



42ND
YOUNG ARTIST
ACADEMY AWARDS

TEMI BLAEV Interview

Project: *Killing Eve*

Director: Shannon Murphy



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How would you describe the plot of this project?

The plot of this project is very interesting! A British intelligence investigator Eve Polastri is trying to capture a psychopathic assassin Villanelle. She is an international killer who travels the world killing people. Villanelle is unpredictable, funny, loves good food and clothes, speaks lots of languages, she is very smart, so you cannot dislike her even knowing she is the most dangerous assassin in the world! As Eve's and Villanelle's chase progresses, they develop a mutual obsession. In my episode, Villanelle arrives to Russia, to find her long lost family. She finds them and after that a lot of interesting events happen.

What was your fondest memory from working on the project?

My fondest memory was to meet and work with Jodie Comer. She is a super talented actress and a great person! It was really interesting to watch how she turns from Jodie into Villanelle on set. I loved our scene where we all were dancing and singing the Crocodile Rock! We had so much fun filming this scene! I completely forgot that I am on set, at that moment I was not Temi, but Bor'ka – Villanelle's step brother who was really happy to find out that he has a sister who speaks English!

When we finished filming, Jodie signed a photo for me which I framed and will keep for my memories. She wrote: "Temi, you are a total Rock Star. Love working with you!"

I also was invited to the Wrap up party where I met the rest of the cast, crew and producers of the project. It was a great evening to remember!

Were there any cool locations or sets that were fun/different/strange?

We were filming in two amazing locations: one was in a remote village called Comandau in Romania. It took us around an hour of a bumpy ride by car to reach the village from the hotel. As the village was remote and hard to reach, there was no internet and some houses had a well outside! We were filming the festival and the house explosion scenes there. It was so interesting to watch the house explode from a safe distance!

Then the same house was recreated in one of London's studios. The house was fully re-built and was so detailed. I had my own room where all of the walls were covered with Elton John posters. Looking at the house you can never guess that it was set up in a studio as it looked and felt so real! I really enjoyed filming there.

Do you recall any particular memories with castmates or crew that were impactful?

When my onscreen family and I gathered together around the table for a family dinner, it was so natural, it didn't feel like we are a group of actors, we were more like a real family. I think we all bonded very well together. I really miss them all!

I remember when I finished all my scenes, I didn't want to leave, I really wanted to stay! Our Film Director, Shannon Murphy, gave me a big hug and complimented me about my performance. Her feedback was very important to me.

Did the project inspire you to see the world differently? Or did you learn anything new about the production process?

This project was a great experience for me! I have learnt a lot from the crew, the film director and the castmates. I also learnt a lot from my character Bor'ka. He had a dream to attend Elton John's concert and he was so dedicated to his dream and he tried so hard to make it come true. Bor'ka even entered the cooking competition with a little chance to win among the experienced cooks. I think this boy is a fighter, who never gives up! All he needs is just a bit of love and support from his family.

What stands out to you from working on this project?

I think the Killing Eve fandom stands out for me from working on this project. They are absolutely amazing! They are very supportive and they are like a big friendly family who lives all around the globe. I have signed lots of photos which were sent to France, Australia, Philippines, Germany, America and many other countries. I have received Bor'ka custom made funko pop figurine and a portrait from fans.

They always support the actors and vote for their beloved series. Once they knew I was nominated for this award, they shared the news and I got so many messages that congratulated me. This is truly amazing and I highly appreciate it!

If you were to produce a sequel or a continuation of this project, what would that be like?

I would definitely continue Bor'ka's story. I can see him arriving in London and ready for a big adventure. Who knows what can happen to him in this big city?! He will go to Elton John's concert and then, of course, will try to find his sister Villanelle. She would then take him on a shopping spree so he can get whatever he wants. I think lots of adventures are waiting for these two!

What do you love most about the Entertainment Industry? What do you wish could be better?

I love that the Entertainment industry gives you a chance to express yourself, to be yourself and a chance to play anyone else! You can influence people and make a difference, make this world a better place! Your voice can be heard. I love the idea that many talented people can shine and share their talent with others.

I really like that The Young Artist Academy gives this chance to young performers and helps them get noticed by the industry. Thank you so much for this great opportunity!



Bor'ka and Villanelle



Bor'ka with his on-screen family



Bor'ka



Fan art



Bor'ka Funko Pop



Behind-the-scenes



Bor'ka's room



Bor'ka's room



With film director



Bor'ka - bts



Temi's trailer



A fan's art



For fans



To my fans



With Sandra Oh at Wrap Party



With Kim Bodnia



With Jodie Comer - bts