

ETHAN HAWKE
DENNIS HOPPER
GRACE JONES
MILOS FORMAN
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GIANCARLO ESPOSITO
CHRISTY SCOTT CASHMAN
SHANYN LEIGH
JAMIE BURKE
GABY HOFFMANN
VITO ACCONCI
R. CRUMB

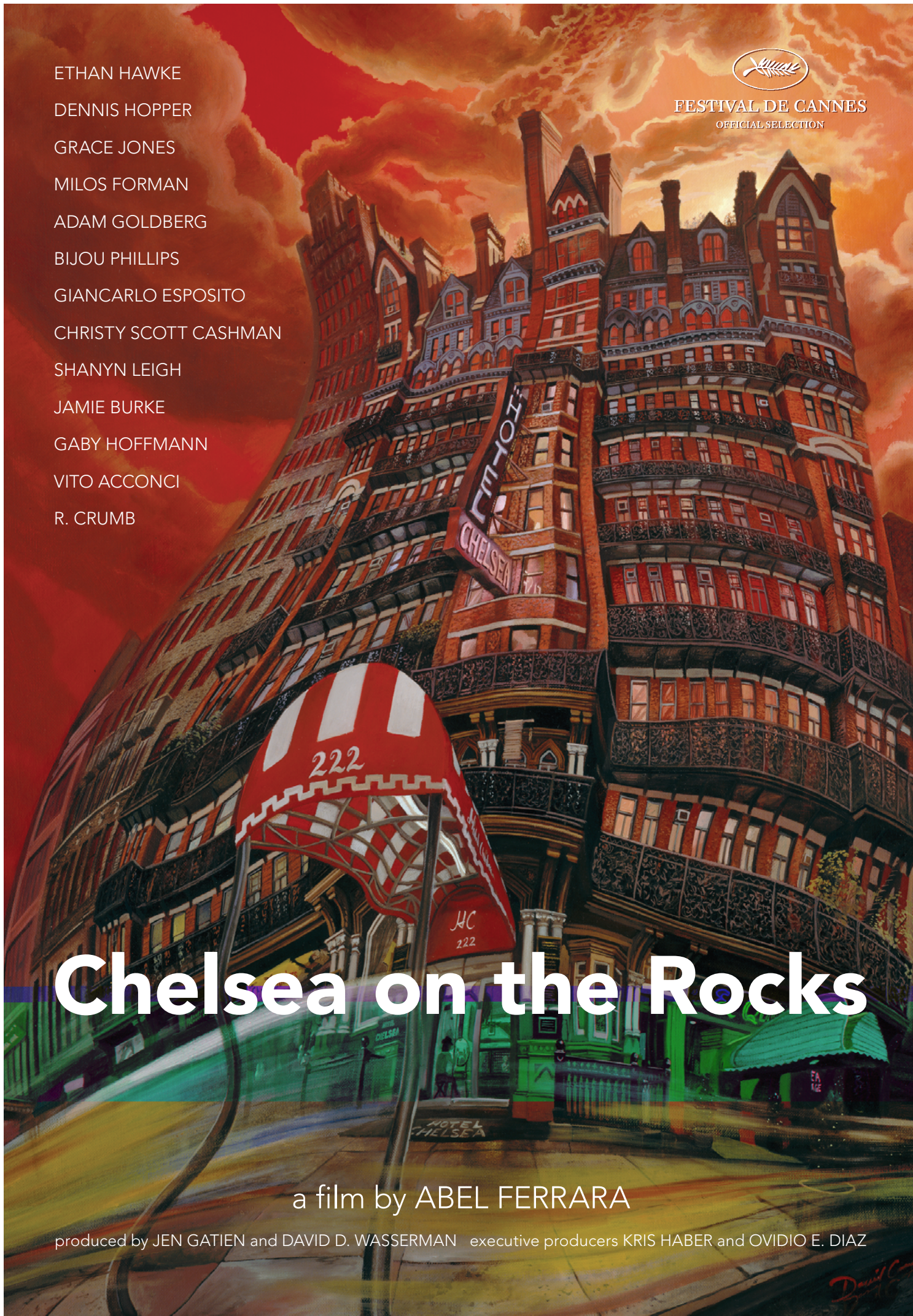


FESTIVAL DE CANNES
OFFICIAL SELECTION

Chelsea on the Rocks

a film by ABEL FERRARA

produced by JEN GATIEN and DAVID D. WASSERMAN executive producers KRIS HABER and OVIDIO E. DIAZ





