

KELVIN TAYLOR



Manager [US]: Wendy Peldon
wendy@caviarentertainment.com

Agent [US]: Courtney Peldon
cpeldon@aquatalent.com

Agent [NZ]: Tim Gordon
tim@theproactors.co.nz

PR: Rachel Madison Hill
rachel@bmpbeverlyhills.com



BIOGRAPHY



New Zealand-American actor-writer, stunt man and comedian Kelvin Taylor has been making his mark across the globe since the age of 19. The Virginia native, who got his start in modeling, broke into the world of acting when he decided to venture off to Australasia in 2008. Shortly after he landed multiple TVC's and lead him onto a role on the STARZ TV series "*Spartacus*" doing action acting and stunts. Shortly after, he was cast as 'George Kerr' in the critically acclaimed International Emmy Nominated documentary *The Golden Hour*.

Kelvin's joyful relationship building landed him appearances on "*Power Rangers: Mega Force*," "*Ash vs. Evil Dead*," "*The Shannara Chronicles*". Multiple appearances Adult Swim's "*FishCenter Live*" lead him into voice acting. His voice appears on "*Gemusetto: Death Beats*" & currently New Zealand series "*The War At Home*". Collaborating with rapper Rakeem Miles and international recording artist Waka Flocka Flame lead to the comedy pilot "*Action Figure Miles*", currently being optioned to series.

A protege of acting coach of Micheal Saccente, who's alumni includes Karl Urban and Antony Starr (*The Boys*, Amazon), Kelvin has residencies Tri-Costal between **Auckland, Los Angeles** and **Melbourne, Australia**.

Television is not his only forte, As a writer he has penned several human rights articles including "*Kelvin Taylor: An American in NZ during Black Lives Matter*". Activist work as a writer recently during the Covid-19 Pandemic lead him into writing his 1st two stand-up comedy specials. Inspired by a household name status from his comedic personality on "*Come Dine With Me New Zealand*". Gratitude, while sporting effortless cool through his international journey is paving a distinctly unique lane for this African American in entertainment globally.

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"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*



"Kelvin Taylor doesn't hold back on anything. This multifaceted model turned actor, comedian, writer is steadily diversifying his performance abilities to be a one man band." - **Oliver Estreich, *Entertainment Network Live***



"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 spiring 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." - **Cameron Carpenter, *Trend Prive Magazine***



s p y



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 illustrates life is about keeping your head up and sticking 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 Play-boy: 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, Kevin knew early on how enticing 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

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 righting 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 recent General Assembly and now under reform by António Guterres, so hopefully there will be a never-ending hope to handle and control this matter.*"

Strange enough, the day I am editing 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



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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.

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VoyageLA

Meet Kelvin Taylor



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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.

ENTERTAINMENT

Kelvin Taylor: An American in NZ during Black Lives Matter

25 Jun, 2020 05:00 AM

5 minutes to read



Kiwi Black Lives Matter protesters march in solidarity on Auckland's Queen St on June 1 following the killing of George Floyd by a US police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on May 25. Photo / Dean Purcell

NZ Herald
By: Kelvin Taylor



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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. **



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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."

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Hatching
Change

FUNNY
YOU SHOULD
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-Guy Williams, *Come Dine With Me NZ*

"I'm learning more from you, then me"
-Teri Hatcher, *Hatching Change*

"The Most Ken-Doll Man I have ever seen"
-Max Simonet, *FishCenter Live*

FILMOGRAPHY

RECENT



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[Wikipedia: Kelvin Taylor \(actor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kelvin_Taylor_(actor))

For Commercial & Print
Contact: Andrea Plowright
andrea@62management.com