

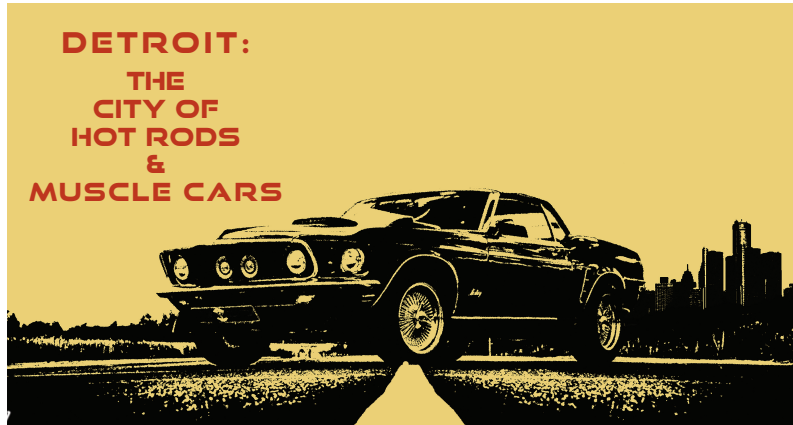
**DETROIT:
THE
CITY OF
HOT RODS
&
MUSCLE CARS**



***Public Comments
from Film's Premiere***



Visionalist
Entertainment Productions



June 19th, 2023 Premiere Comments:

I loved "City of Hot Rods". Very well done. I've told our people that even if you don't like cars, this film will bring tears to your eyes. The three vets' story was absolutely brilliant.

By introducing the fictional Jack Dawson/ Rose Bukater love story in Titanic, James Cameron took cold history and a predictable end, made it painfully beautiful, and had us on the edge of our seats.

The story is told that Brian Grazer didn't want Tom Hanks to star in Apollo 13 (1995), but Ron Howard pushed for him. Grazer said, "we can't put Forrest Gump (1994) into space and expect people to take it seriously". Howard's reply was, "Everyone knows how this story ends. There's no suspense. We need to put someone in that lunar module who everyone wants to be rescued... and that's Tom Hanks".

And you made a doc about muscle cars, yet touched the hearts of women, and made grown men cry!

**Pastor Andrzejewski
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church**

What an excellent movie! Well done.

You guys told a story of so many of us "kids" growing up and tinkering with cars and then taking them out on Woodward, and across the country, for a ride. My wife said she didn't know she was going to need a box of Kleenex! Hats off to Keith and all the crew.

Thanks for the memories.

Big Dave & Sheri Aiken

As a classic car owner and perennial Woodward Dream Cruise participant, I knew "Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars" was going to be right up my alley. You cast a bright and beautiful light onto the storied automotive history and car culture we have celebrated in the Motor City for decades. But your film is so much more than blowers and burnouts. You poignantly captured the human element in our classic car world, which is often overlooked and rarely showcased. The hours spent in the garage keeping old things looking new, the passing of wisdom and hard work from father to son, the joy of a crisp autumn cruise with the top down and a loved one by your side...all expertly documented through the tireless efforts of you and your team. Your film was outstanding and replete with emotion - I was geared up and teared up!

Carl Schiller Jr.
Schiller Leasing, LLC Rental Houses

I've been following this production of "Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars" and experienced the premiere at Emagine Novi. A film such as this has been long overdue and surely you bridged the gap and then some. You hit all my emotions, especially the Vietnam veteran segment. Vietnam Veterans of America, Detroit Chapter 9 is grateful to you and the "crew" for all the heart and soul you put into this classic Detroit automotive story. A huge hoorah goes to this awesome, spectacular film.

Mike Sand
Current Board Member / Past President
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 9

To many, cars are just an appliance. A toaster. A microwave. A vacuum cleaner.

Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars reveals that cars are much more than transportation appliances. Cars are freedom. Cars - especially hot rods - are highly designed objects of art. But the documentary's most important message is that cars are vehicles that enable, foster and maintain relationships; between fathers and sons (and daughters), between couples, and between brothers, biological and not. Cars also provide an important sense of community.

A key subtext of the film is the joy and hope people find in designing, building and communing around cars. The creativity, dedication and sheer will it takes to conceive, build, restore and maintain hot rods and muscle cars is an analogy to life where people overcome great odds to make their world better.

Congrats!

Rex Roy
Author, *Motor City Dream Garages*

"Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars" accomplishes the nearly impossible: successfully converting the story of the Automobile and the city that built it into a thrilling and emotional two-hour feature. The film leaves no stone unturned, documenting the history of hot-rodding from the 1930's to Today, while interweaving the stories, events, and individuals who shaped The Motor City' car culture.

For those of us in the industry with gasoline and rubber in our veins, the film is a love letter to the hobby we've dedicated our lives to. But even to those outside our tribe, "The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars" will strap-them-in for thrilling drag down Woodward Avenue. They'll laugh. They'll cry. They'll leave with a new respect not only for the culture, but the impact Hot Rodding and Muscle Cars have had on the City and vice-versa.

Best of all, as an educator, this film will serve as an incredible educational tool for our students. Whether it's differentiating the Ford Flathead from the Firepower Hemi or showcasing the multitude of careers available in the automotive industry: "Detroit: The City of Hot Rods and Muscle Cars" is certainly a helpful classroom tool for any High School History or Career Tech Instructor. Its humor and storytelling will entice those first-year students with little-to-no knowledge of the industry, while the testimonies from expert witnesses and historians will inform even the most experienced third year students and graduates.

My greatest praise for "Detroit: The City of Hot Rods" is that it will educate and entice future generations of car guys and gals, from the classroom to the Autorama show floor.

Joseph Tregembo
Digital Marketing & Account Manager
DRIVE One Detroit

I was at the premiere of the film Monday night, and it was awesome!! A must see.

John Perras
Michigan Hot Rod Association

So exciting to watch on the Super EMX. Such a great film! Great job to all involved. We will be watching on PBS on Friday.

Beth Stoegerer-Dilger

I don't have the words to express how grateful we are for being a part of ***Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars***. The production just blew me away. It brought back so many fond memories for me. The nostalgia was coming through the screen. The places I used to go and the cars I had. When I saw the clip on Motor City Dragway, I melted in my seat. When I was in high school, I spent every weekend on that dragstrip.

The segment that included the Vietnam Vets REALLY took me back to 1970-1971 when I was turning wrenches on USAF B-52D aircraft that supported our troops on the ground. I re-lived my first combat flight over the Ho Chi Min Trail in Laos. As a 19 yr. old kid at the time, I never thought that a movie some 53 yrs. later would take me back to the IP seat I rode in between the pilot and co-pilot. I swear I had tears in my eyes. A very emotional moment for sure.

Thank you so much for allowing Kids Without Cancer to participate. Raising awareness in supporting the research that someday will lead us to a cure for pediatric cancer was immeasurable.

Nick Consiglio
President
Kids Without Cancer

The film ***Detroit: City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars*** captures the connection between cars and the hearts of the people who love them in both an emotional and educational way. There are so many stories of how people were brought together because they share the common interest of cars. There could be several sequels to this film preserving more of our car culture history and telling more stories. Equally important, as many of us "age out" of our beloved hobby it's so important to document this past and welcome a younger generation to ride into the future. Thank you for including this new generation of car builders and enthusiasts in the film as well. May the film spark an invitation to others to join our camaraderie and drive!

Diane "Flipper" Flis-Schneider
Advancement Officer – Midwest Region
America's Automotive Trust

A film that shines a light on the creativity, tenacity, and desire that Americans have poured into the automobile for generations. A documentary that demonstrates the desire to transform utilitarian transportation into an Art. An art that continues to create forms that follow the relentless hunger for power and speed. "Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars" shares a unique and intimate look at the people that made, and continue to make, it all happen.

