

Blogger News Network

High-quality English language analysis and editorial writing on the news.

Search

- [Home](#)
- [About BNN](#)
- [BNN Editorial Policies](#)
- [Posting Guidelines](#)
- [Write for BNN](#)
- [Login & Write!](#)

DVD Review: *Desperately Seeking Paul McCartney*

Posted on September 25th, 2008

by [Simon Barrett](#) in [Movie Reviews](#), [Reviews](#)

Read 405 times.



What a fascinating movie. Part documentary, part behind the scenes look at the somewhat murky world of Reality TV, and part lesson in life, *Desperately Seeing Paul McCartney* covers all of these bases and then some.

I am not sure that the outset Marc Cushman intended to make the movie the way that he did, it just evolved from the material available. One of the great things about being an 'indie' film maker is that you can set your own rules. Of course often times those rules are constrained by budget, and also by those controlling the purse strings. Marc Cushman is a guy that I admire greatly, but I am not sure that I would want to work for him.

So what is *Desperately Seeking Paul McCartney* all about?

In 1965 Ruth Anson was 18 years old and working as a teenage reporter for ABC-TV, one of her earliest interviews was with Paul McCartney and in the interview Paul jokingly asks Ruth to marry her.

This short piece of dialog has been in Ruth's head for more than 40 years. At an open 'pitch session' she explains her idea to Marc Cushman. Lets find Paul and ask him if he remembers the event. A simple premise, and a plot line that has bags of potential.

Unfortunately almost as soon as the project starts, it begins to derail. I think it would be wrong to class Ruth as a stalker, but I certainly would class her as obsessed, while Marc on the other hand is a seasoned Reality TV producer. Reality TV is an odd beast, while it may be largely unscripted it can be manipulated, and Marc is a master of the art.

Using scenes that could have been straight out of a Jerry Springer show, Marc puts Ruth in increasingly uncomfortable situations. But Ruth is not the only victim, Marc plows his way through 3 Personal Assistants, and alienates several other of his contacts in the process.

Being a writer, I can understand Marc when he says “Entertainment is about conflict”, oh how right he is. I sometimes write news stories, some people are of the opinion that news should be unbiased, I disagree. News is about creating conflict.

I would love to interview both Marc Cushman and Ruth Anson. I will bet they both have an interesting slant on what happened. It could be argued that Marc did not play fair in making this film, but on the other hand it can equally be said that if you can't stand the heat, keep out of the kitchen. Ruth Anson presents herself as a well educated and intelligent lady. While working for ABC she interviewed such people as Ronald Reagan and Bob Hope. and you can bet your bottom dollar ABC were not going to let any idiot on their dime to do that. After TV she became a college prof and is married to a surgeon. This is hardly the resume of a whacko. Maybe the one mistake Ruth made was not being more proactive in the production.

If I was a film maker, would I have made this film? Probably not, is my answer. Comedy comes in many flavors, this flavor left a rather bitter taste in my mouth. The humor comes at Ruth's expense, and I am sure that Ruth, her family, and her friends, wish that they had not been involved with the project.

That said, I found this movie to be very thought provoking, and if you are looking for something a little different from the regular movie fare I recommend you try Desperately Seeking Paul McCartney.

You can get your copy from [MVD](#).

Simon Barrett

<http://zsimonb.blogspot.com>

Let Others Know About This Post These icons link to social bookmarking sites where readers can share and discover new web pages.



Click Below To Rate This Post:

★★★★★ (1 votes, average: 4 out of 5, *rated*)

⌂ Loading ...

1 user commented in " DVD Review: *Desperately Seeking Paul McCartney* "

Follow-up [comment rss](#) or Leave a [Trackback](#)

Ruth Anson Sowby said,
in September 29th, 2008 at 11:08 pm

If you promise not to publish my Email address, I'll give you an interview. And I'll bet I can get Marc Cushman to consent to an interview, as well. Thanks for your cogent comments. Still "Desperately Seeking Paul McCartney." Ruth Anson Sowby

Leave A Reply

Username (*required)

Email Address (*private)

Website (*optional)

Advertisements:

[The Paul Mccartney Quiz](#)

Think you know Paul Mccartney? Take the Paul Mccartney Quiz

PaulMccartney.quizrewardsnow.com

[The Beatles Quiz](#)

So you think you know the Beatles? Take the Beatles Quiz & prove it.

The-Quiz.com

[Paul Mccartney](#)

Huge selection of Paul Mccartney items.

Yahoo.com



Ads by Google

Hot Topics, In-Depth:

While BloggerNews.net is known to provide up to the minute information on a wide variety of topics, at times a more in-depth analysis of a topic that is being written about by our writers is warranted. This section of BNN provides just that – an area of the site that looks deeper into a topic, delves into the actual facts behind it, and provides more than just a summary overview of what is happening right here and now.

From something as mundane as an overview of how credit scores work, to life and death topics such as mesothelioma, we are committed to creating a growing library of information for our readers. Click below to review the topics covered so far, and check back soon as new ones are to be added regularly!

[Click Here to Review our 'Hot Topics, In-Depth' section.](#)

Recently Published Topics, by category:

Health: [Mesothelioma](#)

BloggerNews.net Wants You!



Featured Blogger, July/August:

BloggerNews.net would like to thank and congratulate our Blogger of the Month for the month of June 2008 – [Kevin Tipple](#) for his outstanding contributions to BloggerNews.net, including nothing but a fantastic number of great book reviews!

Kevin is a contributor to Blogger News from the great state of Texas, and writes on a variety of subjects - as long as they have to do with books, and nothing else... Which, apparently, sometimes even talk to him (Yes - the books). Turns out he is a very good book reviewer, however, so this doesn't seem to have worked out too badly for him.

[Click here for a list of the almost 90 book reviews that Kevin has posted to BNN so far](#) **or** [Simon Barrett interviews Kevin Tipple...](#) [Click here to read the interview.](#)

Recent Entries

- [A Delusional Day in Germany](#)
- [Race '08: Blacks, the Bible, and Barack - Part II](#)
- [Ayers and the superior beings don't see the rest of us.](#)
- [Today's World Markets Down 4-5%](#)
- [Sarah Palin on Obama-Ayers Connection: Others Uncover, the MSM Covers Up](#)
- [New Zealand recycles a lot of computer junk](#)
- [Nope, Poor people have a low carbon footprint](#)
- [A shattering moment in America's fall from power \(?\)](#)
- [Lekotek Makes Play Accessible to Children Who Have Autism and Other Disabilities](#)
- [An Easy Way To Reduce Chemotherapy Side Effects?](#)

Similar Posts:

- [DVD Review: Dating Games People Play](#)
- [DVD Review: Paul McCartney: Ecce Cor Meum](#)
- [Movie Review: *The Kite Runner*](#)
- [Book Review: *They Loved To Laugh* by Kathryn Worth](#)
- [Ron Paul Newsletters, Scott Beauchamp: Two TNR Journalistic Coups?](#)

October 2008

S M T W T F S

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)

[5](#) [6](#) 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

26 27 28 29 30 31

[« Sep](#)

Archives

- [October 2008](#)
- [September 2008](#)
- [August 2008](#)
- [July 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [February 2008](#)
- [January 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)

- [July 2007](#)
- [June 2007](#)
- [May 2007](#)
- [April 2007](#)
- [March 2007](#)
- [February 2007](#)
- [January 2007](#)
- [December 2006](#)
- [November 2006](#)
- [October 2006](#)
- [June 0](#)

[Blogger News Network](#) is © 2008 Local Info Company