

**Mongrel Media**  
Presents

# Jodorowsky's Dune

Directed by Frank Pavich

## *Official Selection*

Cannes Film Festival – Director's Fortnight 2013  
Toronto International Film Festival 2013

### Distribution



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High res stills may be downloaded from <http://www.mongrelmedia.com/press.html>

## **Featured Interviews**

ALEJANDRO JODOROWSKY  
MICHEL SEYDOUX  
H.R. GIGER  
CHRIS FOSS  
BRONTIS JODOROWSKY  
RICHARD STANLEY  
DEVIN FARACI  
DREW MCWEENY  
GARY KURTZ  
NICOLAS WINDING REFN  
DIANE O'BANNON  
CHRISTIAN VANDER  
JEAN-PIERRE VIGNAU

## **Filmmakers**

Director/Producer	FRANK PAVICH
Producers	STEPHEN SCARLATA TRAVIS STEVENS
Executive Producer	DONALD ROSENFELD
Co-Producer	MICHEL SEYDOUX
Associate Producers	TRAVIS STEVENS ALEX RICCIARDI
Cinematographer	DAVID CAVALLO
Editors	ALEX RICCIARDI PAUL DOCHERTY
Composer	KURT STENZEL
Production Audio Supervisor	DAMON COOK
Supervising Sound Editor	JESSE FLOWER-AMBROCH
Animator	SYD GARON
3-D Animation	PAUL GRISWOLD

## **Logline**

The story of legendary cult film director Alejandro Jodorowsky's staggeringly ambitious but ultimately doomed film adaptation of the seminal science fiction novel *DUNE*.

## **Synopsis**

In 1975, Chilean director Alejandro Jodorowsky, whose films *EL TOPO* and *THE HOLY MOUNTAIN* launched and ultimately defined the midnight movie phenomenon, began work on his most ambitious project yet. Starring his own 12 year old son Brontis alongside Orson Welles, Mick Jagger, David Carradine and Salvador Dali, featuring music by Pink Floyd and art by some of the most provocative talents of the era, including HR Giger and Jean 'Moebius' Giraud, Jodorowsky's adaptation of Frank Herbert's classic sci-fi novel *DUNE* was poised to change cinema forever.

**“For me, Dune will be the coming of a god. I wanted to make something sacred, free, with new perspective. Open the mind!”**

**-Alejandro Jodorowsky**

For two years, Jodo and his team of “spiritual warriors” worked night and day on the massive task of creating the fabulous world of *DUNE*: over 3,000 storyboards, numerous paintings, incredible costumes, and an outrageous, moving and powerful script.

**“In that time, I say, if I need to cut my arms in order to make that picture, I will cut my arms. I was even ready to die doing that.”**

**-Alejandro Jodorowsky**

In the words of Jodorowsky's producer, Michel Seydoux, *“It should have been enough. But it wasn't.”*

Through interviews with legends and luminaries including HR Giger (artist, *ALIEN*), Gary Kurtz (producer, *STAR WARS*) and Nicolas Winding Refn (director, *DRIVE* and *ONLY GOD FORGIVES*), and an intimate and honest conversation with Jodorowsky filmed over the course of three years, director Pavich's film - featuring never-before-seen realizations of Jodo's mind-blowing psychedelic space opera (animated by *Emmy Award* nominated Syd Garon) - finally unearths the full saga of 'The Greatest Movie Never Made'.

### **Director's Statement**

The story of Alejandro Jodorowsky's journey to make his version of *DUNE* intrigued me for many reasons. Every day, countless film projects wither away and die before being fully realized. Usually all that's left are some screenplay drafts and perhaps a wish list of actors. Rarely do you encounter a project that was so very close to being fully realized.

The tale of Jodorowsky and his *DUNE* is a fascinating trip through creativity and imagination, a story about the relentless pursuit of a dream, and the necessity of art. This is not the story of a failure. In fact, it's just the opposite – it is the story of an artist who turns a potential negative into a grand success and moves forward with an unending evolution of ideas and drive, well into his 80s.

This is a film about a unique ambition: the ambition to change the world through art.

-Frank Pavich

## DIRECTOR'S BIO

**Frank Pavich (Director/Producer)** is a Croatian-American, New York City native, currently living in Geneva, Switzerland. In 1995 he directed the cult-underground music documentary *N.Y.H.C.* when he was just 22 years old. Following that, he co-produced *DIE MOMMIE DIE!* (Special Jury Prize – Sundance 2003) and has spent years in feature film and television development. *JODOROWSKY'S DUNE* is Pavich's first feature and it had its premiere in Cannes at the 2013 Quinzaine des Realizateurs.

