



BOOMERANG

Eddie Murphy stars as an up-and-coming cosmetics executive who steps off the fast track to pursue the woman of his dreams (Robin Givens).

EDDIE MURPHY COMES BACK TO COMEDY

Even his laugh makes us chuckle — Eddie Murphy's comedy is such a hit with audiences that he's one of the few performers who's been able to parlay TV success into feature-film stardom.

In fact, Murphy's legion of fans has ensured that each of his movie efforts — from his debut, opposite Nick Nolte, in *48 HRS.* right through to its sequel, *Another 48 HRS.*, with the likes of *Trading Places*, *Beverly Hills Cop* and *Coming to America* nestled in between — has been a box-office mother lode.

And now, after a big-screen absence of two years, Murphy's poised to do it again. This time out, the movie is called **Boomerang** — and it stars Murphy as a hotshot

marketing whiz with a successful cosmetics firm. Conceived by Murphy, the screenplay is by Barry W. Blaustein and David Sheffield and it's directed by Reginald Hudlin (who, with his producer brother Warrington, crafted the phenomenally successful *House Party*).

In **Boomerang**, Murphy's character has it all — money, women and career — but he still burns to be top corporate dog. And that's where the plot takes its twist.

Despite the fact that fortune seems to have smiled on him in every way, Murphy's character finds himself pitted against the lovely Robin Givens in a race for the executive suite. Perversely, he becomes much more interested in her than in success itself.

But his interest isn't reciprocated by Givens's character, and the presence of a number of more attentive ladies (Eartha Kitt, Grace

Jones and Halle Berry) just serves to exacerbate his frustration.

"He becomes obsessed by her," producer Brian Grazer told *Premiere* magazine. "His life begins to unravel and he starts to deteriorate. He ultimately becomes subservient to her. She's not being Machiavellian. She's just unattainable. She wants what a man wants. She wants success at her job and respect as a human being."

These are things Murphy has sought after in his own life. A middle-class kid from Brooklyn, N.Y., Murphy first stepped on stage at age 15 and didn't really start carving a niche for himself until he landed a gig on the hit comedy series *Saturday Night Live*.

Now, from his luxurious digs in Englewood Cliffs, N.J. — a posh compound called Bubble Hill — Murphy is, quite literally, the lord of all he surveys. And he handles his

enormous success and its inherent problems with a mature, level-headed attitude not often found in Hollywood.

"The only way I keep my sanity," he once told *Rolling Stone* magazine, "is [with] the realization that every problem I ever had in my life, no matter how huge, right up to this moment, has worked itself out."

"Think about it: That problem you thought you'd never get out of is behind you now. It doesn't make any sense to worry about it."

In other words, don't worry, be happy — which is how Murphy's audiences feel after watching his unique brand of humor.

Boomerang opens in theatres across Canada this summer.

— John Coulbourn

