deal with Nintendo is that we will treat the characters well, but they have no input in the storyline."

On set design, Snyder comments: "Our design criteria was to incorporate as many game elements as we could into the set." There are more than 100 elements from the real and virtual games for this all-star-styled game field to split.

Super Mario Bros. — The Movie opens at the Leicester Square Cinema in London on July 3. We'll be there to see if Mario can make it on the silver screen, and we'll report back to you in N-FORCE.



The two brothers go into battle armed with two specially converted Super Nintendo Laser Scopes! They won't kill each with those.



Excuse me, have you fished? Come on, it must be one of you two because it smells of rotten mice.

# SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

So what has Bob Hoskins really got in common with the superhero Mario (besides his obvious bushy moustache and ample frame)? Well he once bought a pair of blue dungarees in 1975 but we don't think that counts! See if you can spot the difference between the characters in the film and those Nintendo stars we all know and love.

## Mario



Chunky Bob Hoskins plays the all-jumping, all-plumbing hero. He was perfect for the part as his has all the characteristics associated with Mr W himself. Both sides slightly apprehensive of taking on the role as he had already done a couple of kids films, *Mother Fingers* (Roger Federer and Hood). He commented, "I didn't want to end up older than *Rambo!*" We're all glad he took on the part.

## Luigi



John Leguizamo plays the part of Mario's plumbing workaholic brother Luigi. The funny thing is that Luigi should have a nice bushy moustache like his brothers, the film seems to have forgotten that fact! Other big screen appearances for John include *Regarding Henry* and *Hanger* with the *Homeboys*.

## Yoshi



What on earth is it? If you can't spot more than a thousand differences between the lovable green and cuddly cartoon Yoshi and this ugly £200,000 robot movie star you must have your eyes firmly shut. *Acrylic Science*... perhaps.

## Daisy



This cute princess with the pink dress has changed like Samantha Mathis. Her only similar role was a voice over for the first animated movie *Fern Gully: The Last Rain Forest*. The big question is: can she see through 20 mattresses?

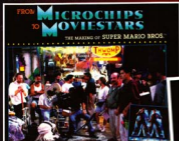
## King Koopa



The evil element of the film is played by Dennis Hopper of *Blue Velvet*, *Easy Rider* and *Apocalypse Now* fame. The Koopas in the Mario video games come in many disguises and they each live in their own castle which Mario must destroy. Iggy and Spike are two of the toughest Koopas around.

# WIN BROS!\*

We've gone Mario mad (what again?!) this issue with a mega special on the superhero's great new movie. Check out our feature on the plumber's first silver screen appearance on page 12.



**T**he movie plot goes like this: On a wet, rainy night, Daisy calls for help from her husband's vacation site and along come the Mario Brothers, plumbing service to die for. In London, it is an surprise they find that before being through a mysterious portal in Antarctica, a portal to some where devices all exist. In this new world King Koopa plans to merge both worlds causing more destruction than could Daisy's parents to do so. Who can save the day? The Super Mario Bros. of course.

## WIN! WIN! WIN!

To celebrate the film's UK release, we've got loads of fantastic Mario prizes up for grabs. Ten lucky winners each receive:

A genuine movie soundtrack CD featuring Rowlett, Chessa & Eddie and Quack.  
A Fun! Magazine To MovieStars full colour book filled with behind the scenes pictures. The Super Mario Bros novel that the film is based on.

To get these goodies answer the questions below, complete the free breaker form from this page, then send it to: MARIO MOVIE MADNESS CD/CD/R, N-FORCE, Impact Magazine, Ludlow, Shropshire SY9 1JW. Entries in order August 13 please. Please let us know if you don't wish to receive mail from other companies.

1. How much did the animatronic puppet of Yoshi cost to make?
2. How many years ago did a giant motorcycle hit Earth creating a parallel universe?
3. In which film does Rip Harkin appear with a cartoon robot?

How complete this free breaker. Luigi hasn't got a motorcycle in the film because...



**'No not Matt and Luke because they've spilt up, it's the Super Mario BROS, stupid!'**