

RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO!

A Documentary Film by Ryan A. White & Alex Clausen 79 minutes, 2021, USA

Watch Our Trailer:

http://www.rawuncutvideo.com

CONTACT

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SYNOPSIS

A love story about fetish porn... **RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO!** chronicles the rise and fall of homegrown gay porn studio Palm Drive Video, and explores how a devoted couple helped battle a devastating health crisis by promoting kinky sex.

Legendary leatherman Jack Fritscher met Mark Hemry in 1979 at Harvey Milk's birthday party - and the two fell head over heels in love. When the AIDS epidemic swept through San Francisco, the couple left the city to begin a new venture: turning a rural ranch in Sonoma County into a safe-sex porn studio that offered viewers new sexual possibilities in an age of plague. Casting rugged nonprofessional models to explore their unique erotic fantasies onscreen, the studio explored a wild array of queer kinks - and helped champion sexpositivity in the porn industry.















OUR CHARACTERS



Jack Fritscher is director and co-founder of Palm Drive Video. Former Editor-in-Chief of the influential Drummer Magazine and one-time lover of Robert Mapplethorpe, he is a prolific writer and a living legend in the gay leather scene.



"Thrasher" (Steve Thrasher) is a Palm Drive superstar - and a heterosexual man. As a young handyman on the Fritscher-Hemry ranch, he perfectly fit the blue-collar aesthetic that Jack and Mark were looking for and was cast in some of their most iconic films.



Mark Hemry is editor and co-founder of Palm Drive Video. Partnered with Jack Fritscher for 40 years, he was the technical backbone of the porn studio while also maintaining a career as a scientist for a federal government agency.



Donnie Russo is a gay porn legend. Early in his career he starred in five Palm Drive films and posed in numerous still photos by Jack Fritscher. He now lives above a mortuary in Brooklyn, NY with his blind dog, Binx.



Steve Parker is a Muscle-Bear porn actor with a passion for sounding. After his 1992 debut with Palm Drive, he went on to make popular films with studios such as Titan Media, Raging Stallion, and Treasure Island Media.



The Men of Palm Drive include Mr. America Chris Duffy, Colt Studios star Tom Howard, Raging Stallion cofounder JD Slater, plus countless "real men" hand-selected by Fritscher and Hemry. They are all intimately immortalized in hundreds of hours of videos and behind-the-scenes footage from the massive Palm Drive archive.



Mickey Squires is a Colt model and a renowned performer in adult films. He collaborated with Palm Drive Video in the 1990s, when he was re-establishing his porn persona.

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

Susie Bright - Writer
Darryl Carlton (Divinity Fudge) - Artist/Performer
Rick Castro - Photographer
Durk Dehner - Tom of Finland Foundation

Roger Earl - Filmmaker, "Born to Raise Hell" Peter Fiske - Leatherman Jeffrey Escoffier - Porn Scholar Lucas Hilderbrand - Media Historian Mr. Pam - Porn director Susan Shaw - Thrasher's mother Ron Suresha - Writer

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

AIDS continues to pose a massive health threat around the globe and understanding the diversity of tactics that communities in the Global North used to battle the epidemic in the 1980s and 1990s remains critical in sustaining efforts to control the disease. Media outlets have reported extensively on the role of governments and activists in promoting safe-sex practices to help combat the transmission of AIDS. But, there has been scant mainstream coverage of efforts to mitigate infection by underground fetish and porn communities through the promotion of sex-positivity and alternative safe-sex practices. Now, in light of the current Covid-19 pandemic, an exploration of how to safely experiment sexually during a global health crisis is more relevant than ever.

We are inspired to create RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO! to examine the historic significance of gay fetish porn during the height of the AIDS crisis in the U.S., to trace the dedicated efforts of two leathermen (Fritscher and Hemry) to produce erotica that allowed queer folks to safely explore their sexual boundaries in an age of plague, and to recognize an assortment of sexual pioneers who demonstrated alternative practices by sharing their own kinks onscreen. At the same time, we hope to cast light on the importance of embracing non-normative sexualities and overcoming moralistic frameworks that only accept human relationships in extremely limited terms – and in turn, demonstrate that true love comes in many colors.

AWARDS:

Audience Award - Wicked Queer Boston LGBTQI+ Film Festival

SCREENINGS:

Wicked Queer Boston LGBTQI+ Film Festival (April 2021) - *Sneak Preview* OUTshine Miami LGBTQ+ Film Festival (April/May 2021) - *World Premiere* Kyiv International Film Festival "Molodist" (June 2021) - *International Premiere* Frameline San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival (June 2021)



