

# KELVIN TAYLOR



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# BIOGRAPHY



Actor-writer Kelvin Taylor has been making his mark across the globe since the age of 19. The Virginian native, who got his start in modeling, broke into the world of acting when he decided to venture off to New Zealand, where he landed a role on the renowned STARZ series "Spartacus" in 2012. From there he was cast as 'George Kerr' in the critically acclaimed, International Emmy Nominated documentary *The Golden Hour*.

Kelvin continued to book numerous TV roles including "Power Rangers: Mega Force," "Ash vs. Evil Dead," The Paramount Networks, "The Shannara Chronicles" and "James Patterson's Murder is Forever." Television is not his only forte, having garnered a nomination at the Creative Arts Film Festival for his work in the 2015 feature *Hadir and The Deep*.

In 2018, Kelvin decided to make the move to Los Angeles, and since his arrival, his career has continued to advance. With several appearances on the Adult Swim network, BET's "No Limit Chronicles" (currently in production) and starring alongside rapper Waka Flocka Flame in the upcoming television series "Action Figure Miles."

# THE BUZZ



"With a Los Angeles market saturated with actors, Taylor's unexpected success could easily be mistaken for a well thought out plan. He has a body of work behind him that many aspiring actors would shed a limb for."

**-Dan Light, The Huffington Post**



"Having recently joined SAG-AFTRA it appears the world is his oyster" **-Voyage LA**



"It's his views on personal growth and kindness that helped him shine in a cutthroat industry. His natural gift for acting and innate stage presence didn't just enthrall the audience, it instilled a passion for performance in the bright-eyed little boy." - **Biz Me**



"Kelvin has always had a fighting spirit, but he's channeled that into one that fights with heart. I experienced the depth of what's at hand, and I found puzzle pieces that make up Kelvin as such a magnificent fit." **- Trend Privé Magazine**



# Kelvin Taylor

An actor on an atypical path - Written by Cameron Carpenter



In the landscape of stories about actors, the story reads the same. Being an American in New Zealand this story reads somewhat like that, but this is also a story of change and courage, but mostly (because his life is about keeping your head up and making with the journey, Kelvin's story is an interesting one, that's still only at the beginning, yet what a journey so far!



You may know his work from the Emmy award-winning documentary *The Golden Hour*, or from the sci-fi series *The Shannara Chronicles*, or the series *Spartacus* and *Ash vs. Evil Dead*. Most recently he's had parts in *American Playboy: The Hugh Hefner Story*, and several film and TV parts in post-production for 2018 release. Getting to know the actor, man, and human Kelvin Taylor, I had to dig deep while face-to-face, online, and via emails. It was a surprisingly easy and open engaging time. Just like Kelvin Taylor himself.



Born in Virginia, USA and moving around a bit, he was immediately attracted to acting and performing. He starred as "the gingerbread man" in his first-grade school play.

Performing in school and especially in churches, Kelvin knew early on how exciting acting was. Having a rough and somewhat outsider upbringing with a devout family emphasizing church over socializing he found it a perfect and positive escape (for a short while until it turned out to not be so productive) as well as being a great breakdancer and MC. During this time and at the onset of taking personal strides towards perfecting his craft, Kelvin met a handful of key players along the way who also were native to his local area, and this lifted his spirits, intention, and focus. With a playwright grandmother Irene Walker, and NBC Hollywood iconic anchorman/actor Dave Alan Clark realizing another acting talent like Jay Pharoah of *SNL* fame, and Michael Copon of *One Tree Hill* and *Power Rangers* fame, who returned to his hometown often to speak, Kelvin was onto something.

Cut to 1999 and taking classes in high-school, plus extra acting lessons under Nikki Roberts Keegan, he was definitely on his way. Post high-school, there was some local modeling work with great brands and events that showed another side of being onstage. An NYC stint in life learning brought him to music and the multitasking entrepreneurial life. During a post-plastic surgery period, he was offered a spot in The John Robert Powers Performing Arts school, which he had to decline. These events led to an opportunity to work in Music Management of Acts In Australia. A big chance for a new setting and opportunities was necessary, so of course, he jumped in. Being in a liaison position for a music management company moving to Australia was a fluid motion. Representing music acts such as Common, Jason Derulo, The New Boyz, Sebastian, LMFAO, Big Sean, Mike Posner was an exciting time professionally.