FESTIVAL DE CANNES
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DEERJEN PRESENTS

CHELSEA ON THE ROCKS

DIRECTED BY **ABEL FERRARA**

USA / 88' / 35 MM / 1:85 / DOLBY SR / COLOUR / 2008

PRODUCED BY **JEN GATIEN** AND **DAVID D. WASSERMAN**

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS **KRIS HABER** AND **OVIDIO E. DIAZ**

RE-ENACTMENTS SCRIPTED BY **CHRIST ZOIST**, **DAVID LINTER** AND **ABEL FERRARA**

CINEMATOGRAPHY **KEN KELSCH** EDITOR **LANGDON PAGE** MUSIC PRODUCER **HAL WILLNER**

SCORE **G.E. SMITH** AND **TONY GARNIER**

MUSIC BY **SONIC YOUTH**, **LOVE AND ROCKETS**, **ABEL FERRARA**

FEATURING **DENNIS HOPPER**, **ETHAN HAWKE**, **GRACE JONES**,
BIJOU PHILLIPS, **ADAM GOLDBERG**, **GIANCARLO ESPOSITO**, **SHANYN LEIGH**,
VITO ACCONCI, **LOLA SCHNABEL**, **CHRISTY SCOTT CASHMAN**, **JAMIE BURKE**,
R. CRUMB, **GABY HOFFMANN** AND **MILOS FORMAN**

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I've stayed at the best hotels across the world, but they really pale in comparison to the Chelsea Hotel. My friend and young producer Jen Gatien, daughter of the infamous New York nightclub impresario Peter Gatien, was set on doing a documentary on the hotel. I jumped at the chance to direct.

Jen was living in the Chelsea Hotel at the time. Part of the impetus came when she, a resident on the 7th floor, awoke one day to discover that Stanley Bard, the creator and manager of the star hotel, had been given sudden notice that he was being forced out of his position of 45 years and that his son would be blocked in continuing this reign.

Rumors (which swirl around the hotel like a tornado) were mounting and the word was that the hotel was about to be given a Chateau Marmont makeover. The rumors were as creative as everything else that has come out of the place. I was confronted with the possibility of it becoming a cookie cutter Four Seasons with a Starbucks in the lobby.

We took conventional feature film documentary a step further, using a filmic structure that intertwines archival footage and interviews, and adding vignettes, performed not only by actors from my usual group but also actors who are very much part of the soul of the hotel (Ethan Hawke, Adam Goldberg, Dennis Hopper). The scripted segments were just a way of using fictional storytelling to get the truth and the essence of the Chelsea.

I took these stories and reunited with the infamous psychiatrist/screenwriter Christ Zoist (NEW ROSE HOTEL and THE BLACKOUT). The Chelsea Hotel is a place of great literary tradition - Vladimir Nabokov, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller - therefore I was faced with the daunting task of living up to the legacy.

Hopefully the fact that we are living in the same building, or as one of the residents says, living in the same vortex - which again is the one of the aforementioned rumors - would incite the project, as the hotel had incited the great works that have been produced here for generations, by artists ranging from Dylan Thomas to Bob Dylan.

- *Abel Ferrara*

SYNOPSIS

CHELSEA ON THE ROCKS celebrates the personalities and artistic voices that have emerged from this legendary residence in the heart of New York. The 12-storey, 250-room Chelsea Hotel - originally built in 1883 as Manhattan's first cooperative apartment, and the tallest building in New York until 1902 - was converted into a hotel and residence in 1905. Once considered an untouchable, impenetrable tower for writers, artists, musicians and mavericks, it has recently been claimed as a boutique hotel venture for a management company which shows blatant disregard for its formidable history.

The officially landmarked building is recognized as an American cultural icon and renowned for those who have lived and created there, including Sir Arthur Clarke, Bob Dylan, Stanley Kubrick, Arthur Miller, Joni Mitchell, Dee Dee Ramone, Larry Rivers, Dylan Thomas, Mark Twain, Tennessee Williams, Milos Forman, Janis Joplin, Donald Sutherland, Patti Smith, Philip Taaffe, Dennis Hopper, Andy Warhol, Edie Sedgwick, Eugene O'Neill, Jane Fonda, Leonard Cohen, Robert Mapplethorpe, Tom Waits, Courtney Love, Sam Shepard, Charles Bukowski, Julian Schnabel, Jasper Johns, Viva, Quentin Crisp, Jimi Hendrix and many others (some of whom appear in this film).

