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VENEZIA 2008

TORONTO  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL®  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
2008

PROTOZOA PICTURES AND WILD BUNCH  
PRESENT

# THE WRESTLER

A FILM BY  
**DARREN ARONOFSKY**

MICKEY  
**ROURKE**

MARISA  
**TOMEI**

EVAN RACHEL  
**WOOD**





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2008 - USA

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**PLEASE NOTE:** High definition images can be downloaded from the 'press' section of  
**<http://www.wildbunch.biz>**

## SYNOPSIS

Back in the late '80s, Randy "The Ram" Robinson (Mickey Rourke) was a headlining professional wrestler. Now, twenty years later, he ekes out a living performing for handfuls of diehard wrestling fans in high school gyms and community centers around New Jersey.

Estranged from his daughter (Evan Rachel Wood) and unable to sustain any real relationships, Randy lives for the thrill of the show and the adoration of his fans. However, a heart attack forces him into retirement. As his sense of identity starts to slip away, he begins to evaluate the state of his life -- trying to reconnect with his daughter, and striking up a blossoming romance with an aging stripper (Marisa Tomei). Yet all this cannot compete with the allure of the ring and his passion for his art, which threatens to pull Randy "The Ram" back into his world of wrestling.

## CAST

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Randy          | MICKEY ROURKE     |
| Cassidy        | MARISA TOMEI      |
| Stephanie      | EVAN RACHEL WOOD  |
| Lenny          | MARK MARGOLIS     |
| Wayne          | TODD BARRY        |
| Nick Volpe     | WASS STEVENS      |
| Scott Brumberg | JUDAH FRIEDLANDER |
| The Ayatollah  | ERNEST MILLER     |
| Necro Butcher  | DYLAN SUMMERS     |

## CREW

|                     |                                                                   |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DIRECTED BY         | DARREN ARONOFSKY                                                  |
| PRODUCER            | SCOTT FRANKLIN                                                    |
| CO-PRODUCER         | MARK HEYMAN                                                       |
| EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS | VINCENT MARAVAL<br>AGNES MENTRE<br>JENNIFER ROTH<br>ROBERT SIEGEL |
| SCREENPLAY          | TIM GRIMES                                                        |
| PRODUCTION DESIGNER | MARYSE ALBERTI                                                    |
| DP                  | NIKO TAVERNISE                                                    |
| STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER | MARY VERNIEU                                                      |
| CASTING DIRECTOR    | SUZANNE SMITH-CROWLEY                                             |
| COSTUME DESIGNER    | AMY WESTCOTT                                                      |
| EDITOR              | ANDY WEISBLUM                                                     |
| ORIGINAL SCORE      | CLINT MANSELL                                                     |
| MUSIC SUPERVISOR    | JIM BLACK                                                         |
| SET DECORATOR       | THEO SENA                                                         |
| SOUND RECORDIST     | KEN ISHII                                                         |
| SFX MAKE-UP ARTIST  | MIKE MARINO                                                       |
| STUNT COORDINATOR   | DOUGLAS CROSBY                                                    |
| ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS | ARI HANDEL<br>EVAN GINZBURG                                       |

A PROTOZOA PICTURES – WILD BUNCH COPRODUCTION

**DARREN ARONOFSKY**  
(DIRECTOR)

Writer, director and producer Darren Aronofsky was born and raised in Brooklyn. His latest film, THE WRESTLER, stars Mickey Rourke, Marisa Tomei, and Evan Rachel Wood.

His previous film THE FOUNTAIN was called a "psychedelic fairy-tale" (Aint it Cool News) and stars Hugh Jackman and Rachel Weisz. It premiered at the 2006 Venice Film Festival and won the Sloan prize at the Hamptons Film Festival. Before that, 2000's REQUIEM FOR A DREAM, premiered at the 1999 Cannes Film Festival and was named in over 150 Top Ten Lists of 2000. It received many international awards, five Independent Spirit Award nominations, and star Ellen Burstyn received Golden Globe and Academy Award© Best Actress nominations. Aronofsky's debut, π, premiered at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival where it won the Director's Award. It went on to win several international awards including the Independent Spirit Award for Best First Screenplay.

Aronofsky studied filmmaking at Harvard University and the American Film Institute. In 2001, the AFI awarded him the Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Medal. In 2006, the Stockholm Film Festival awarded him the Golden Horse "Visionary" award. His company Protozoa Pictures presently has a first look deal with Universal Studios.