In 2010 Kelvin decided to seek new ground and ambition towards Asia-Pacific's Australian neighbor, New Zealand. In Auckland, New Zealand, a while working as a presenter, Kelvin landed multiple big brand TVC campaigns internationally for Samsung, Mita by Kraft, Seasonic, and Miller's. Today Taylor's career continues to flourish with three leading roles in upcoming independent features, also making an appearance on Warner Brothers International's 2015's *Come Dine with Me New Zealand* (2015). He also serves as creative director of his own digital media company "lightshipTV" acting, writing, producing his creative content with friend and creative partner Lorenz Gunawan of *The Collaborators*.



He has worked with industry veterans, Maru Bennett (*Arrow*, *The Shannara Chronicles*) and Liam McIntyre (*Vicarious*) on *Spartacus: Blood and Sand* (2013), *Season 2 "Vengeance"* and *Season 3 "War of the Damned"*. During this period, he met his partner Tarrax Barikhorani, a then-fashion student, now industry designer and working on her solo ventures. Studying the Maitner Technique of acting with industry pro-coach Michael Saccante on perfecting his Irish accent, Kelvin is bolstering his approach as well. Lastly, being a writer-producer, he created the *Electro City 3*, a self-produced series and is currently writing *Revolver: Electro City 4* to send to international film festivals.



Kelvin has always had a fighting spirit, but he's channeled that into one that fights with heart. As we sat and had coffee together, after all the back-and-forth e-mails, I experienced the depth of what's at hand, and I found the puzzle pieces that makeup Kelvin as such a magnetic fit. Speaking on what makes him tick and what he's about, we shared laughs, similar family traits and outlooks on racial equalities that seem to have taken a backside in the U.S. Finally, he speaks on what it means to be a humanitarian today.

Kelvin has always loved the idea of empowering people, and the Black Lives Movement has struck home for him. More importantly the broader scope of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade that's beyond the U.S. and Eastern Europe.

It's also about the current human slave trade and fighting the wrongs of the history changes. There is a multi-faceted approach and support network that needs to be established finally.

I ask how he's engaged in this and he tells me: "The United Nations is currently undergoing a lot of scrutiny before the United General Assembly and now under reform by Antonio Guterres, so hopefully there will be a new ending hope to handle and control this matter."

Strange enough, the day I am adding this, is the day that the U.S. President Donald Trump has proclaimed January 2018 as Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Kelvin also supports his partner's cause as it came so close to their daily lives. Kelvin's father passed away from cancer in 2013 and Tarrax's nephew was diagnosed with rare cancer.

"My partner and Fashion Designer Tarrax Barikhorani creating a fashion collection titled 'Kelvin' that's geared towards DRC form of brain cancer that affects young children across the world, soul stirred my heart since its conception. It's about sustainability and strength of the mind overcoming the body with a blend of organic dyes and fabrics. I was thankful to help assist her in bringing her show-to-life assisting with models, photographers, and fundraisers held for her nephew Arian. His story has touched many including American-Iranian comedian Miz Johnson who posted Arian's story through his Facebook account."

That's a lot to take on in New Zealand or anywhere, but the global human causes community has long ties and many strong hearts. We depart and take a tactical selfie, but Kelvin assures me: "Who knows, maybe my position as an actor can garner for public speaking or be the voice the world needs. Hold me to that gesture". (He smiles) - We will, and I'm sure we will see more of Kelvin in the entertainment and humanitarian spheres.

Kelvin Taylor is represented by Johnson and Laird Management and Gina Suij Management.

# HUFFPOST

 Dan Light, Contributor  
Writer, Musician, Creative.

## Going Far and Finding Yourself: Actor Kelvin Taylor's Story



When hearing the classic rags to riches stories of actors, musicians, and other artists, there's generally a chapter where the protagonist makes a move to the big city— usually it's LA or New York. These stories typically involve strokes of wild luck, chance run ins with some kind of benefactor, or other aspects that make the idea of making it big seem like a flight of fancy. For rising actor Kelvin Taylor, success has taken on a slightly different form. Whereas most actors flock to the movie capital of the world in Los Angeles, Taylor followed his gut and sought out an experience for himself, and through that, he was able to find work and success in a niche he never even knew existed.

Coming from Virginia Beach, VA, Taylor came from a tough background. He was forced to relocate with his family multiple times, causing him to have trouble making lasting relationships as a teen. He found an outlet in breakdancing, an art form which he claims is one of the original passions in his life. Dealing with increasing religious suppression at home, breakdancing helped Taylor find a spark of love and expression that carried him forward.. At the age of 19, Taylor got his first real entertainment gig as a fashion model. Over the next few years, he would rise to model for top-tier events, representing urban clothing brands such as Azzure, Imperial Junkie, and Shmack Clothing. His success in modeling gave him the confidence to pursue his real goal: acting.

