

FREESTYLE DIGITAL MEDIA RELEASES MUSIC DOCUMENTARY 'THE BLUES SOCIETY'

Narrated by Actor Eric Roberts, Music Documentary About Memphis Blues Festival Debuts on North American DVD and VOD Platforms on July 9, 2024

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In our music doc THE BLUES SOCIETY, we shine a spotlight on Black voices and reveal the racial paternalism in the 1960s-era blues revival. We've come a long way, but we still have a long way to go." *Filmmaker Augusta Palmer* Media, the digital film distribution division of Byron Allen's Allen Media Group, has just released the music documentary THE BLUES SOCIETY, narrated by actor Eric Roberts, will be available to rent/own on all digital HD internet, cable, and satellite platforms in North America, as well as on DVD, starting on July 9, 2024.

THE BLUES SOCIETY is a feature-length documentary that reevaluates the life of the Memphis Country Blues Festival (1966-1970) through the lens of race, the counterculture of the 1960s, and the genre of Memphis blues. THE BLUES SOCIETY tells the story of blues masters Furry Lewis,

Nathan Beauregard and Reverend Robert Wilkins. It's also the story of a group of white artists from the North and the South who created a celebration of African American music in a highly segregated city. Reaching into the present, the film ends in a 2017 concert where John Wilkins returns to the stage that he last shared with his father, Reverend Robert Wilkins, 48 years earlier.

THE BLUES SOCIETY was written, directed, and produced by Dr. Augusta Palmer, and is narrated by actor Eric Roberts. Co-producer is J. Tinneny.

"I didn't want to just make a concert film. Everyone can appreciate the unforgettable music in THE BLUES SOCIETY, but love for the blues didn't cure white supremacy," said filmmaker Augusta Palmer. "I wanted to recapture the idealism of the white organizers, but also to spotlight Black voices and reveal the paternalism in the 1960s blues revival. Structural racism has become much more visible to the nation since the pandemic. We've come a long way, but we still have a long way to go."

Freestyle Digital Media negotiated the deal to acquire THE BLUES SOCIETY with Cultural Animal,

LLC and Glen Reynolds of Circus Road Films.

THE BLUES SOCIETY trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrnbLalAOT8

THE BLUES SOCIETY website: www.thebluessocietyfilm.com

About Freestyle Digital Media

The digital distribution unit of Byron Allen's Allen Media Group, Freestyle Digital Media, is a premiere multi-platform distributor with direct partnerships across all major cable, satellite, digital and streaming platforms. Capitalizing on a robust infrastructure, proven track record, and a veteran sales team, Freestyle Digital Media is a true home for independent films. Recent releases include THE ROAD DOG starring comedian Doug Stanhope, SURVIVE starring HBO's GAME OF THRONES star Sophie Turner and Corey Hawkins, the music documentary profiling blues guitar legends Jimmie Vaughan and Stevie Ray Vaughan, BROTHERS IN BLUES, DEAR ZOE starring Sadie Sink from the hit Netflix series STRANGER THINGS, Jessica Capshaw and Theo Rossi. Other Freestyle Digital Media titles include BEST SUMMER EVER the teen musical featuring a fully integrated cast and crew of people with and without disabilities,



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produced by Jamie Lee Curtis, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Mary Steenburgen and Ted Danson, THE WEDDING YEAR starring Sarah Hyland and Anna Camp, THE LAST PHOTOGRAPH starring Danny Houston, UNTOGETHER starring Jamie Dornan, Jemima Kirke, Ben Mendelsohn, Alice Eve and Billy Crystal, the action-comedy BETTER START RUNNING starring Academy Award-winner Jeremy Irons and Maria Bello, THE BACHELORS starring Academy Award-winner J.K. Simmons, Julie Delpy and Odeya Rush and the award-winning documentary HONDROS produced by Jamie Lee Curtis and Jake Gyllenhaal.

For more information, visit: <u>www.allenmedia.tv</u> <u>www.freestyledigitalmedia.tv</u>

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