

Big Bad John: The John Milius Interviews

John Milius is one of the most distinctive and influential filmmakers of his generation. His films are known for their epic scope, their muscular action, and their deeply felt sense of patriotism. Milius has also been a vocal critic of Hollywood, and his interviews are often as entertaining as they are informative.



Big Bad John: The John Milius Interviews by Nat Segaloff

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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In this collection of interviews, Milius discusses his career, his influences, and his thoughts on cinema. He talks about his early days as a screenwriter, his experiences working with Francis Ford Coppola on *Apocalypse Now*, and his struggles to get his own films made. Milius also offers his insights on the state of the film industry, and he shares his thoughts on some of the most important issues facing the world today.

Milius is a complex and fascinating figure, and his interviews are essential reading for anyone interested in film or American culture. He is a brilliant storyteller, and his insights into the creative process are invaluable. Milius

is also a man of strong opinions, and he is not afraid to speak his mind. His interviews are often controversial, but they are always thought-provoking.

This collection of interviews is a must-read for anyone interested in John Milius or in the history of American cinema. Milius is one of the most important filmmakers of his generation, and his interviews are a valuable resource for anyone interested in understanding his work or the world in which he lives.

Early Life and Career

John Milius was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1944. His father was a doctor, and his mother was a nurse. Milius grew up in a comfortable middle-class home, and he attended private schools. He developed a love of film at an early age, and he began making his own movies when he was just a teenager.

After graduating from high school, Milius attended the University of Southern California, where he studied film. He also worked as a film critic for the *Los Angeles Times*. In 1968, Milius wrote the screenplay for *Dirty Harry*, which was a critical and commercial success. The film helped to launch the career of Clint Eastwood, and it made Milius one of the most sought-after screenwriters in Hollywood.

Apocalypse Now

In 1979, Milius co-wrote and directed *Apocalypse Now*, which is considered one of the greatest war films ever made. The film is based on Joseph Conrad's novel *Heart of Darkness*, and it tells the story of Captain Willard (Martin Sheen), who is sent on a mission to assassinate Colonel Kurtz (Marlon Brando), a renegade Green Beret who has gone insane.

Apocalypse Now was a critical and commercial success, and it won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival.

Milius's experience working on *Apocalypse Now* was a difficult one. He clashed with Coppola over the film's budget and its release date. Milius also had to deal with the death of his close friend, Dennis Hopper, who played the role of the Photojournalist in the film. Despite these challenges, Milius managed to create a masterpiece that is still considered one of the most important films of the 20th century.

Later Career

After *Apocalypse Now*, Milius directed a number of other films, including *Conan the Barbarian* (1982), *Red Dawn* (1984), *The Wind and the Lion* (1975), and *Farewell to the King* (1989). He also wrote the screenplays for *Jeremiah Johnson* (1972), *The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean* (1972), and *Magnum Force* (1973). In recent years, Milius has worked as a consultant on a number of films, including *Transformers* (2007) and *Man of Steel* (2013).

Milius is a controversial figure, but he is also one of the most important filmmakers of his generation. His films are often violent and misogynistic, but they are also powerful and moving. Milius is a master storyteller, and his films have had a profound impact on American culture.

Influences

Milius has been influenced by a wide range of sources, including classic Hollywood Westerns, samurai films, and the works of Joseph Conrad. He is also a fan of history, and his films often explore themes of war, violence, and redemption.

Milius's films are often characterized by their strong sense of patriotism. He believes that America is a great country, and he is proud to celebrate its history and its values. However, Milius is also critical of America's foreign policy, and he has spoken out against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Thoughts on Cinema

Milius believes that cinema is a powerful medium that can be used to entertain, educate, and inspire. He is a strong advocate for freedom of expression, and he believes that artists should be free to express themselves without fear of censorship.

Milius is also a critic of the modern film industry. He believes that Hollywood has become too focused on making money, and that it has lost sight of its artistic values. Milius believes that films should be more than just entertainment; they should also be thought-provoking and challenging.

John Milius is a complex and fascinating figure. He is a brilliant filmmaker who has made some of the most important films of the 20th century. He is also a vocal critic of Hollywood, and he is not afraid to speak his mind. Milius is a man of strong opinions, and his interviews are often controversial. However, they are also always thought-provoking.

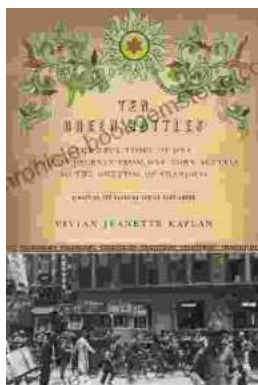
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