



The Real Housewives of New York City

Real Housewives' Alex & Simon Say Son Francois Is 'A Big Star'

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The wait is almost over!

With just weeks remaining until the Feb. 17 season premiere of Bravo's *The Real Housewives of New York City*, Brooklyn couple **Alex McCord** and **Simon van Kempen** say their sons **Francois**, 4, and **Johan**, 2, may steal the show.

"Johan, our youngest son appears more in season two because he's a bigger boy," van Kempen told PEOPLE at a private cocktail party for the couple's upcoming parenting book at the Bruno Jamais Restaurant Club in New York. "But with Francois, we have a star in the making."

Van Kempen continued: "Francois's funniest line off camera throughout the filming of season two was when we just finished up with brunch in the Hamptons and asked Francois if he liked having the cameras around. And he said, 'When the cameras roll, Francois rolls!' A star is born! I'm a little worried. We have a big star on our hands. We have to keep him grounded a bit."



As for what happens on camera — and with the other Housewives — the social climbers of New York say they'll be much more relaxed in the second season. "But there are some incredibly genuine catfights," van Kempen said. "Ramona and I had issues towards the end of season one, particularly during the reunion special and that grew and crystallized throughout season two. So expect lots of fighting and arguing with her."

As for the new housewife **Kelly Killoren Bensimon**, who's joining McCord, **Bethenny Frankel**, **Jill Zarin**, **Luann de Lesseps** and **Ramona Singer** on the show, McCord coyly admits she wasn't a fan.

"She's an interesting person. She is loud and quiet, intense and colorful like all of us," McCord said. "She came into the mix and it's a bit different with her but we are all strong women and even if we disagree with each other, we all respect each other. There's all sorts of craziness going on but ultimately

when someone new is added to the mix you just bring them in and have to adjust even if you like the person or not. I have learned to adjust.” – *Paul Chi*