**SCOTT FRANKLIN**  
(PRODUCER)

π (1998) Associate Producer  
Director: Darren Aronofsky  
Cast: Sean Gullette, Mark Margolis, Ben Shenkman  
Awards: Best Director Award Sundance Film Festival, Independent Spirit Award for Best First Screenplay, Open Palm Gotham Award, National Board of Review Special Recognition, Palma Majorca Best Director, Malaga International Screenplay Award, Thessaloniki Fipresci Special Mention, Chlotrudis Cinematography Award.

Requiem For A Dream (2000) Co-Producer  
Director: Darren Aronofsky  
Cast: Jared Leto, Jennifer Connelly, Marlon Wayans, and Ellen Burstyn  
Awards: Ellen Burstyn Nominated for an Academy and Golden Globe Award, Best Actress and Cinematography Independent Spirit Awards, Boston, Chicago, Southeastern, Phoenix, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Florida Film Critics Best Actress, Chlotrudis Best Film, National Board of Review special recognition, Online Film Critics Awards for best director, actress, score and editing, Satellite Award for Best Actress, Stockholm Film Festival for Best Actress, Valladolid Golden Spike

Hounddog (2006) Producer  
Director: Deborah Kampmeier  
Cast: Dakota Fanning, Robin Wright-Penn, David Morse, Afemo Omilami  
Sundance Film Festival 2007

## **SELECTED FILMOGRAPHIES**

### **MICKEY ROURKE**

KILLSHOT 2007  
STORMBREAKER 2005  
DOMINO 2004  
SIN CITY 2004  
MAN ON FIRE 2004  
MASKED AND ANONYMOUS 2002  
ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO 2002  
SPUN 2001  
THE PLEDGE 2000  
GET CARTER 2000  
THE ANIMAL FACTORY 2000  
OUT IN FIFTY 1999  
SHERGAR 1999  
SHADES 1999  
THURSDAY 1998  
BUFFALO '66 1998  
POINT BLANK 1997  
THE RAINMAKER 1997  
LOVE IN PARIS 1997  
DOUBLE TEAM (AKA THE COLONY) 1997  
BULLET 1996  
EXIT IN RED 1996  
FALL TIME 1995  
F.T.W. 1994  
WHITE SANDS 1992  
HARLEY DAVIDSON AND THE MARLBORO MAN 1991  
WILD ORCHID 1990  
DESPERATE HOURS 1997  
JOHNNY HANDSOME 1989  
FRANCESCO (AKA ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI) 1989  
HOMEBOY 1988  
ANGEL HEART 1987  
BARFLY 1987  
A PRAYER FOR THE DYING 1987  
NINE ½ WEEKS 1986  
YEAR OF THE DRAGON 1985  
THE POPE OF GREENWICH VILLAGE 1984  
RUMBLE FISH 1983  
EUREKA 1982  
DINER 1982  
BODY HEAT 1981  
FADE TO BLACK 1980  
HEAVEN'S GATE 1980  
1941 1979

### **MARISA TOMEI**

BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD 2007  
GRACE IS GONE 2007  
WILD HOGS 2007  
FACTOTUM 2006  
LOVERBOY 2006  
MARILYN HOTCHKISS' BALLROOM DANCING & CHARM SCHOOL 2006  
ALFIE 2004  
ANGER MANAGEMENT 2003  
THE GURU 2003  
JUST A KISS 2002  
IN THE BEDROOM 2001  
KING OF THE JUNGLE 2001  
HAPPY ACCIDENTS 2001  
SOMEONE LIKE YOU 2001  
WHAT WOMEN WANT 2000  
THE WATCHER 2000  
THE SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS 1998  
WELCOME TO SARAJEVO 1997  
A BROTHER'S KISS 1997  
UNHOOK THE STARS 1996  
FOUR ROOMS 1995  
THE PEREZ FAMILY 1995  
ONLY YOU 1994  
THE PAPER 1994  
EQUINOX 1993  
UNTAMED HEART 1993  
CHAPLIN 1992  
MY COUSIN VINNY 1992  
OSCAR 1991  
ZANDALEE 1991  
PLAYING FOR KEEPS 1986  
THE FLAMINGO KID 1984

### **EVAN RACHEL WOOD**

THE LIFE BEFORE HER EYES 2007  
KING OF CALIFORNIA 2007  
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE 2007  
RUNNING WITH SCISSORS 2006  
DOWN IN THE VALLEY 2005  
THE UPSIDE OF ANGER 2005  
PRETTY PERSUASION 2005  
THE MISSING 2003  
THIRTEEN 2003  
SIMONE 2002  
LITTLE SECRETS 2001  
PRACTICAL MAGIC 1998  
DIGGING TO CHINA 1998

