

Making the Boys

A Crayton Robey Film



FIRST RUN FEATURES

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ADVANCED PRAISE FOR "MAKING THE BOYS"

"Thoughtful...show us how powerful non-fiction filmmaking can be...
essential viewing."

- Matthew Hays, Montreal Mirror

"Impassioned, absorbing, illuminating and engrossing.
Essential viewing for anyone interested in queer history."

-David Rooney, The Hollywood Reporter

"A MUST-SEE. Its use of fascinating archival footage (including home movies of Roddy McDowell's Malibu beach parties with Julie Andrews, Rock Hudson, Judy Garland, Sal Mineo, and just about anyone else who was a star of that era), footage of early GLBT rights leaders, old interviews with cast members, and much, much more makes it a must-see. I can't recommend it highly enough."

-Brent Hartinger, AfterElton.com

"Part Hollywood gossip-fest, part gay history primer, *Making the Boys* is an entertaining documentary that makes a good case for the significance of *The Boys in the Band*. Crowley is charmingly self-deprecating, full of stories about Malibu parties and backstage dramas that are as surprising as they are captivating."

-David Warner, Creative Loafing

"Crayton Robey offers an insiders' look at how Mart Crowley's drama became a groundbreaking event in both theater and cinema."

-Mark Deming, All Movie Guide

"Illuminating and empowering . . .fascinating and moving.
Robey has given Crowley and his play its due."

- Gary M. Kramer, Gay City News

"It's no small blessing Crayton Robey has stepped up to the plate to produce
and direct *Making the Boys*."

- Harry Haun, Playbill

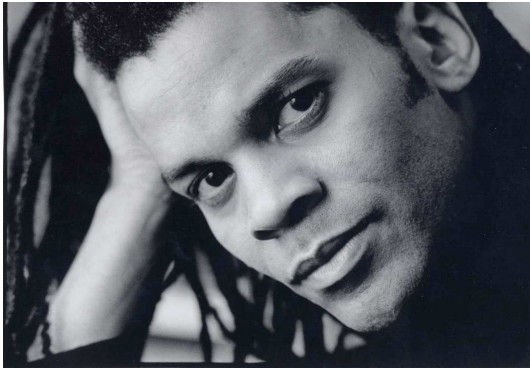
"Crayton Robey has assembled an all-star cast of playwrights, historians, actors...
The Boys in the Band lives on."

- Steve Warren, Pittsburgh's OUT Online

SYNOPSIS

The Boys in the Band is a groundbreaking play that earned historical significance by being the first successful work to authentically depict gay characters. Over a year before the Stonewall rebellion, the play found surprising success and became a must-see phenomenon around the world. It had an impact on mainstream and gay audiences in a way no creative work about homosexuals had ever done before. It stood alone for years as the premiere depiction of the gay lifestyle.

Simultaneously praised for being a landmark moment in gay visibility, and yet often condemned for reinforcing stereotypes, The Boys in the Band became Hollywood's first film about gays and sparked a controversy that still exists four decades later. Featuring anecdotes from the surviving cast and filmmakers, as well as perspectives by legendary figures from stage and screen, MAKING THE BOYS traces the behind-the-scenes drama and lasting legacy of this cultural milestone.



CRAYTON ROBEEY

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

BIOGRAPHY

Crayton Robey is an inspired storyteller. Through his acclaimed documentaries and original screenplays, Robey contextualizes history in modern terms with a singular artistic vision.

Robey graduated from Howard University and amassed numerous acting credits in theater and film before making his directorial debut with the award-winning documentary, **When Ocean Meets Sky** which premiered at the South by Southwest (SXSW) Film Festival. Hailed as a "tour de force" for its genre, **When Ocean Meets Sky** provides a vivid portrait of the birth and evolution of one of the world's first gay enclaves. It has built a strong following and is a popular broadcast on MTV's Logo Real Momentum Series. His first screenplay, **Mary Audrey** was a finalist for the Guy Hanks/Marvin A. Miller Screenwriting Fellowship, sponsored by Bill and Camille Cosby. Robey's work caught the eye of Jane Rosenthal and Robert Deniro's Tribeca Film Institute's All Access Program where he met Douglas Tirola and Susan Bedusa and partnered with 4th Row Films to produce **Making the Boys**. Upcoming projects include **Hound Dog**, a screenplay based on the life of Robey's great uncle, rhythm and blues impresario Don Robey, **Pines 79**, a film about the final days of hedonism, **Who Do You Have to F*** to Get A Drink Around Here?** and **Yes We Can!** a solo play with music about the lineage of Barack Obama. Robey is also a strong supporter of numerous youth and gay rights organizations and a founding director of the Al D. Rodriguez Liver Foundation.

