

Beat: Arts

## Gillian Anderson - A Vision of Fire & A Streetcar Named Desire

American-British Actress, activist, writer

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**USPA NEWS** - Gillian Leigh Anderson is an American-British film, television and theatre actress, activist and writer. Her credits include the role of FBI Special Agent Dana Scully in the long-running and widely popular series The X-Files ((1993""2002, 2016)...

Gillian Leigh Anderson is an American-British film, television and theatre actress, activist and writer. Her credits include the role of FBI Special Agent Dana Scully in the long-running and widely popular series The X-Files ((1993""2002, 2016). Her film work includes the dramas The Mighty Celt (2005), The Last King of Scotland (2006), Shadow Dancer (2012) and two X-Files films: The X-Files: Fight the Future (1998) and The X-Files: I Want to Believe (2008). Aside from film and TV, Gillian Anderson has taken on the stage and received both awards and critical acclaim.

Gillian Anderson has been active in supporting numerous charities and humanitarian organizations. She is an honorary spokesperson for the Neurofibromatosis (NF) Network and the co-founder of South African Youth Education for Sustainability (SA-YES).

'The X-Files' finished its ninth and final season in May 2002 marking the end of a large chapter in Gillian's life : 'The fact of the matter is that I grew up during the course of the show. I started when I was 24 and ended at almost 34. That's almost a third of my life. There's a time for everything to end and I think this is the right time. I think everybody in their own way is excited about moving on to other things.'

Gillian Anderson self-identifies as a feminist. In an August 2014 interview with Glamour magazine, Anderson said: 'I have feminist bones and when I hear things or see people react to women in certain ways I have very little tolerance.' In May 2015, when asked at Dallas Comic Con if she considered herself to be a feminist icon (given the many strong female characters she portrayed) Anderson replied: 'I don't necessarily consider myself to be an icon, but I do consider myself to be a feminist.' Anderson has several tattoos : all of them, as she described, are in some way about 'peace of mind, right mind, right action'.

'A Vision of Fire' by Gillian Anderson and Jeff Rovin : was first released in October 2014. Following it, 'A Dream of Ice' was published a little more than one year later, in December 2015. Third book of the novel series is titled 'The Sound of Seas' and will be published on September 13, 2016.

- 'A Vision of Fire': FRANCE (Bragelonne Editions) Feb.3, 2016

Esteemed child psychologist Caitlin O'Hara is a single mom trying to juggle her job, her son and her dating life. Her world is swiftly upturned when Maanik, the daughter of India's ambassador to the United Nations begins speaking in tongues and having vicious visions. Maanik's parents are sure that her condition has something to do with the recent assassination attempt on her father.

However, when children start having similar symptoms around the world, O'Hara begins to think that there's a stranger force behind it. In Iran, a boy suddenly and inexplicably bursts into flame. In Haiti, a student claws at her throat, drowning on dry land. On the Pakistan border, a young man feels a burning in his chest and "" against his will "" opens fire on Indian soldiers. With Asia on the edge of nuclear war, O'Hara must race across the globe and expose the supernatural connections between these purportedly unrelated cases in order to save her patient and possibly the world.

- Play 'A Streetcar Named Desire' :

By Tennessee Williams

Directed by Benedict Andrews

Starring Gillian Anderson (Blanche DuBois), Ben Foster (Stanley Kowalski), Corey Johnson (Harold 'Mitch' Mitchell), Vanessa Kirby (Stella Kowalski)

Production : Young Vic & Joshua Andrews Co-Production

In Association with Bruno Wang Productions

Originally, it is a 1947 play written by American playwright Tennessee Williams which received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1948.  
American Premiere : April 23 "" June 4, 2016

The original Plot :

After the loss of her family home, Belle Reve, to creditors, Blanche DuBois travels from the small town of Laurel, Mississippi, to the New Orleans French Quarter to live with her younger, married sister, Stella, and brother-in-law, Stanley Kowalski. Blanche is in her thirties, and with no money, she has nowhere else to go. Blanche tells Stella that she has taken a leave of absence from her English teaching position because of her nerves. Blanche laments the shabbiness of her sister's two-room flat. She finds Stanley loud and rough, eventually referring to him as 'common'. Stanley, in return, does not care for Blanche's manners and dislikes her presence.

Stanley later questions Blanche about her earlier marriage. Blanche had married when she was very young, but her husband died, leaving her widowed and alone. The memory of her dead husband causes Blanche some obvious distress. Stanley, worried that he has been cheated out of an inheritance, demands to know what happened to Belle Reve, once a large plantation and the DuBois family home. Blanche hands over all the documents pertaining to Belle Reve. While looking at the papers, Stanley notices a bundle of letters that Blanche emotionally proclaims are personal love letters from her dead husband. For a moment, Stanley seems caught off guard over her proclaimed feelings. Afterwards, he informs Blanche that Stella is going to have a baby. (Wiki)

July 2014, Anderson gained critical acclaim for her stage performance as Blanche DuBois in 'A Streetcar Named Desire' at the Young Vic Theatre in London, she won the Evening Standard Theatre Award for Best Actress & received her second Laurence Olivier Award nomination for Best Actress. The production became the fastest-selling show in the theatre's history & the run was extended by 2 weeks due to the demand for tickets. In the first collaboration between the Young Vic Theatre & National Theatre Live, the show was broadcast live to over 1100 venues on 16 Sept. 2014. It has been screened in over 2000 venues. (Wiki)

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