[Read More on Huffington Post](#)

# VoyageLA

## Meet Kelvin Taylor



[Read More at Voyage LA](#)

Today we'd like to introduce you to Kelvin Taylor.

Kelvin Taylor is an American Actor Of the International Emmy Nominted film The Golden Hour, Spartacus, Power Rangers, Ash vs Evil Dead, The Shannara Chronicles, James Patterson's Murder Is Forever & most recently Dick Wolf's License To Kill.

An acting student of Michael Saccenté, Acting coach of Karl Urban (Thor: Ragnorok, Star Trek, The Born Suprimacy) and Antony Starr (Banshee, American Gothic, The Boys), he now sets his eyes on new territory returning from Asia-Pacific to the Los Angeles sunny shores.

Having recently joined SAG-AFTRA it appears the world is his oyster but his ship has sailed into challenging circumstances only a true international can understand to endure. This is his story.

**We're always bombarded by how great it is to pursue your passion, etc – but we've spoken with enough people to know that it's not always easy. Overall, would you say things have been easy for you?**

My mother Rhonda Clark was single mother who was orphaned and thus becoming devote Christian as most African Americans were. My father Kelvin Pitmman was street hustler lost in the influx of Reganomics and the CIA ushering in drugs into the African American community. I was birthed in suspension of chaos that was Urban America at the time and yet found theater as a child amazing. Elementary school is where my love for acting began seeing my twin sister Princess was cast as Cinderella and I myself cast as the Gingerbread Man.

From age 1, I stayed in a Neighbourhood known as Stuart Gardens in Newport News, Virginia til age 11. At age 5, the sky looked like it rained needles and syringes which were riddled all throughout the surrounding government welfare-issued apartment complex. Distinctly remembering a girl in elementary getting AIDS from a needle she stepped on, to a kid in my class family being killed after my family walked me home from school the opposite direction after saying "See you tomorrow". The area had us dropping on the ground because of gunshots constantly, to a man beaten to death with baseball bats with nails driven through it outside our front porch. Then saw a complex worker cleaning the blood off of our front door & I was numb to what had just happened the night before.

Living in Section 8 housing & welfare as child, my mother gave us great vivid imaginations regarding story telling. Children's bible books served as a form of escapism. Between a combination of living at the height of the supposed War On Drugs, supposed War on Poverty & the AIDS epidemic, movies in home served as a world away from the chaos outside. The only time I felt safe outside was with my brothers & sisters or seeing Allen Iverson play basketball living in the same neighbourhood before he left to College & the NBA.



The New Zealand Herald

## Spy: Has romance bloomed on Come Dine with Me?

5 Jul, 2015 10:00am

2 minutes to read



Kelvin Taylor and Natasha Wiseman, contestants on *Come Dine With Me*, have seemingly struck up a romance. Photo / Supplied

Herald on Sunday



It looks like TV3's new reality show *Come Dine with Me*, could double as a dating show.

If viewers noted the chemistry between actor Kelvin Taylor and girl-about-town Natasha Wiseman, they might be right. The pair were spotted out shopping in Newmarket on Thursday, looking cosy and romantic - not bad for a show in only its second week on our screens.

Read more from today's *Spy*:

- [Kiwi reality star lands cover of \*Playboy\*](#)
- [Rose Matafeo leaving NZ to join British boyfriend](#)

Taylor was coy with *Spy* when talking about the relationship but confirmed the pair had remained "close" since filming wrapped a month ago.

Wiseman only gave Taylor a score of five out of 10 for his three-course dinner and gave him plenty of stick during their week of dining. But they were a casting dream for the cooking reality show - both already work in TV. Taylor had a part in Kiwi-filmed series *Startacus*, and also appeared in the award-winning Kiwi documentary *The Golden Hour* as George Kerr, the Jamaican 800m runner who went up against Peter Snell in the 1960 Rome Olympics. Wiseman works for SkyTV as an ad sales co-ordinator and is training to become a media buyer.

