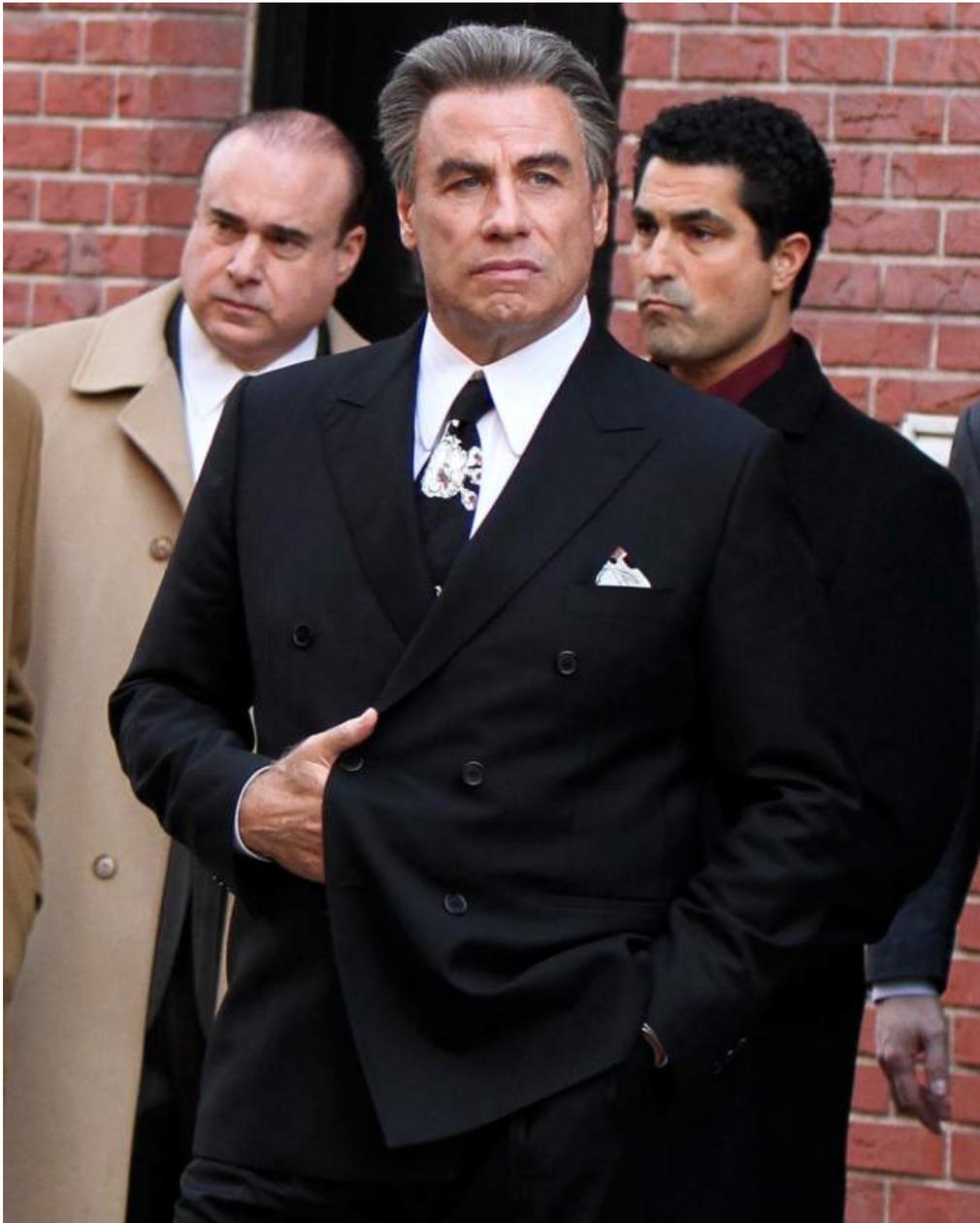


People

Star Tracks: Thursday, Feb. 23, 2017
BY PEOPLE STAFF

MOVIE MOMENT

John Travolta films scenes on the N.Y.C. set of *The Life and Death of John Gotti* on Wednesday.





John Travolta transforms into John Gotti

Story highlights

- **John Travolta is filming his upcoming movie, 'The Life & Death of John Gotti'**
- **Travolta plays the infamous mob boss and former head of the Gambino crime family**

John Travolta has transformed himself into the Dapper Don.

