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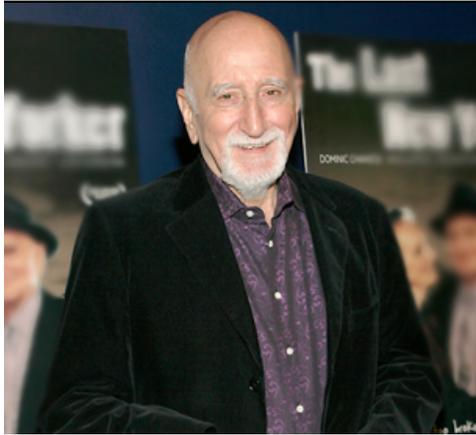
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Sylvain Gaboury/PR Photos

Dominic Chianese Does Damages

by [Kayleigh Roberts](#) March 08, 2010 10:49 AM EST

[Sopranos](#) favorite [Dominic Chianese](#) has returned to TV, but don't expect another loveable grouch. Chianese calls his role as Stuart Zedeck, an ambiguously dark new [Damages](#) character, a "big departure" from his turn as Uncle Junior. (His second appearance on the show airs Monday, March 8 at 10/9c on FX.)

"It's definitely a departure," he says of the mysterious Mr. Zedeck, who appears to have access to the ill-gotten Tobin family fortune that Patty Hewes and her associates are toiling to recover. "I like that. Even physically, Uncle Junior has those glasses that I used as a mask—it really changed my face and when people see me now they see someone completely different."

Chianese has signed on for a four- or five- episode arc but can't say much about his character's role in the season's big picture. On [Damages](#), he says, even the actors don't know where their characters are going.

"I think there's an ambiguity to it," he says. "Even I don't know the outcome. They keep us in the dark for a reason. The writers are writing one show at a time."

Though his first appearances have been brief, Chianese's Zedeck is already grabbing attention. He walks the line between friendly and fiendish, arranging a shady subway rendezvous in one scene and sending a gift to the Tobins' matriarch in the next. Still, the self-proclaimed [Damages](#) fan (who "fell in love" with the first season) has his own predictions about Zedeck's role in the season's typically labyrinthine plot.

"My character, I think, has something to do with the mystery of the missing money," he says. Fans shouldn't assume his shadowy character is definitely a bad guy, though: "I think he's kind of a mixed

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character.”

Are you happy to see Chianese back on TV?



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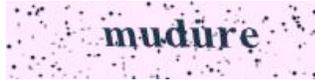
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