## Interview with Kelvin Taylor: Actor

**\*\*This entrepreneur found success through hard work and talent. But it's his views on personal growth and kindness that have helped him shine in a cutthroat industry. Read all about his inspiring story and insightful outlook. \*\***

Taylor's ability to make this connection between how he interacts with the world and how that, in turn, impacts his career could easily get pushed to the side during the daily grind of networking, finding roles and filming. But Taylor's work ethic prevents that. He says, "When you commit to a job or agreement, you have to know it was a mutual arrangement. You can't be bitter about the work that you offered to do. If you commit, do not check the clock. Be like Nike and just do it and do it with as much love and human exchange as possible."

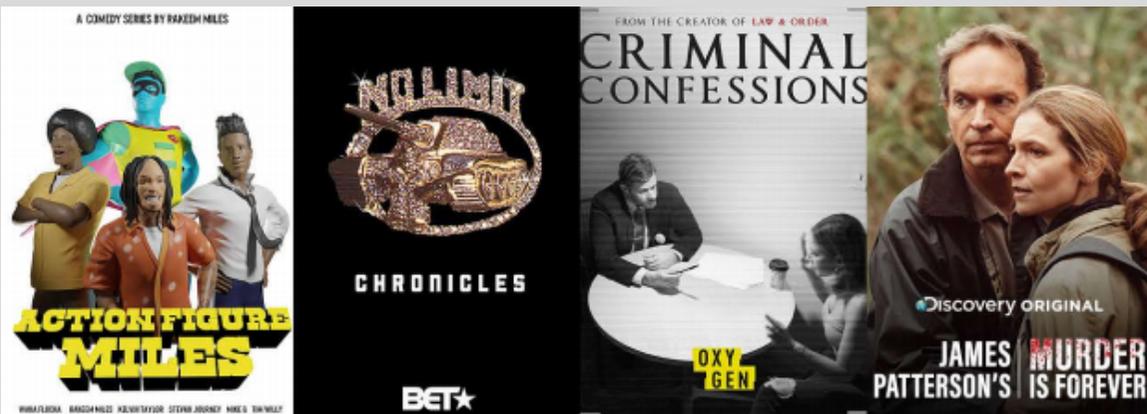


"My inspiration is understanding that everything is not about me, so my vision as a creative, actor or entrepreneur is to be a representative of mankind," Taylor says. And according to him, his ultimate goal isn't fame, fortune or seeing his name in lights. It's, in his words, "to do things with as much love, kindness and integrity as possible." He expounds on his outlook, saying, "Your word is everything as a person, and your commitment defines you. So, I try to bring joyfulness to whomever I am blessed to work with. This leaves a lasting impression that can follow you professionally in anything you do."

For others looking to break out of the mold and forge their own path via entrepreneurship, Taylor offers this advice, "Just start. There is no perfect time for anyone. You have to learn how to get out of your own way and channel your priorities to work hard at what you love so that becomes your life fully. You might have to 'cha-cha' two different fields. But as you do, know things are momentary. And if you are actively working in the direction and surrounding yourself in the direction you want to go, nothing can stop you."

# FILMOGRAPHY

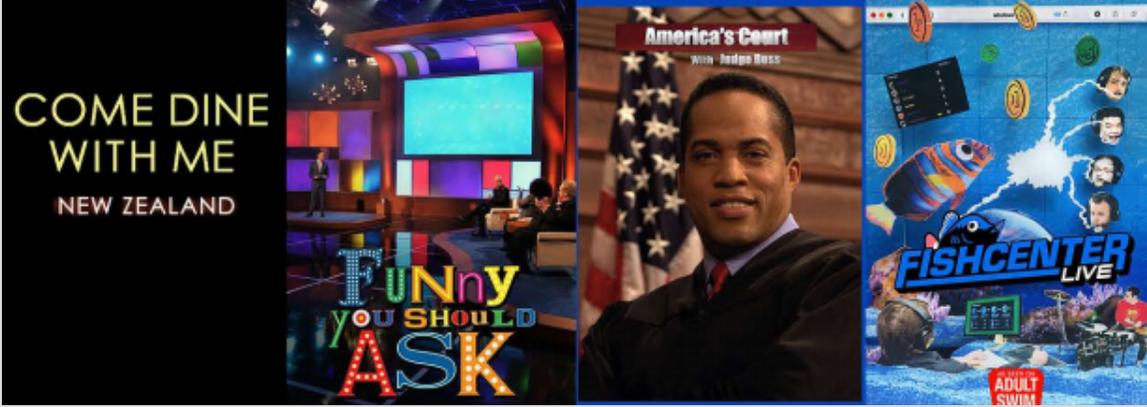
## RECENT



## TELEVISION



## REALITY





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