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## Gold: Before Woodstock. Beyond Reality. (1972)

Region 0 DVD Video Review

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### --DVD DETAILS

**Distributor:**

- Wild Eye Releasing
- MVD Visual

**Running Time:**

- 90 minutes approx

**DVD Release Date:**

- 27 July, 2010

**DVD Country:**

- America

**Screen Format:**

- 4:3 Full Frame NTSC

**Discs / Sides / Layers:**

- 1 / 1 / Dual

**Soundtracks:**

- English: Dolby Digital 2.0

**Subtitles:**

- n/a

**Special Features:**

- Audio Commentaries
- Interviews
- Gallery
- Trailers
- Lobby Cards

**Classification:**

- Not Rated

### --FILM DETAILS

**Year:**

- 1972

**Country:**

- America

**Directed by:**

- Bill Desloge
- Bob Levis

*"A turned-on tale of the new American Dream."*



### --THE PLOT

A genuine 'lost' movie from the late 60s, *Gold* is a simple story. A gold rush in the hills results in a rush of folk, mainly hippies and dreamers setting up camp followed closely by the opportunistic lawman Jinks (Garry Goodrow) and his offsider, professional politician VT (Sam Ridge) who try and take control of what they see as hapless fools. Hovering around the edges is Hawk (Del Close) who is at first just an observer but soon enough finds himself drawn into things when he witnesses Jinks shoot down VT who has started to enjoy the free love and freedom that the hippies and drop outs seem to be revelling in. Revolution follows but it isn't pretty.



Reviewed by **Kami**

**--COVER ART**

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**--RATINGS**

**Film**  
★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆

**Video**  
★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆

**Audio**  
★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆

**Extras**  
★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆

**Overall**  
★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆

**--TRAILER**

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- Sam Ridge
- Orville Schell
- Dorothy Schmidt

Genre(s):

- Cult

## --VIDEO

1:33:1 Full Screen. Considering the age of this film it is in remarkably good condition. Yes it is grainy in parts but it was supposed to be. There is very little wear and tear though and for the most part it is a beautifully clean print.

## --AUDIO

Killer soundtrack including rare MC5 (and if that don't get you excited get out now!) and for the most the sound holds up although because of the filming process it does get hard to hear at times.

### Track Listing

- \* David McWilliams - Gold
- \* Ramblin' Jack Elliot - Farther Along
- \* Ramblin' Jack Elliot (with Tony Brown) - All that Glitters
- \* Carl Orff - Carmina Burana
- \* Beastly Times - Out of Sight Mouth
- \* Sailcat - Freedom Without
- \* David McWilliams - Go On Back to Momma
- \* MC5 - Inside Out (Convention Music)
- \* Sailcat - I Is The Law
- \* Barry St. John - Money Man
- \* Barry St. John - Artificial Faces
- \* MC5 - Sister Anne (Instrumental/ Convention Music)
- \* MC5 - Future Now
- \* David McWilliams - Move Over Gabriel
- \* MC5 - Gold Rush (Train Music)



## --EXTRAS

A one hour interview with director Bob Levis from US public TV that is very dry and shows that all public TV is chaotic when the boys upstairs struggle to find the right clips to show!

There's Commentary with Bob Levis and Garry Goodrow plus a bonus Commentary from Upright Citizens Brigade founders Matt Walsh and Ian Roberts. I have to admit I don't really get the point of commentaries. Call me crazy but I just want to watch the film but for its historical aspects I guess I can see the reasoning.

Gold 'retro' lobby cards

Clip from Garry Goodrow Tribute that doesn't quite work without the context.

Trailers for other Wild Eye releases that will make you drool.

## --FINAL THOUGHTS

What director Bob Levis has done is created a microcosm of what was really happening at the time in America (or at least his view of what was happening which was still pretty much right on). The gold rush is used as an excuse to bring a community of dropouts, hippies, outsiders and dreamers together followed by the parasites (Jinks and

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violence follow, and he's not being subtle either. There's the use of sex to distract the masses (in this case a naked dancing girl) as the two beat up their opponent in the election and as VT is gunned down we see a montage of the Kennedy brothers and Martin Luther King. but Levis doesn't just pick on the establishment, he has a shot at the tin-pot communism and revolutionary fever that was prevalent at the time too with Hawk and his offsider Roy becoming Che and Fidel types as they read Mao's little red book and plot the revolt.

Filled with music, improvisation, flashbacks, cuts, visual fx, naked women and men, political pot shots, biting satire and a sense of fun, of place this is a pretty fine look at the times. And for those that paid attention at the start of the film, the "gold" discovered by Hawk was cowshit! Subtle or what?



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