Beyond the famous are the little known who have made this their refuge in New York - countless writers, painters, directors, costume and lighting designers, gallerists and curators, and those who are just always there with no visible means of support. And then there are those - most famously Sid Vicious' girlfriend Nancy Spungen - who died there.

Each of these characters fills out a cast that makes this story come together with the best of New York architecture, history, art, comedy and tragedy, all through the eyes and passion of acclaimed auteur Abel Ferrara. Interviewing current tenants, recreating scenes of events that occurred at the Chelsea and intertwining archival footage with different formats of film and video, Ferrara creates a film that breaks through the documentary mould into something that captures the essence of the Chelsea Hotel.

CAST (as themselves)

Ethan Hawke
Dennis Hopper
Milos Forman
Gaby Hoffmann
R. Crumb
Lola Schnabel
Stanley Bard
Vito Acconci
Janis Joplin (ARCHIVAL)
Sid Vicious (ARCHIVAL)
William S. Burroughs (ARCHIVAL)
Jerry Garcia (ARCHIVAL)
Quentin Crisp (ARCHIVAL)

CAST (in re-enactments)

<i>Steve</i>	Adam Goldberg
<i>Nancy</i>	Bijou Phillips
<i>Bev</i>	Grace Jones
<i>Tip</i>	Giancarlo Esposito
<i>Vera</i>	Christy Scott Cashman
<i>Jan</i>	Shanyn Leigh
<i>Sid</i>	Jamie Burke

CREW

DIRECTED BY	Abel Ferrara	CAMERA EQUIPMENT	Panavision
RE-ENACTMENTS SCRIPTED BY	Christ Zoist	MUSIC	Love and Rockets
	David Linter		Sonic Youth
	Abel Ferrara		Jaz Jericho
PRODUCERS	Jen Gatien		Ethan Hawke
	David D. Wasserman		Gerald Busby
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	Kris Haber		Abel Ferrara
	Ovidio E. Diaz		<i>"Ain't No More Cane"</i> by Janis Joplin, Jerry Garcia,
CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	Jay Kubassek		Bob Weir, Rick Danko, and Duane Allman
	Lulu Selby		<i>"Slow Boat to China"</i> sung by Bijou Phillips
	Matt Miller	POETRY	Gregory Corso
	Andrea Caldora	ORIGINAL SCORE	G.E. Smith
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS	Rachel Fox		Tony Garnier
	Gavin Poolman		Jim White
	John D. Trapman		Rob Burger
DP	Ken Kelsch	MUSIC PRODUCER	Hal Willner
EDITOR	Langdon Page	MIXED BY	Elliot Mazer
COSTUME DESIGNER	Nile Cmylo	LICENCING CREDITS	BBC
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Frank De Curtis		CBS
SOUND DESIGNER & RE-RECORDING MIXER	Tom Paul		SVT
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Carole J. Sanders		WNET
DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT	Michael Bilandic		Lily Hatchett
PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR	Rachel Michelle Fernandes		Tom Parsons
	Eileen Eichenstein		William Murchu
1ST ASSISTANT CAMERA	Rob Koch		
SOUND RECORDIST	Tom Myers		
2ND CAMERA OPERATOR	Brian Przypek		
ND ASSISTANT CAMERA	Waris Supanpong		
GAFFER	Jarrold Kloiber		
BEST BOY ELECTRIC	Brian Harnick		
	Michael Yetter		
KEY GRIP	Rick Morrison		
BEST BOY GRIP	Travis Tipps		
BOOM OPERATOR	Abe Dolinger		
2ND CAMERA UNIT	David Hausen		
	Luke Joerger		
	Marshall Rose		
	Justin Lee Stanley		
2ND UNIT SOUND	John Childs		
ACCOUNTANT	Pam Williamson		
RESEARCHER	Becca Bender		
KEY MAKE-UP & HAIR	Joelle Troisi		
MAKE-UP	Keiko Takagi		
HAIR	Lew Elias		
INTERMEDIATE FINISHING SERVICES	Goldcrest Post		
TITLE DESIGN	Worlds Away		

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*Rue Latour Maubourg runs adjacent to the Hotel Martinez. It is two blocks up the Croisette from the Carlton Hotel in the direction of the Hotel Martinez.

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