Darin Irvine
Darin Irvine Custom Automotive Restoration

As a former 'Gearhead' in high school, the film brought back wonderful memories of my 1962 powder blue Ford Mustang. As a lifelong Detroit, Hot Rods and Muscle Cars is a poignant tribute to the undercarriage of our great state and great cars!

Laura Varon Brown
Executive Director & CEO
Gilda's Club of Metro Detroit

Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars is an absolute gem that brilliantly captures the essence of such an iconic American city and its legendary automotive heritage.

From the moment the documentary began, I was completely captivated by its depth, authenticity, and powerful storytelling. The filmmakers masterfully blended historical footage, insightful interviews, and stunning visuals to take us on an unforgettable journey through the heart and soul of the automobile in Detroit.

What truly sets this documentary apart is its ability to connect on both an emotional and intellectual level. It goes beyond just showcasing the cars and the city; it delves into the lives of the people who have shaped and been shaped by Detroit's automotive legacy. Their personal stories, aspirations, and the indomitable sense of community are brought to life in a way that deeply resonates with the viewers. You can't help but feel a profound connection to the individuals and their love for the Motor City.

Visually, this documentary is a feast for the eyes. Every frame is meticulously composed, and the attention to detail is astounding. From sweeping aerial shots to intimate close-ups, each shot feels purposeful and serves to enhance the narrative.

The music and sound design deserve a special mention as well. The carefully curated soundtrack perfectly complements the visuals, evoking a range of emotions and adding another layer of depth to the storytelling.

Whether you're a car enthusiast, a history buff, or simply someone who appreciates a well-crafted documentary, I wholeheartedly recommend this film. It's a remarkable celebration of Detroit's legacy and the passion for cars.

Kudos to the talented filmmakers behind this extraordinary documentary. Thank you for sharing this incredible piece of cinema with the world. It has left an indelible mark on my heart.

Miranda Rumfelt
Clay Sculptor
General Motors

This story is so much more than a film about "gearheads". The production is an inside look at an important part of the history of Southeast Michigan. As well as a view of an industry that provided a living wage for millions of Americans.

The entire Visionalist production crew should consider themselves in the company of American storytellers such as Will Rodgers, Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Ken Burns. To the production crew; "Great job and cannot wait for your next project".

David J. Gurtowsky
Secretary, Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 9

You did a fantastic job of tying together a series of interviews with people within the car industry and people who love the cars they produced into a captivating storyline. The muscle cars and hot rods of Detroit continue to engage a wide variety of people and your film not only provides insights into the history of these cars but into the lives of the people who love them. It really is all about the people, the effect that these cars have had on their lives and how the cars bring people together. It is a part of American history that you have brought to life for the benefit of all of us. Thank you!

Lynelle Wilcox-Irvine

"Wow" was my first reaction after watching the premier of ***Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars***. It took me back to my high school days of the early 70's and being on Woodward. Those muscle cars the Detroit Big 3 put out had my mind remembering when those were new cars, and I was dreaming of having one, I still am. The sights and sounds in the movie brought back great memories. My 30-year-old son said he learned quite a bit of history and thoroughly enjoyed the film. And he's been a car guy since he was a small child. Thank you for creating this wonderful and informative trip down my memory lane.

Neal Silver, CPA
Kaufman Richard Certified Public Accountants

Congratulations on your excellent film, Detroit: The City of Hot Rods & Muscle Cars, which I absolutely loved. The film centers around a familiar topic, told in a fresh and wonderfully entertaining way. The film showcased the personal connections people have made over decades through their common interest in cars of all types. I especially enjoyed the relationship of the three veterans and their journey over the years culminating in their drive through the Woodward Dream Cruise. Thank you for a great ride down memory lane!

Steven Cole
Bodman PLC