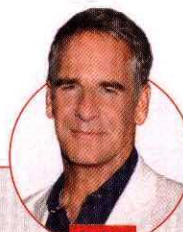


People



Q & A

Scott Bakula

What sets *NCIS: New Orleans* apart from *NCIS* and *NCIS: Los Angeles*?

New Orleans is our town, and we aren't going anywhere. The music and the party is kind of non-stop there. The world is rich with possibilities.

Have you and Mark Harmon cage-matched over who is aging better?

My mom says he's the best-looking guy in TV. I'm like, "Hang on, Mom, let's calm down. It's not a competition!" But yes, he wins hands down.

You've developed a big gay following with your role on HBO's *Looking*.

I've done gay roles on and off in my career. I embrace that community. I got the job because the executive producer was a fan of *Quantum Leap*. The networks worked it out for me to continue, so I'm in the second season.

You are an accomplished singer who's performed on Broadway. Any chance we'll hear you hum a tune this season?

I have another episode coming up where I play the piano. With the jazz flavor down here, it's been fun to incorporate. I don't know if we want to bombard the viewers with all of my Broadway skills. If you see me doing a soft shoe down the street or something, you'll know that we're stretching it.

—LYNETTE RICE