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Derailroaded: Inside the Mind of Wild Man Fischer

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- Release Date: 03/01/05
- Starring: Wild Man Fischer, Harold Bronson, Solomon Burke, Ruth Buzzi, Josephine Chuey
- Director: Josh Rubin
- Rating: (NR)

NEW YORK VIEW

The titular musician was the quintessential mad artist—a bipolar schizophrenic, discovered by Frank Zappa on the streets of Los Angeles, who would grow to become a cult icon in the late sixties and early seventies. Incorporating loads of archival and contemporary interviews, Josh Rubin’s documentary is free-flowing and chaotic, but fascinating nonetheless.

CINEMASOURCE SYNOPSIS

This is a shocking and sensitive journey through the mind of paranoid-schizophrenic musician Larry "Wild Man" Fischer. Institutionalized at 16 after attacking his mother with a knife, Fischer busked on the streets of L.A. until he was discovered by Frank Zappa, with whom he cut his first record album -- though they later parted ways quite violently. Over the course of 40 years, he appeared on national television (Rowan & Martin's Laugh-in) and the Top 50 music charts in England, was the subject of his own comic book, was the first artist to be recorded on Rhino Records, and sang a duet with the late Rosemary Clooney. Get to know the man who became known as "godfather of outsider music" through extensive archival footage from Fischer's early days and interviews with those close to him.