## CREW BIOS

**Stephen Scarlata (Producer)** worked with Frank Pavich on the cult-underground music documentary *N.Y.H.C.* Scarlata has focused on feature screenplays; recently winning a Hollywood Scriptwriting Institute contest with his original script, *POACH*. Scarlata's recent writing credits include the Tyler Shields-directed horror film *FINAL GIRL* starring Abigail Breslin and Alison Eastwood.

**Donald Rosenfeld (Executive Producer)**, from 1987 to 1998, was president of Merchant Ivory Prods, producing the critically acclaimed and award-winning films *HOWARDS END*, *MR. & MRS. BRIDGE* and *THE REMAINS OF THE DAY*. He also produced Chris Munch's *COLOR OF A BRISK AND LEAPING DAY* (Cinematography Award – Sundance 1996), *FORTY SHADES OF BLUE* (Grand Jury Prize – Sundance 2005), as well as the award-winning documentary films, *NEW YORK, ANDY WARHOL* and *EUGENE O'NEILL* directed by Ric Burns. His most recent productions include Terrence Malick's *TREE OF LIFE* (2011 Palme d'Or winner), and the upcoming fall 2013 release, *EFFIE GRAY*, starring Dakota Fanning, Emma Thompson, Derek Jacobi, Robbie Coltrane, James Fox, Julie Waters and Claudia Cardinale.

**Michel Seydoux (Co-Producer)** and his company Camera One have over 40 years of experience in the film industry, producing such classics as *CYRANO DE BERGERAC* starring Gerard Depardieu, the Oscar-winning *BURNT BY THE SUN* and Peter Greenaway's *PROSPERO'S BOOKS*. They produced Alain Cavalier's film *PATER*, which premiered in

competition at the 2011 Cannes International Film Festival. In 2013, Seydoux is premiering two films at the Quinzaine des Realizateurs: *JODOROWSKY'S DUNE* as well as Jodorowsky's first feature in 23 years, the highly anticipated *LA DANZA DE LA REALIDAD*.

**Travis Stevens (Associate Producer)** founded Snowfort Pictures, a boutique production company specializing in the development, financing and production of commercial genre films in 2010. The company's first production was Adam Wingard's *A HORRIBLE WAY TO DIE* (2010 Toronto International Film Festival). Other Snowfort productions include the SXSW 2013 Audience Award Winner *CHEAP THRILLS*, the 2011 Tribeca Film Festival and AFI Film Fest entry *ALL IN ALL*, the SXSW 2011 hit *THE AGGRESSION SCALE* and *BIG ASS SPIDER!* (SXSW 2013), from Epic Pictures Group.

**David Cavallo (Cinematographer)** shot the acclaimed feature documentary *NOTHING CAN HURT ME: THE BIG STAR STORY* as well as the upcoming independent feature, *ANCHORS*. In addition, he has shot many US television programs, music videos and commercials.

**Alex Ricciardi (Editor)** edited *THE STAND UP* (Official Selection Austin Intl Film Festival 2011) as well as the upcoming independent features *ANCHORS* and *TURTLE ISLAND*. He has also edited several US television programs and music videos and is currently serving as director for the upcoming web-series, *GOOD WORK JOHNSON*.

**Syd Garon (Animator)** directed the film *WAVE TWISTERS* (Sundance 2001; Best Midnight Movie prize at SXSW). His second feature, *N.A.S.A. THE SPIRIT OF APOLLO*, was codirected with Sam Spiegel. In 2012 he was nominated for an Emmy Award in the Outstanding Individual Achievement in a Craft: Graphic Design & Art Direction category for his title design and animation on the HBO documentary, *SUPERHEROES*.

**Kurt Stenzel (Composer)** founded the New York Hardcore band *SIX AND VIOLENCE* in 1985, notorious for theatrical stage shows involving actual violence, the smashing of televisions and

the chainsawing of drums. Stenzel moved on to performing with vintage analog synthesizers with *BEYOND-O-MATIC* and SpacEKraFT, an ambient live music, video and tactile interactive performance art experience. *JODOROWSKY'S DUNE* is his first feature.