

Actor Crispin Glover talks about his odd reputation, FSW show



CHARLES RUNNELLS, CRUNNELLS@NEWS-PRESS.COM

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(Photo: Special to The News-Press)

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- **What:** [Crispin Hellion Glover](#)
- **When:** 7 p.m. Friday
- **Where:** Rush Library Auditorium on the FSW campus, 8099 College Parkway, south Fort Myers
- **Admission:** Free (first come, first served); for information, call 489-9313 or visit [rauschenbergallery.com](#).

Crispin Glover knows you think he's a weirdo.

He gets it.

You've seen his deliciously offbeat performances in movies such as "River's Edge," "Charlie's Angels" and "Willard." You've watched that infamous [YouTube video](#) where a breathless, awkward Glover karate kicks and generally freaks out TV host [David Letterman](#).

So it's understandable, Glover agrees, people see him as an oddball.

"People usually think of me as an eccentric. Which is fine," says the actor most famous for his role as nerdy father George McFly in the movie "Back to the Future."

"Artistically, I find unusual things generally more interesting. My interest is being involved in film/art, whatever you want to call it, that brings up questions and thoughts."

Even so, he says, there's a difference between his Hollywood image and the real Crispin Hellion Glover, who continues to act in movies, make art and direct

films such as "It Is Fine! EVERYTHING IS FINE." He screens that 2007 movie tonight at [Florida SouthWestern State College](#).

"My day to day life as a person, as a filmmaker — that part of my life is very *centric*," he says. "It is not eccentric. It's mechanical. It's dealing with organization. I produce and fund the films myself. So this is not eccentric at all. It's the opposite of that.

"I don't really care too much about my personae... It's something I'm comfortable with. I, of course, prefer it if people think what I'm involved in has value. That I care about!"

Glover appears at 7 p.m. for a four-hour event in FSW's Rush Library Auditorium. The night features a one-hour narrative reading/slide show of his art involving re-imagined antique books, a screening of his 75-minute movie "It Is Fine! EVERYTHING IS FINE," a 90-minute Q&A with the audience, a meet-and-greet and a book signing.

Funded and co-directed by Glover, "It Is Fine!" is described as part horror movie, part exploitation picture and part documentary. It focuses on late actor/screenwriter Steven C. Stewart, who suffered from severe cerebral palsy and was unable to adequately express his sexuality.

Due to the graphic, adult nature of the movie's content, no one younger than 18 will be admitted to the event tonight. You can learn more about the actor's movies and art on his [website](#).

Glover talked about "It Is Fine!" and more with The News-Press on Thursday. Here's what he had to say about:

That famous David Letterman appearance in 1987.

I do not confirm or deny I was on David Letterman. One can make out of that what one will.

How his movies deal with taboo subjects, including "It Is Fine! EVERYTHING IS FINE."

The films are designed to sit in that area where it's part of the definition of taboo, where there is a non-definition of what is considered appropriate... So people can have genuine thought and argument about it.

And because they deal in taboo areas, or they deal in areas that are not normally dealt with in corporately funded and distributed film, sometimes people can get upset. But that's rare, actually.

Why he got started acting.

I've worked in the corporate media since I was 13 years old... I think more than 35 years. My father's an actor as well. His name's Bruce Glover, and he was in films like "Chinatown" and "Diamonds are Forever."

I've witnessed the film industry for a long time period, all of my life. And so I had a realistic point of view about the film industry on many levels when I entered into it.

I didn't have unrealistic views about it, because my father was never super-famous or super-wealthy from working in the film industry. But I could see that it was a good business, and I felt it was something I could do.

How his view of Hollywood changed over the years.

When I was 16... I would see all the movies at the revival houses. And because it was 1980, the films that they were showing were from the 1970s and the 1960s, and earlier, the '20s and '30s. But the films I was seeing were films that would question things.

As a young actor, I was looking forward to being part of this great industry that would question things that should be questioned. And as I started looking around and acting in films in the '80s, I was thinking, "Where are all these questions that I was thinking about?"

What he looks for in movie roles.

After "Back to the Future" came out, I had questions about the moral values of "Back to the Future." And I felt a moral obligation to find films that somehow psychologically reflected what my interests were. And the film that I acted after that was "River's Edge," and I'm proud of that.

But subsequent to that in the '80s and '90s, really, the films did not necessarily reflect what my psychological interests were. They did not necessarily make that much money, and that was not necessarily that good for my career. But I don't regret that time period, because I was still looking for interesting characters or directors.

How those movies shaped how the public sees him.

There was a personae that was etched out at that time, which is essentially still with me. Basically, I'm comfortable with that. It's a positive, not a negative.

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@charlesrunnells (Twitter)