

Interview with Reddit – January 3, 2018

Source:

https://www.reddit.com/r/television/comments/7nwszk/i_am_angela_bassett_your_favorite_actress_watch/

I am Angela Bassett, your favorite actress. Watch me in FOX's 9-1-1, premiering TONIGHT at 9/8c! AMA

By Angela Bassett - January 3, 2018 12:00 pm PT

Angela Bassett here and ready to answer your questions! My new show 9-1-1, from the brilliant mind of Ryan Murphy, premieres TONIGHT at 9/8c on FOX! Watch the [trailer](#).

Proof:

<https://twitter.com/911onFOX/status/948368065124691968>

<https://i.redd.it/nx15ysek6x701.jpg>

Ask me anything!

genesisofDOOM

Hi Angela,

You were amazing in the Thanksgiving episode of Master of None and I was so glad to see that episode win the Emmy. Can you tell us any stories about the process of filming that or any of your favorite moments about that episode? Thank you!

angelabassett

I didn't know Aziz or Lena or anyone on that show. I watched the first season before being asked on the show. I was intrigued after Aziz's book came out, I said, "who's this little dude? he seems funny."



Aziz and his parents were seated next to me and Courtney during Emmy season and they asked and I shot the episode a week later.

Lena always wanted me as her mom but they planned for a plan B but Aziz asked for me. Aziz is crazy and has a lot of ideas and balls jumping around like a whirlwind.

I never knew this episode was going to be so big. I had no idea who all watches this show. It was my first streaming service show. But then everyone told me they watched it: my dentist, my shoulder doctor.

whoatethekidsthen

Angela, I absolutely loved you as Marie Laveau (let's be honest you're always perfection on AHS). What was a favorite character of yours to play on AHS? Is working with Ryan on 9-1-1 any different than AHS?

Can't wait to watch the show tonight and thanks for the AMA

angelabassett

Thank you! Marie Laveau was my favorite, absolutely! No, it's not any different working with Ryan on 9-1-1, his creativity is unmatched.

When I was brought in to read for AHS I binged all of season one and Connie Britton, you are some sort of actress. How you could watch all of these episodes and not realize the house was haunted. She was rationalizing every little thing. I was mesmerized. So I went in to meet Ryan and I knew who Marie Laveau was and he was shocked. I remember working on the set and this little 8-year-old boy was like, "you're playing Marie Laveau?" She's powerful. She was a bad sister.

Birdfishbirdfish

Thanks for this AMA! How was working on the Black Panther set with the likes of Boseman, Whittaker, MBJ, and Nyong'o? So excited to see what you all have done!

angelabassett

It was absolute love. There was just a regalness. It was beautiful, huge, bigger than life - and then they're gonna add more life to that with CGI. It was so cool to be with all these talents across from the diaspora. It's just glorious. The production design is phenomenal. Each set was more gorgeous than the last. And they shot it in Atlanta!

magikarpcatcher

Are you open to returning to American Horror Story or any of the other FX Ryan Murphy shows?

angelabassett

I'm completely open to returning to American Horror Story. Absolutely!

Superawesomecoolman

What's it feel like to get your groove back?

angelabassett

I don't think I ever lost it. It may sit down for a couple of songs. But you can't dance to every record.

Maxwyfe

"You can't dance to every record."

Such wisdom and elegance. I'm totally cross-stitching this.

angelabassett

That's nice!

brandnameb

What's it like to be married to another actor?

angelabassett

It's FABULOUS. Because they understand. He's wonderful, he gets it. Sometimes it gets too mysterious with "you're kissing who?" but he understands. We worked together on stage when

we were married on "His Girl Friday." It could be tough because I have a little director in me but I'm also his wife so I want to boss him around.

Jankinator

What sort of preparation did you do to learn about your role as a first responder? Is there anything interesting that you saw or learned?

angelabassett

I do have an ex-LA police detective by my side as a consultant, he's awfully nice. He took me to the firing range. I have to say, I am pretty good. My first shot my eyes were closed. The detective told me I can't hold the gun sideways or criss-crossed. I also sat down with a current lieutenant at LAPD. I love all these men asking her to instructions, SHE'S THE BOSS! She told me she spent 20 years without shooting her gun once.

Playing a cop and pretending like everything is okay and easy is tough because I just want to ACT! And make it too much haha. I'm a very emotional cop. I'm going through some stuff.

I love a uniform, it makes you stand differently, you really stand like a badass like what.

eyedabear

Hi Ms. Bassett,

I just want to say that as a strong woman of color, I really look up to you. Your movies shaped my life. From Strange Days to Stella, your acting has been phenomenal. I love how you take on strong roles and make them even fiercer. I think you're one of the most underrated actors and should get more strong film roles. I hope that you can write your own role in a future film that really puts you on display. Thank you from a millennial.

angelabassett

Thank you, that's very kind.

_GC93

What is it about working with Ryan Murphy that interests you and other performers in coming back for additional seasons of AHS and his other programs like 9-1-1?

angelabassett

He writes wonderful, beautiful roles for actresses so I think we appreciate that. It sometimes takes years to get a role on film but on TV with Ryan he gives you a role season to season and they're vastly different each time.

streamstroller

How would you say the industry has changed for Women of Color since you first entered the business?

angelabassett

Loads more roles and opportunities. And good roles. But leave it to an actor, you want even more roles and opportunities. I'd like to play someone really evil without a moral compass.

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If you had to describe 9-1-1 in one sentence, what would it be?

angelabassett

Hmm... Action, fast-paced, dramatic based comedic-drama. Haha.

rovinja

If you could either act or direct for the rest of you career, which would you choose?

angelabassett

Oh my god. First love is acting, but if I had to make this Sophie's Choice then I would go to acting. But I do appreciate the challenge of directing. It's high wire with or without a net.

pipsdontsqueak

Hi Angela! What drew you to the many biographical roles you've had over your career? Did you seek out roles playing real people or was it more of a happy accident?

angelabassett

Happy accident. That was the times, they were doing more biopics and that was that moment.
I'm every woman.

angelabassett

Bye everyone, thank you! You made my first Reddit experience a delight. You're going to love 9-1-1. You'll flip for Black Panther. Catch you on the next chit chat!