# Alan Cumming declares 'X2' as his 'gayest' movie, praising queer representation in mainstream cinema



Scottish actor Alan Cumming has identified the 2003 film "X2" as the "gayest" movie in his career. In an interview with Entertainment Weekly, Cumming highlighted the significant contribution of queer creatives involved in the movie, recognizing the importance of such films in portraying and normalising queer identities for mainstream audiences.

Cumming portrayed the character Kurt Wagner/Nightcrawler in "X2" and underlined how the film's allegorical themes resonate with queer experiences. The movie features characters with extraordinary abilities that they must conceal, paralleling the real-life challenges faced by many LGBTQ+ individuals. Cumming noted that the film's creative team, including its director Bryan Singer and several actors, were openly queer, which influenced the thematic depth of the film.

"X2" is the sequel to the 2000 blockbuster "X-Men," and continues to explore the complexities of mutant life in a society that fears and hates them—a metaphor that has often been linked to the struggles of persecuted communities, including the LGBTQ+ population. The film features returning actors such as Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman, Ian McKellen, Halle Berry, and Famke Janssen, with new additions Brian Cox and Aaron Stanford. Upon its release on April 24, 2003, in London and May 2, 2003, in the United States, "X2" was well-received for both its storyline and performances, generating a worldwide box office revenue of $407.7 million, surpassing its predecessor.

Cumming, who came out as bisexual in 1998, has had a varied and distinguished career spanning television, film, and theatre. His early work includes his television debut in ITV Granada's "Travelling Man," and roles in films like "GoldenEye" and "Spice World." He is also well-known for his roles in television series such as "The Good Wife" and Apple TV’s "Schmigadoon!"

Currently, Cumming is the host of the U.S. reality series "The Traitors," which has been renewed for a third season. He recently took to Instagram to express his gratitude to fans and the Critics Choice Real TV Awards, which honoured him as the Male Star of the Year.

Alan Cumming's recognition of "X2" as a significant film for queer representation underscores the importance of inclusive storytelling in mainstream media. By integrating queer themes and characters, films like "X2" contribute to broader understanding and acceptance of LGBTQ+ identities, breaking down barriers in both the entertainment industry and society at large.