



LOVE, CECIL

a film by Lisa Immordino Vreeland

WORLD PREMIERE - TELLURIDE FILM FESTIVAL 2017

**WINNER - BEST DOCUMENTARY
HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2017**

Theatrical & Festival Booking Contacts:

Nancy Gerstman & Emily Russo, Zeitgeist Films
212-274-1989 • nancy@zeitgeistfilms.com • emily@zeitgeistfilms.com

Publicity Contact, New York:

Susan Norget Film Promotion
212.431.0090 • publicity@norget.com

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SYNOPSIS

Oscar®-winning set and costume designer, photographer, writer and painter Cecil Beaton was not only a dazzling chronicler, but an arbiter of his time. From the Bright Young Things to the front lines of war to the international belle monde and the pages of Vogue and then onto the Queen's official photographer - Beaton embodied the cultural and political changes of the twentieth century. In this tender portrait, director Lisa Immordino Vreeland (*Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has To Travel*, *Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict*) blends archival footage and photographs with voice over of Beaton's famed diaries to capture his legacy as a complex and unique creative force. Dynamic and lyrical, LOVE, CECIL is an examination of Beaton's singular sense of the visual, which dictated a style that set standards of creativity that continue to resonate and inspire today.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Cecil Beaton has been in my visual orbit for as long as I can remember. As a child, I loved *My Fair Lady* and have been passionate about photography for many years. My experience as a filmmaker has allowed me to delve in depth into the lives of visionaries who I have long admired. Beaton was someone who intrigued me. His driving ambition was paramount in his life. His creative drive dominated him and ultimately he sacrificed everything just for that. I have often said that my work is dictated by the archives I have access to. In the case of this film, this played an even more fundamental role.

FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Lisa Immordino Vreeland (Director & Producer):

Lisa Immordino Vreeland has been immersed in the world of fashion and art for the past 25 years. Her first book was accompanied by her directorial debut of the documentary of the same name, *Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has To Travel* (2012). The film had its European premiere at the Venice Film Festival and its North American premiere at the Telluride Film Festival. It went on to win the Silver Hugo at the Chicago Film Festival and the fashion category for the Design of the Year Awards—otherwise known as “The Oscars” of design—at the Design Museum in London. She recently completed *Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict* that premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival (2015) and had its European premiere at Art Basel. Her second book, *Love, Cecil* will be coming out in October to accompany the film.

Jonathan Gray (Executive Producer):

Jonathan Gray is a practicing attorney concentrating in independent film for over two decades. Gray is the founding partner of Gray Krauss Stratford Sandler Des Rochers LLP, which has provided production counsel services on hundreds of films - including *Precious: Based on the Novel Push by Sapphire*, *Black Swan* and *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, and television series - including ‘Louie’ and ‘Baskets’. Also an Emmy nominated producer, Jonathan has produced and executive produced numerous films including *Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel*. In addition, Jonathan is an adjunct professor at Columbia University School of the Arts, and a frequent lecturer at NYU, SVA, and other universities.

Mark Lee (Executive Producer):

Mark Lee is Executive Chairman of Barneys New York serving at the Board of Directors' level after a more than six-year tenure as Chief Executive Officer. A lifelong theatre and film devotee and supporter of the arts, he has also co-produced film and Broadway Productions. Mark was an Executive Producer of the 2011 documentary film *Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has To Travel* as well as the upcoming documentary *Every Act of Life* about playwright Terrence McNally. Together with Dorothy Berwin, Mark is a founding trustee of Berwin Lee London New York Playwright Inc. a nonprofit foundation in support of emerging playwrights. Mark has also been a co-producer of the Broadway productions of *Mother's and Son's*, *It's Only A Play*, and *The Visit*.

Jennifer Blei Stockman (Executive Producer):

Jennifer was President of the Guggenheim for 12 years, including its museums in New York, Bilbao and Venice. She has served on committees at MoMA, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Aspen Art Museum and founded the Bruce Museum Council. Previously, she chaired the Republican Majority for Choice for 10 years, an organization which fought for women's rights in the GOP. She started her career with IBM and Sears World Trade and was CEO of Stockman & Associates a consulting firm she founded and later sold to US West. She is currently a partner of Hot & Sunny Productions.

Debi Wisch (Executive Producer):

Debi is a 25- year veteran in marketing and public relations, who has consulted for international luxury brands, cultural institutions and art galleries. For nine years, and in partnership with acclaimed 80's artist Janis Provisor, Wisch built and operated an international jewelry business. She currently serves on the executive committee of the Jewish Museum, the Director's Advisory Board at Stanford University's Cantor Arts Center and the Anderson Collection. She is also a member of the Guggenheim Museum's International Director's Council and Hunter College's Arts Advisory board, for which she is working on an initiative to display student art in office buildings nationwide. She recently joined the Board of the Film Society of Lincoln Center, New York. She is currently a partner of Hot & Sunny Productions.

Jay Peterson (Executive Producer):

Jay Peterson is the founder and CEO of Matador Content, a full service content production company with offices in New York and Los Angeles. Since founding Matador in 2013, Jay Peterson has produced a wide range of programming, from the hit series Lip Sync Battle on Spike and the HBO documentary *Banksy Does New York* to the 2017 Sundance Documentary *Give Me Future* and VICELAND's first scripted series *What Would Diplo Do?*

Jack Turner (Executive Producer):

Jack Turner has been a development and production executive for over 17 years. The library of films that he has been involved with has garnered 2 Emmy nominations, 20 Golden Globe nominations and 26 Academy Award® nominations - including four for Best Picture. Turner most recently EP'd Jeff Nichols' *Loving* and VICELAND's *What Would Diplo Do?* He is currently the SVP of Scripted and Documentary Content for Matador.