Travolta was spotted this week filming scenes in Brooklyn for "The Life & Death of John Gotti," his upcoming movie about the notorious mob boss.

The resemblance between Travolta and the former head of the Gambino crime family is striking in pictures from the set.

This film has become a passion project for Travolta, who has been trying to make the movie for years. It's also a family affair: Travolta's wife of 26 years, Kelly Preston, plays Gotti's wife, Victoria.

Fans have gotten a glimpse of the star as he films in New York, and he's posed for a few selfies in character.

"Bidding farewell to John Travolta," wrote one man. "Shooting John Gotti movie in Bath Beach today."

Another fan wrote: "On set of The Life and Death of John Gotti with John Travolta as Gotti."

Former "Entourage" star Kevin Connolly is directing the film.

Daily Mail

Mob boss! John Travolta is surrounded henchman on the set of The Life & Death Of John Gotti

You can't be a gangster if you don't have a gang.

John Travolta was spotted on Tuesday with his henchman on the set of The Life & Death Of John Gotti.

The 63-year-old is playing the infamous mob boss in the upcoming film, and his associates certainly seemed to be playing part of that mob.

The veteran looked the part in a dark brown suit, brown shoes and burgundy turtleneck.

His hair was greyed and combed back just like the real deal; his finishing touches included a gold watch and an eye-catching blackstone pinkie ring.

The Pulp Fiction star bore a serious expression as he emerged from the back door with his half dozen-strong crew.

Each of the men looked henchman-chic in a combination of leather jackets, slacks and tracksuit bottoms.

Spotted amongst the crew was Bartholomew 'Bobby' Boriello - Gotti's enforcer - played by Leo Rossi.

Not privy to the meeting on Tuesday was Gotti's wife Victoria, who is played by Travolta's real life spouse of 26 years, Kelly Preston.

Travolta has been attached to the Gotti biopic for six years now, staying with the project even as numerous Hollywood heavyweights dropped out of the film.



Accessories: his finishing touches included a gold watch and an eye-catching blackstone pinkie ring

Nick Cassavetes, Joe Johnston and Barry Levinson were all attached to direct at one point, while a trio of Oscar-winning actors - Al Pacino, Joe Pesci, and Anthony Hopkins - left the film after being cast due to multiple false starts that kept pushing back the start date for principal photography on the movie.

Lindsay Lohan was also set to star in the role of Victoria when the project was first announced back in 2011.

Gotti's oldest son John Gotti Jr, who wrote the 2015 memoir *Shadow of My Father*, is one of the film's producers.



On and off screen: Not privy to the meeting on Tuesday was Gotti's wife Victoria, who is played by Travolta's real life spouse of 26 years, Kelly Preston

The film is now being directed by Entourage star Kevin Connolly, while Travolta and Preston's 16-year-old daughter Ella Bleu will also appear as Gotti's first daughter Angel.

Gotti was Italian-American gangster who was born into poverty in The Bronx but turned to a life of crime from an early age, quickly rising to become boss of the Gambino crime family.

He died behind bars in 2002, aged 61, one year after being diagnosed with terminal lung cancer.



Inside knowledge :Gotti's oldest son John Gotti Jr, who wrote the 2015 memoir Shadow of My Father, is one of the film's producers (pictured in July)

Kevin Connolly directs John Travolta on set of John Gotti biopic

Kevin Connolly directs John Travolta on the set of *The Life & Death Of John Gotti*. Travolta meets with Sammy the Bull Gravano in the scene, FBI agent who brought Gotti down, for the crime biopic.



The logo for the website 'Mirror' is displayed in a bold, white, sans-serif font against a solid red rectangular background.

John Travolta or Dapper DON Travolta? Star sports grey hair and sharp suit to become mobster John Gotti

The actor is playing the Gambino family chief, who died aged 61 in 2002, in *The Life and Death of John Gotti*, due out later this year

Someone clearly made [John Travolta](#) an offer he couldn't refuse with this part.

The actor, 63, stepped out with grey hair and a sharp suit in Brooklyn, New York, to play mobster John Gotti.

The Gambino family chief, who died aged 61 in 2002, was known as The Dapper Don for his classy tailoring and love of the limelight.

The film, called *The Life and Death of John Gotti*, is due out later this year.

Travolta has reportedly been trying to make the movie for years.



