

= Millennium (season 3) =

The third season of the serial crime @-@ thriller television series Millennium commenced airing in the United States on October 2 , 1998 , and concluded on May 21 , 1999 after airing twenty @-@ two episodes . It tells the story of retired FBI Agent Frank Black (Lance Henriksen) . Black had previously worked for a private investigative organization , the Millennium Group , but left after the Group unleashed a virus that resulted in the death of Black 's wife . Now working for the Federal Bureau of Investigation with agent Emma Hollis (Klea Scott) , Black seeks to discredit and expose the Group for their sinister motives .

The season saw the introduction of a new lead character in Hollis . Scott faced difficulty in securing the role , as Fox executives had desired a white actress for the part instead ; Scott 's agent fought for her to be given an audition , which proved successful . The season also brought in two new executive producers ? Michael Duggan and Chip Johannessen , who had previously written episodes in earlier seasons .

Episodes from the third season have seen generally positive reviews from critics , as has the season as a whole . Stars Henriksen and Brittany Tiplady were nominated for several acting awards for their work on the season ? a Golden Globe Award nod for Henriksen and two Young Artist Award nominations for Tiplady . In addition , series cinematographer Robert McLachlan was nominated for two American Society of Cinematographers awards during the season . Ultimately none of these nominations proved successful .

= = Production = =

When ending the second season , the producers and crew thought it would be the last ; Fox executives admitted that the decision to renew the series was " down to the wire " . However , to their surprise Millennium was renewed for a third season . Many of the cliffhanger plot threads from the season finale were written off as the hallucinations of Frank Black . When creating the third season , the writers wanted to go back to the standalone storytelling format used in the first season ; to do so they had Frank join the FBI and receive a new " skeptical " partner with whom he could work .

This led to the introduction of Klea Scott as Emma Hollis . Originally , the producers were looking for a white actress to play the part . Scott 's agent campaigned for her and guaranteed the series ' producers that if she was not considered for the role , he would never send another actor to the casting director of the show . Scott won the role , but producer Chip Johannessen recalled that " she wasn 't what the network were looking , they wanted Heather Locklear or something to come . That was kind of how that went down " . Fox backed down , and Scott got the role .

The season saw the introduction of Johannessen and Michael Duggan as executive producers ; both had previously worked as writers on earlier seasons of the series . The pair worked with series creator Chris Carter , who acknowledged that they had taken heed of past criticism of the series when writing new episodes , wanting to avoid the previous " serial @-@ killer @-@ of @-@ the @-@ week " moniker the show had earned . To this end , the season ended with a seven @-@ episode story arc intended to reduce the series ' conflicts down to struggle between two men , rather than larger factions or groups ? Black representing the viewer 's point of view and Peter Watts (Terry O 'Quinn) representing the ideals of the Millennium Group , with both convinced their beliefs are the correct ones and wanting to bring the other to their side . Ultimately , the season did not attract enough viewers , and the series was cancelled by the network .

= = Cast = =

= = = Starring = = =

Lance Henriksen as Frank Black

Klea Scott as Emma Hollis

== = Recurring cast == =

== = = Also starring == = =

Brittany Tiplady as Jordan Black

== = = Guest starring == = =

Terry O 'Quinn as Peter Watts

Peter Outerbridge as Barry Baldwin

Stephen E. Miller as Andy McClaren

= = Reception = =

= = = Accolades = = =

The third season earned several awards and nominations for those associated with the series . Henriksen was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in a Television Drama , losing out to Dylan McDermott 's portrayal of Bobby Donnell in The Practice . Tiplady was nominated twice for the Young Artist Award for Best Performance in a TV Comedy / Drama ? Supporting Young Actress Age Ten or Under ; she was beaten out by Scarlett Pomers for Star Trek : Voyager in 1999 , and Mae Middleton for Any Day Now in 2000 . Cinematographer Robert McLachlan was twice nominated for the American Society of Cinematographers award for Outstanding Achievement in Cinematography in a Regular Series , in 1999 for " Skull and Bones " , and in 2000 for " Matryoshka " . Both times McLachlan lost the award to Bill Roe , for The X @-@ Files ' " Drive " in 1999 , and " Agua Mala " in 2000 .

= = = Critical reception = = =

Writing for Slant magazine , Keith Uhlich gave the season an overall rating of four stars out of five . Uhlich described the season as " a divisive run of episodes that , for many viewers , blasphemously rewrites what came before " , but favourably compared it to the fiction works of Jorge Luis Borges . Uhlich felt that the episodes in the season were " challenging " and celebrated the abilities of the individual to forge a life for themselves . DVD Talk 's Randy Miller also awarded the season an overall four out of five stars , finding that although its concern about the then @-@ coming millennium made it very much a product of its time , it did not seem to have suffered from this and held up well in retrospect . Miller considered Henriksen 's portrayal of Frank Black to have been " masterful " ; however , he felt that the retcon of its second season finale alienated viewers and led to its dwindling popularity .

Robert Shearman and Lars Pearson , in their book Wanting to Believe : A Critical Guide to The X @-@ Files , Millennium & The Lone Gunmen , rated several episodes across the season highly , awarding five stars out of five to " Borrowed Time " , " Collateral Damage " , " Darwin 's Eye " and the series finale " Goodbye to All That " . However , several episodes also fared poorly in their opinion , including " Closure " , " ... Thirteen Years Later " and " Forcing the End " , all of which the pair rated only one star out of five . Writing for The A.V. Club , Zack Handlen described the season as suffering from several problems , specifically mentioning " its lack of a center , its hamfisted morbidity , the ongoing blahtastrophe that is [Emma Hollis] " .

= = Episodes = =