Bobby Kondrat (Executive Producer):

Bobby Kondrat has over 15 years experience in both film and TV, having overseen the post production of dozens of TV series including the hit series *Lip Sync Battle*. He is currently the VP of Post Production for the content studio Matador, through which he Executive Produced Nancy Buirski's *By Sidney Lumet*, the 2017 Sundance documentary *Give Me Future* and the upcoming *The Rape of Recy Taylor*.

Charles Finch (Executive Producer):

Charles Finch is a British born businessman, creative entrepreneur, financier and film producer. Finch was one of the first entertainment executives to build the bridge between Hollywood and luxury brands worldwide and has brokered some of the world's most defining and renowned global endorsement deals. His drive and commitment to connecting the entertainment industry and consumer brands leaves him at the forefront of global brand development and marketing. Finch continues to produce and finance films. His film and TV company, *Pink Sands*, which has a production deal with Sony Entertainment, is currently developing *Custom of the Country* starring Scarlett Johansson. In 2008 he also Executive Produced *Battle for Haditha* directed by Nick Broomfield which won the prestigious Grierson Award for feature length documentary drama.

John Northrup (Co-Producer):

John Northrup began his career in documentaries as a French translator for *National Geographic: Explorer*. He quickly moved into editing and producing, serving as the Associate Producer on *Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has To Travel* (2012), and editing and co-producing *Wilson In Situ* (2014), which tells the story of theatre legend Robert Wilson and his Watermill Center. Most recently, he oversaw the post-production of Jim Chambers' *Onward Christian Soldier*, a documentary about Olympic bomber Eric Rudolph. He is currently shooting Susanne Rostock's *Another Night in the Free World*, the follow-up to her award-winning *Sing Your Song* (2011) and recently finished *Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict* with the role as Co-Producer.

Bernadine Colish (Editor):

Bernadine Colish has edited a number of award-winning documentaries. *Herb and Dorothy* (2008), won the Audience Award at several film festivals; *Body of War* (2007) was named Best Documentary by the National Board of Review and *A Touch of Greatness* (2004), which aired on PBS Independent Lens, was nominated for an Emmy Award. Her career began at Maysles Films, where she worked with Charlotte Zwerin on such projects as *TheLionious Monk: Straight No Chaser*, *Toru Takemitsu: Music for the Movies* and the PBS *American Masters*

documentary, *Ella Fitzgerald: Something To Live For*. Other editing credits include: *Bringing Tibet Home*, *Band of Sisters*, *Rise and Dream*, *The Tiger Next Door*, *The Buffalo War*, *Absolute Wilson* and most recently, *Peggy Guggenheim: Art Addict*.

Shane Sigler (Director of Photography):

Brooklyn-based Shane Sigler apprenticed under filmmaker/photographer Bruce Weber, later serving as cinematographer on the feature, *A Letter to True*. His recent narrative credits include, *Love Comes Later*, directed by Sonejuhi Sinha, selected for Cannes Critics Week 2015, *Good Enough* (AnnaRose King), *Out There* (Jennifer Suhr), and *News From Nowhere* (Paul Morrissey). He has also worked extensively in documentaries with the films *The Earth Moves* (John Walter, in production), *Alias Ruby Blade* (director: Alex Meillier, IDFA/Tribeca FF 2013), *Elaine Stritch: Shoot Me* (Chiemi Karasawa, Tribeca FF 2014), and *Capitalism: A Love Story* (Michael Moore, Venice FF 2009). His commercial clients include Chanel, Christian Dior, Louis Vuitton, Vogue, Gucci, Fendi, Vice, Calvin Klein, and The New York Times. He frequently collaborates with directors Bruce Weber, Pamela Hanson, Cass Bird, Fabien Baron, Chiara Clemente, and Dewey Nicks.

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A film by Lisa Immordino Vreeland

Narrated by Rupert Everett

Featuring

David Bailey - Manolo Blahnik - Hamish Bowles
Susanna Brown - Leslie Caron - Peter Eyre
Phillipe Garner - Ray Gurton - Nicky Haslam
David Hockney - Alastair Macaulay - Isaac Mizrahi
Robin Muir - Hilary Roberts - Sir Roy Strong
Penelope Tree - Hugo Vickers - Tim Walker

Music by
Phil France

Director of Photography
Shane Sigler

Editor
Bernadine Colish

Associate Producers
Sara Paschall Dodd
Wendy Fisher
Ira Resnick
Gillian Steel

Co-Producer
John Northrup

Co-Executive Producers
Nancy & Howard Marks

Executive Producer
Charles Finch

Executive Producers
Jay Peterson
Bobby Kondrat
Jack Turner

Executive Producers
Jennifer Stockman
Debi Wisch

Executive Producers
Jonathan Gray
Mark Lee

Directed and Produced by
Lisa Immordino Vreeland

A Fischio Films Production

in Association with
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USA - 2017 - 99 mins – Color and B&W - DCP and Blu-ray

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