Travolta looks dapper as he portrays the mob boss (Photo: Splash News)



The actor is the lead in The Life and Death of John Gotti (Photo: Splash News)



Travolta has been trying to make the movie for years (Photo: Splash News)

His wife of 26 years, **Kelly Preston** , will play Gotti's wife, Victoria.

Kevin Connolly, who starred in Entourage, is directing the film.



John Travolta Steps Out As John Gotti For Role In Upcoming Movie

Cameras photographed, John Travolta taking a stroll on the streets of Brooklyn with his mob henchmen for the upcoming film "The Life & Death Of John Gotti." The scenes were shot on Tuesday and the "Pulp Fiction" actor donned a grey wig, red turtleneck and brown blazer with a pinky ring, the attire of the infamous mob boss. Fans from the Brooklyn neighborhoods where they filmed on Tuesday came out to take photos of the star playing the man also known as "The Dapper Don."



John Travolta Gets Into Character Filming 'The Life & Death of John Gotti'

John Travolta films an intense scene outside on Tuesday afternoon (February 21) in New York City.

The 63-year-old rocked gray hair, a brown suit, and a huge pinky ring as he filmed scenes from his upcoming film *The Life & Death of John Gotti* and chatted with director **Kevin Connolly** on set.

John stars as the mob boss along with his wife **Kelly Preston**, who is playing his on-screen wife Victoria Gotti in the film.

The film follows John Gotti's life as a powerful mobster in NYC during the 1960s and 1970s.

Hollywood Life

John Travolta Transforms Into John Gotti While Filming New Movie In NYC — Pics



Whoa! Are we looking at a ghost? John Travolta was out in NYC filming ‘The Life & Death Of John Gotti’ on Feb. 22 and OMG did he look just like the mobster! Check out the pics [here!](#)

John Travolta, 63, is clearly the perfect actor to play the notorious mobster **John Gotti** in the upcoming biopic, *The Life & Death Of John Gotti*. Just look at how a little makeup, hairstyling and a wardrobe change completely transformed

the *People vs. O.J. Simpson* actor into the late mob boss while shooting the film in New York City on Feb. 22.

John rocked a double breasted black suit, a white collared shirt, a black and white patterned tie and matching pocket square, and black patent leather dress shoes. Topping off the look was just a little aging makeup and some gray hair. Boom, ya got Gotti!

Not on set that day was **Kelly Preston**, 54, John's real life wife of 26 years, who will be playing Victoria, Gotti's wife. But my, oh my, had she been there she wouldn't have even recognized her hubby!

John has stuck with this project for six years now, all while many blockbuster stars came and went. **Nick Cassavetes**, **Joe Johnston** and **Barry Levinson** were all set to be directors at one time or another, and Oscar winners **Al Pacino**, **Joe Pesci** and **Anthony Hopkins** were all set to star, until they left due to an endless change of start dates for principal photography. **Lindsay Lohan** was even attached to play Victoria at one point! Can you imagine how different *that* film would have been?

We cannot wait to see what John is able to bring out of this larger than life story and character. After all, if he's stuck with the biopic this long, he certainly deserves to have it be a smash hit.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

Travolta makes triumphant return to Brooklyn



State Sen. Marty Golden (left) was among the fans who greeted movie idol John Travolta in Bath Beach. Photo by John Quaglione

John Travolta, who skyrocketed to superstardom 40 years ago playing Bay Ridge disco dancer Tony Manero in “Saturday Night Fever,” has returned to Brooklyn to film scenes from his latest movie.

Travolta filmed scenes from “The Life and Death of John Gotti” on Bath Avenue on Feb. 21.

The film depicts the rise and fall of John Gotti, the infamous Mafia boss known to many New Yorkers by his nickname, “The Dapper Don.”

State Sen. Marty Golden (R-Bay Ridge-Southwest Brooklyn), whose senate district includes Bath Beach, was among the fans that got to meet Travolta when the movie idol took breaks from filming his scenes.

Travolta earned an Academy Award nomination for his portrayal of Tony Manero in “Saturday Night Fever,” which was released in 1977. Much of the movie was filmed in Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst.

Even before that film shot him to movie stardom, Travolta was familiar to Brooklyn through his role in the hit television show “Welcome Back Kotter,” which aired in the mid-1970s on ABC and took place in a fictional Brooklyn high school that bared a striking resemblance to New Utrecht High School in Bensonhurst.