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BY GEORGE DICKIE

New guests and elements highlight Season 4 of Fuse's 'Made From Scratch'

If necessity is the mother of invention, then the pandemic spawned a key innovation for the producers of Fuse's "Made From Scratch" that they're taking into Season 4.

Kicking off Thursday, July 28, this new round of episodes that show celebrities and their families and friends interacting as they prepare favorite recipes in their home kitchens brings back a technique developed in Season 3, where the celebs shot their own shows without the presence of a production crew, a concession to COVID-19 protocols.

That resulted in an eye-opening level of intimacy that took everyone by surprise. So the new season will be a mix of celeb-shot episodes and those done by a crew.

"We felt that that method of filming really allowed us to get talent that would open up a little bit more," explains executive producer Jon Scarlett. "And then also, they love the ability to kind of film it themselves and be a part of the overall production, so we didn't want to lose that element. ...

"So we were able to really film it much closer to what you were familiar with in Season 1 but still keeping a little bit of that self-shot element to it. So I think we struck a good balance between the two formats and it's really kind

of what people should expect from the show moving forward."

Also new to "Made From Scratch" are the types of guests it will feature. In seasons past, musical artists were the focus but this round will see actress Eva Longoria and gamer Tyler "Ninja" Blevins showing off their know-how in the kitchen. Scarlett expects the series to branch out in future seasons to include athletes and various other types of personalities.

Beyond that, the formula for the show is still the same – celebrities in their kitchens letting down their guard and making meals and conversation with family and friends and sharing stories.

"I think the magic of the show has been the kitchen," Scarlett says, "and the home-cooked meals is really where families have those really authentic and unique conversations and unique interactions. ... I think that the celebrities really love the opportunity to showcase their siblings, their mothers and fathers, their best friends and showcase some of those interactions that people don't really get to see from them."

Other guests appearing this season are singer-songwriter Noah Cyrus, actors Javon Walton ("Euphoria") and Jason Genao ("On My Block"), musician/activist/reality star Amara La Negra ("Don't Cancel Me") and singers Kyle and Syd.



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