

Tell THEM ANYTHING You WANT
a portrait of MAURICE SENDAK

a film by Lance Bangs and Spike Jonze

color || 39 minutes || documentary short

Producers:

Perry Moore
Hunter Hill
Allison Sarofim
Vincent Landay

Contact:

Chiemi Karasawa
Outside Productions
c/o Isotope Films
T. 212.941.4090
chiemi@isotopefilms.com

“I’m a children’s book writer. But it’s not true that I write books for children because I have this adoration of childhood – no. It’s a peculiarity of mine that I do this. Something malfunctions in me. What I do is peculiar. But it’s all I can do.”

“Doing books, doing pictures, is the only true happiness I’ve ever ever enjoyed in my life. It’s sublime to just go into another room and make pictures. It’s magic time.”

“I said anything I wanted because I don't believe in children. I don't believe in childhood. I don't believe that there's this demarcation. "Oh, you mustn't tell them that. You mustn't tell them that." You tell 'em anything you want. Just tell 'em if it's true. If it's true, you tell 'em.”

▲ MAURICE SENDAK from *TELL THEM ANYTHING YOU WANT A Portrait of Maurice Sendak*

SYNOPSIS:

▲ In the years preceding the making of the film WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, Directors Spike Jonze and Lance Bangs capture a playful, intimate and resoundingly poignant portrait of famed children's writer and illustrator Maurice Sendak in his Connecticut home. From the early sketches and toys he made with his brother Jack, to his most celebrated book, WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, Sendak reveals the provocative and prolific imagination that has spawned over half a century of work. With wit and irony, Sendak muses about significant incidents in his youth, the controversy surrounding his books, and reveals an almost humorous obsession with death that has subtly influenced his work. A fascinating portrayal of a uniquely talented and irreverent artist.

BIOS

LANCE BANGS - DIRECTOR

Lance Bangs is a personal filmmaker, primarily known for his documentaries, concert films, and music videos. Notable works as a director include "The Slow Century," "Let America Laugh," "I've Been Twelve Forever," "Starlit Crypt," "Corporate Ghost," "Jesus of Suburbia," and "Nirvana: With the Lights Out." He recently co-directed "Tell Them Anything You Want: A Portrait of Maurice Sendak," and is currently directing a documentary titled *The Lazarus Effect* scheduled for a 2010 release. He has collaborated regularly with acclaimed filmmakers Spike Jonze and Michel Gondry, and co-produced *The Directors Label* DVD series.

SPIKE JONZE - DIRECTOR

Spike Jonze is the versatile filmmaker behind the acclaimed films *Being John Malkovich*, for which he received an Academy Award® nomination, and *Adaptation*, which his three stars -- Nicolas Cage, Meryl Streep and Chris Cooper -- received Academy Award® nominations for their performances with Cooper going on to win Best Supporting Actor. *Where the Wild Things Are*, opening October 16, 2009, marks his third directorial feature. As a producer, his credits include Michel Gondry's first film *Human Nature* and frequent collaborator Charlie Kaufman's directorial debut, *Synecdoche, New York*. He is also one of the creators and producers of the popular *Jackass* TV show and films. Jonze has also directed music videos, commercials, short films, documentaries, and is an accomplished photographer. Currently, with producer Vincent Landay, Jonze is finishing a new short film entitled "I'm Here" and they are also producing a short film adaptation of Maurice Sendak's "Higglety Pigglety Pop," by directing team Clyde Henry.

PERRY MOORE - PRODUCER

Perry Moore is best known as the Executive Producer who put together the blockbuster big screen adaptations of *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe*, *Prince Caspian* and *Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, currently in production. A devoted fan of young adult literature, Moore is also a New York Times Best-Selling author whose groundbreaking novel "Hero," published by Hyperion, is in bookstores everywhere, with a big screen adaptation in the works with superhero legend Stan Lee as producer. His next book "Way of the Wolf, Book One: Fire" is due from Hyperion in 2010. Moore and Hill co-wrote and co-directed *Lake City*, which was released theatrically in 2008.

HUNTER HILL - PRODUCER

Hunter Hill is the longtime Executive Director of the NY downtown style-bible PAPER Magazine. Hill is a co-founder and partner of Sixty Six Productions. Hill co-wrote and co-directed along with Moore, the independent feature *Lake City*, a deeply personally story based on the real-life incident of Hill's childhood friend. *Lake City*, starring Sissy Spacek, was the first of Sixty Six Production's films, produced by partner Allison Sarofim.

ALLISON SAROFIM - PRODUCER

New York fixture Allison Sarofim has quietly but quickly been getting involved in the movie industry. Already a renowned patron of the arts and a regularly featured staple of publications like Vogue, Town & Country, The Financial Times, BlackBook, Avenue Magazine, The New York Times and Paper Magazine, Allison is full-speed ahead pursuing her acting and producing career. As the founder of Sixty Six Productions, she produced the feature *Lake City*, starring Oscar-winner Sissy Spacek and Troy Garity. She is currently producing the film adaptation of the Nancy Horan best selling novel, "Loving Frank" based on the life of Frank Lloyd Wright, in conjunction with Lionsgate.

VINCENT LANDAY – PRODUCER

- | Vincent Landay has been producing with director Spike Jonze for over 16 years. Music videos for bands such as Björk, Weezer, Fatboy Slim & the Yeah Yeah Yeah's and commercials for Nike, Adidas, J&J & Levi's have lead to numerous industry awards from MTV, the Grammys, the Emmys, the Museum of Modern Art & Cannes.
- | Additionally, Landay produced the acclaimed Directors Label DVD Series that featured collected short form work of Jonze, Chris Cunningham and Michel Gondry. Landay has produced Jonze's all three of Jonze's feature films, "Being John Malkovich", "Adaptation" and this fall's "Where the Wild Things Are". He is currently producing two new short films with Jonze, both set for release in 2010.

▲

CREDITS

Directed by	Lance Bangs Spike Jonze
Produced by	Perry Moore Hunter Hill Allison Sarofim Vincent Landay
Edited by	Jeff Buchanan
Very Special Thanks to	Maurice Sendak
Camera	Lance Bangs Jeff Buchanan Spike Jonze
Special Thanks to	Lynn Caponera Jennifer Lavonier
Co-Producer	Chiemi Karasawa
Executive Producers	Donna Bascom Warren Dern Mary Wharton
Production Coordination	Aubree Bernier-Clarke Doreen Do Natalie Farrey Russell Sanzgiri
Conform Editor	Nat Jencks
Sound Mixer	Paul Hsu
Archival Research & Rights	Jane E. Tucker
Post-Production Coordinator	Jaclyn Paris
Colorist	Steven Bodner
Post-Production Interns	Tristan Nash Alexandra Saks
Mixed at	C5, Inc.
Post-Production Facility	Deluxe – New York
Title Design	Digital Kitchen