FILMOGRAPHY

Making the Boys - Director/Producer (2010)

When Ocean Meets Sky - Director/Producer/Writer (2004)

Divided We Stand - Jarib Prescott (2000)



4th Row Films is an award winning documentary film company. In the past four years, 4th Row Films has produced 5 feature-length documentaries.

An Omar Broadway Film premiered at the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival and premiered on HBO in July 2010.

Owning the Weather, based on an article from Harpers Magazine, premiered at the Full Frame Documentary Film Festival and was also screened at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15). It was theatrically released in 2010.

Making the Boys screened as a work-in-progress at the 2009 Tribeca Film Festival and had its world premiere at the Berlin Film Festival in 2010. It is being released theatrically by First Run Features in Fall 2010

Kati with an I follows a teenage girl leading up to her high school graduation. It premiered at the 2010 True/False Documentary Film Festival.

All In - The Poker Movie screened at the 2009 CineVegas Film Festival and won the *Grand Jury Prize for Best Documentary*. It will premiere in Spring 2011

4th Row is also the creator and executive producer of MTV's **The X Effect**, which is currently in its third season.

4th Row Films also has a division dedicated to utilizing independent filmmakers to produce branded entertainment. To date, 4th Row Films has produced over 2,000 marketing films around the world for various brands including American Express, Coca-Cola, Ford, Guinness, Hershey's, L.A.M.B., Mercedes Benz, NFL, and Smirnoff.

4th Row Films is represented by William Morris Endeavor.

CAST

Edward Albee – Playwright, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

Mart Crowley – Playwright, *The Boys in the Band*

Michael Cunningham – Author, *The Hours*

Dominick Dunne – Executive Producer, film adaptation of *The Boys in the Band*

William Friedkin – Director, film adaptation of *The Boys in the Band*

Cheyenne Jackson – Actor

Ed Koch – Former Mayor, New York City

Larry Kramer – Activist and Author

Carson Kressley – *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*

Tony Kushner – Playwright, *Angels in America*

Laurence Luckinbill – Actor, original “Hank” in *The Boys in the Band*

Terrence McNally – Playwright, *Love! Valour! Compassion!*

Michael Musto – Columnist, *Village Voice*

Paul Rudnick – Playwright and Screenwriter

Dan Savage – Columnist

Christian Siriano – *Project Runway*

Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman – Composer and Lyricist, *Hairspray*

Robert Wagner – Actor

Peter White – Actor, original “Alan” in *The Boys in the Band*

CREDITS

A 4th Row Films Production

Directed and Produced by

Crayton Robey

Produced by

Doug Tirola
Susan Bedusa

Executive Produced by

Bill Condon

Co-Produced by

Jack Morrissey
Miguel Camnitzer

Edited by

Robert Greene
Seth Hurlbert

Cinematography by

Eric Metzgar
Charles Poekel

Music by

Peitor Angell
Frank Minarik
Lucian Piane

Associate Producer

Danielle Rosen
Judith Bass

Senior Archival Researcher

Rosemary Rotondi

Archival Sources

ABC News Videosource
BBC Motion Gallery
Budget Films
Cherry Grove Arts Project Archive
Diva TV
Efootage.com
Emerald City
Everett Digital Gallery
Historic Films
Inamédiapro
New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
Oddball Film and Video
ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives
Photofest
Prelinger Archives
The Robert Maines Film Collection
Silverman Stock Footage
The Stonewall Library & Archives
WPA Film Library

toh! Thompson on Hollywood

Thompson On Hollywood – Making The Boys

Our Berlin correspondent Meredith Brody experiences highs and lows as the festival winds down, from the skillfully-made documentary **Making the Boys** to the huge yet hugely disappointing **Nine**:

Making the Boys is everything I'd hoped for and more. Here's a skillfully-made interweaving of archival footage and new interviews that really places **The Boys in the Band** in historical context for both a new generation unaware of gay history as well as those of us who were around in the 60s. It's amazing to realize that the Stonewall riots, falling as they did between the success of the play and the subsequent, less-appreciated movie adaptation, had the result of making the movie seem stereotypical, self hating, and behind the times.

In a couple of years, the quote, "You show me a happy homosexual, and I'll show you a gay corpse," elicited a different response. The rise and fall and rise of author Mart Crowley, friend, employee, and confidant of Natalie Wood and Robert Wagner among others, is something of a novel, whether written by Horace Greeley or Anthony Trollope (or Dominique Dunne, producer of the movie and present on screen). The ebullient young filmmaker, Crayton Robey, born four years after the play was first produced, was bouncing around onstage, drunk on the reception of his film at the festival and excited by its context in the Panorama. **Making the Boys** is one of the movies I'll be recommending when people ask me what I most liked at the Berlinale. It deserves a long life outside the gay-and-lesbian film circuit.

