



Presents

ASK DR. Ruth

A Film by Ryan White

100 mins, U.S.A, 2019

Language: English

Official Selection

2019 Sundance Film Festival – World Premiere

Distribution

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ASK DR. RUTH | **SYNOPSIS**

Ask Dr. Ruth chronicles the incredible life of Dr. Ruth Westheimer, a Holocaust survivor who became America's most famous sex therapist. With her diminutive frame, thick German accent, and uninhibited approach to sex therapy and education, Dr. Ruth transformed the conversation around sexuality. As she approaches her 90th birthday and shows no signs of slowing down, Dr. Ruth revisits her painful past and unlikely path to a career at the forefront of the sexual revolution.

ASK DR. RUTH | **ANIMATION**

The animation for Ask Dr. Ruth was created by Neko Productions, an animation studio based in Burbank, CA. The Ask Dr. Ruth team included artists from all over the world, including Italy, Poland, Latin America, Israel, Bulgaria, and the Philippines. Neko's artists combined both traditional and computer animation techniques including hand-painted illustrations to create a storybook feel that's both dynamic and life-like. Neko's previous credits include work on Loving Vincent, SpongeBob, Avatar, Tarzan 2, The Pink Panther, Harry Potter, The Avengers, Hercules, Sonic, The Fox and the Hound, and Winnie the Pooh.

ASK DR. RUTH | **SCORE**

The score for Ask Dr. Ruth was created by award-winning composer Blake Neely, whose credits include Supergirl, Arrow, The Flash, Pan Am, The Mentalist, and more. In addition to Blake's many television credits, he also has a longstanding collaboration with director Ryan White, scoring his documentaries The Keepers, Serena, and The Case Against 8.

In crafting the main theme for Ask Dr. Ruth, Blake focused on a single violin to represent a small but powerful voice. Though surrounded by big orchestra notes

that vacillate between dissonant and celebratory, this solo violin is always upbeat and positive, like the woman it represents.

In a first for film scores, Blake worked with performance royalty company BMI to allocate a major portion of the royalties earned from the film to Education Through Music, an organization that brings music education to inner-city schools. *Ask Dr. Ruth* is the first film of any kind to participate in this program, which Blake initiated and hopes will see many more film participants in the future.

ASK DR. RUTH | FILMMAKING TEAM

Ryan White - Director, Producer

Ryan White is the director of *Ask Dr. Ruth*. Most recently, White directed *The Keepers*, a 7-part Emmy-nominated documentary series for Netflix, and HBO's *The Case Against 8*, which won the Directing Award at Sundance and was shortlisted for the Academy Award. White's additional films include *Serena* (Epix), *Good Ol' Freda* (Magnolia Pictures), and *Pelada* (PBS, Cinetic).

Rafael Marmor - Producer

Rafael Marmor is the founder of Delirio Films, a boutique production company specializing in feature documentaries, docuseries and commercials. His first feature documentary *Blue Blood* was released theatrically by Warner UK before its broadcast premiere on BBC's Storyville. He went on to produce a number of films including Alma Har'el's *Bombay Beach*, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival; *No Place On Earth*, which premiered at the 2012 Toronto Film Festival before its nationwide theatrical release; and *The Short Game*, which won the audience award at the 2013 SXSW Film Festival and was picked up as Netflix's first Original Documentary. His next film, *Can You Dig This*, won the Grand Jury Prize at the 2015 LA Film Fest before being released theatrically in over 30 cities. In 2017, he produced the SXSW audience award winner *Becoming Bond* as well as *Too Funny To Fail* as part of Hulu's first original documentary slate. He executive produced the six-part documentary series,

Hunting ISIS, which premiered this past spring on the History Channel, and is currently executive producing a six-part true crime series for the Sundance Channel. His documentary *Mike Wallace Is Here* and his scripted film *Honey Boy* premiered alongside *Ask Dr. Ruth* at the Sundance Film Festival in 2019.

Jessica Hargrave - Producer

Jessica Hargrave is executive producer of *The Keepers* (Netflix), a 7-part Emmy-nominated documentary series about the unsolved murder of a young nun in Baltimore and the horrific secrets and pain that linger nearly five decades after her death. She is also the producer of *Good Ol' Freda* (Magnolia), co-producer of *The Case Against 8* (HBO), and producer of marketing and distribution for *Pelada* (PBS, Cinetic).

Christopher Leggett - Producer

Christopher Leggett is a partner at Delirio Films, a Los Angeles-based film, television, and commercial production company. Leggett began his producing career at NBC / Universal Sports, covering three Olympic Games, and was the creator of *Against the Tide*, an original six-part series, during his tenure. From there, Chris segued into independent production. Leggett's first producing credit at Delirio Films, *The Short Game*, won the Audience Award at the 2013 SXSW Film Festival and was picked up by Netflix as their first Original Documentary. His documentary *LoveTrue* premiered at the 2016 Tribeca Film Festival and won the Jury award for Best Documentary at Karlovy Vary. In 2017, Delirio Films partnered with Hulu to launch its Original Feature Documentaries with *Too Funny To Fail* and *Becoming Bond*, which won the SXSW Audience award. Leggett was executive producer on a six-part documentary series, *Hunting ISIS*, which premiered this past spring on the History Channel and Viceland. His first scripted film, *Honey Boy*, written by and starring Shia LaBeouf, premiered alongside his documentaries *Mike Wallace Is Here* and *Ask Dr. Ruth* at Sundance Film Festival in 2019.

Ask Dr. Ruth | **CREDITS**

a film by
RYAN WHITE

produced by
RAFAEL MARMOR
RYAN WHITE
JESSICA HARGRAVE
CHRISTOPHER LEGGETT

executive producer
PEGGY DREXLER

co-producer
ZOË MORRISON

associate Producer
GRACE OATHOUT

director of photography
DAVID PAUL JACOBSON

composer
BLAKE NEELY

co-editor
REJH CABRERA

associate editor
SOHAM MEHTA

editor
HELEN KEARNS

directed by
RYAN WHITE

featuring
DR. RUTH K. WESTHEIMER

Additional Camera	RYAN WHITE
	JENNI MORELLO
	RONAN KILEEN
	CRAIG BRADEN
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Sound Mixers	ROBERT BLUEMKE
	ERIC THOMAS
	COLIN ALEXANDER
	ASHER MILO
Production Assistants	VINCENT ARFUSO
	MADELEINE STAMBLER
Fixer (Israel)	JOEY KUZAR
POST PRODUCTION	
Post Production Consultant	KEVIN PAYNE
Office Production Coordinators	KIM ROGERS
	TAYLOR RIEGER
	NATALIE GOLDBERG
Assistant Editors	ADAM PEARSON

REMBERTO RAMOS

ALEX SMOLOWE

TIFFANY DIXON

Post Production Interns

AYDIN ANWAR

MICHELLE INCIARTE

WYATT MUMA

JAKE SEBETICH

BRENDAN COYLE

PATRICK BOYDA

ALAN WILLIAMS

MAX MEZGER

SHUJIA LI

ASHLEY LANUZA

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CLAIRE DOWNS

Amination by NEKO PRODUCTIONS

Executive Producer

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Animation Director

EYAL RESH

Animation Supervisor

PABLO SMITH

Production Designer

DANIEL DULITZKY

Art Director

SYLWIA BOMBA

Illustration ILRIA SPOSETTI

Production Designer Assistant NIKO TIMBALDI

Lead Animator LUKAS ROMERO

Animators ISAAC RUBIO
SONIA WOLFSON
CHRIS HERMANS
VICTOR CAMARGO

Technical Director OR OFRI

Story Board MATT SOBEL

Production Assistant NUNE HAKOBYAN

Motion Design and Title Sequence produced by STELLAR HAWK, INC.

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Motion Designers STEVEN SCOTT NELSON JR
CHRISTOPHER DYE

Motion Design Assistant DAISY JANE GALVE

Post- Production Sound Services by SNAPSOUND

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Co- Supervising Sound Editors GEORGE PEREYRA
RICHARD N. SHAPIRO

Re-Recording Mixers ZACH SEIVERS
RICHARD N. SHAPIRO

Digital Intermediate by LIGHT IRON

Di Colorist NICHOLAS LAREAU

Online Editors DEAN CHU
PAT FITZGERALD
CINDY FANARA

Di Producers RACHEL SLOAN
CHRISTIAN ELLIS

Di Executive Producer KATIE FELLION

MUSIC

Score Produced By BLAKE NEELY

Score Recorded and Mixed By GREG HAYES
Assistant Engineer JEREMY UNDERWOOD

Scoring Assistants RAASHI KULKARNI
MURAT SELCUK

Cow on the Wall Studio Manager THOR FIENBERG

Score Published By PIG IN THE GARDEN MUSIC
(BMI)

Music Supervisor MATT LILLEY

“Every 1’s A Winner”
Performed by Hot Chocolate
Courtesy of Warner Music U.K. Ltd.
By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

“Song of India”
Written by Tomy Dorsey
Courtesy of

“Sunday”
Written and performed by Gerry Mulligan & Ben Webster
Published by
Courtesy of

Under license from

Voiceover Services by VOICEOVER LA

Ruth	EMMY ROSS
Irma	RANDA SOMER
Julius	CHARLIE JACKSON
Recording and Pro Tools Operator	THOR FIENBERG

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