Thrasher and his mother, Susan Shaw



Donnie Russo and director Ryan White

Other festivals confirmed but not yet announced

KEY PERSONNEL



Ryan A White - Director/Producer

Born in Big Sur, California, Ryan White is a documentary filmmaker whose award-winning films have screened around the world. He spent four years in Hanoi, Vietnam working as Film Advisor for the World Wildlife Fund's Greater Mekong Program, then relocated to Bangkok, Thailand, where he produced and directed two

documentary features, Camp Unity (2010) and Mondo Banana (2013). His short film Cruising Elsewhere (2016) was awarded Best Short Film at the Tampa Bay Gay & Lesbian Film Festival and Best Documentary Short at CineKink NYC. Other documentary credits include co-directing Dirt McComber: Last of the Mohicans (2018), producing The Organic Life (2013) and associate producing Pray Away (2020) and Out Run (2016). Ryan also lectures in the Department of Communication at California State University, East Bay and the Cinematic Arts & Technology Department at California State University, Monterey Bay. IMDb



Alex Clausen - Director/Producer

Alex Clausen is an artist that lives and works in Forestville, California. Clausen earned a bachelors' degree in Art and Physics from University of California, Davis, and a graduate degree from the California College of the Arts. He was awarded a Graduate Fellowship at the Headlands Center for the Arts for the 2006-2007

year. Clausen has exhibited work at Rena Bransten Gallery, the San Jose Institute for Contemporary Art, the Contemporary Art Museum in Houston, Kala Art Institute, the Exploratorium and is part of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco collection. He is currently an active collaborator and board member of Earthbound Moon, an arts non-profit based in Eugene, Oregon. IMDb

Todd Verow - **Producer**

Todd Verow attended the Rhode Island School of Design and the AFI Conservatory. He made short experimental films and worked as a cinematographer before making his feature film debut with Frisk in 1996 (Sundance, Berlin & Toronto). Starting his own production company Bangor Films, Todd has directed over twenty-five features and numerous shorts, establishing himself as the most prolific auteur emeritus of the New Queer Cinema. IMDb

Charles Lum - Producer

Charles Lum, aka clublum, received his MFA in Photography from the School of The Art Institute of Chicago in 2004, after 25 years scouting and managing locations for TV commercials and classic feature films like Wall Street, Fatal Attraction and Sid & Nancy. His short videos have screened internationally in museum, art and film venues. IMDb

Paul Lee - Producer

Based in Toronto, Paul Lee has produced, co-produced, and associate-produced over 50 films - more than half of which have been award-winning LGBTQ films. LGBTQ productions include San Francisco filmmaker Jenni Olson's Berlin-premiered Blue Diary and Sundance-premiered The Joy of Life, and the Berlin-premiered Below the Belt by Toronto filmmakers Dominique Cardona and Laurie Colbert. Since 1991, Paul has organized, programmed, and curated film festivals in 25 countries around the world. His own films, Thick Lips Thin Lips (1994), These Shoes Weren't Made for Walking (1995), and The Offering (1999) have screened at hundreds of film festivals and won numerous international awards. IMDb

PRESS

'Raw! Uncut! Video!' Chronicles the History of a Pioneering Gay Porn Studio

GNC (May 21, 2021)



'Raw! Uncut! Video!' chronicles the history of a pioneering gay porn studio

The documentary explores the rise and fall of Palm Drive Video and how a devoted couple confronted the AIDS epidemic by promoting kinky sex.

FILM | 21 MAY, 2021. WRITTEN BY DAVID BOYD



A new <u>documentary</u> Raw! Uncut! Video! follows renowned leatherman, Jack Fritscher, and his husband, Mark Hemry, who founded the porn studio, Palm Drive Video, at the start of the AIDS epidemic.

An Interview with the Directors of 'Raw! Uncut! Video!' WOW Report (April 8, 2021)



EXCLUSIVE: An Interview with the Directors of 'Raw! Uncut! Video!'

BY JARED ABBOTT ON APRIL 8, 2021 8:41 AM



Back in the mid 8os as the AIDS epidemic was sweeping through the gay community, legendary leatherman/former Drummer magazine editor **Jack Fristcher** and partner **Mark Hemry** started Palm Drive Video, a safe-sex production company that offered viewers a wide variety of fetish porn and catered to some very specific kinks. **Ryan A. White** and **Alex Clausen**'s new documentary *Rawl Uncut! Videol* chronicles the rise and fall of this homegrown studio while exploring its lasting impact. We sat down with the filmmakers for a chat about this five-years-in-the-making project.

Advocate (March 11, 2021)



ADVOCATE

"Raw! Uncut! Video!" Tells the Story of Early Kink and Fetish

By Christopher Harrity



Read About the Romance and the Kink

RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO! (watch the video) chronicles the rise and fall of homegrown gay porn studio Palm Drive Video, and explores how a devoted couple helped battle a devastating health crisis by promoting kinky sex. (Facebook.com/rawuncutvideo and Twitter.com/rawuncutvideo)

Director Ryan White connected with us recently with this note: "After working on the film for 5 years, we're about to (finally) release it this Spring – which is REALLY exciting!! But, we've also been having issues with Instagram repeatedly removing our account for no apparent reason. We've lost thousands of followers and supporters right before the launch of the film. In order to get the word out, we've put together a press release about the unfair removal by Instagram." Unfortunately this is a common story, so we posted an update on the films release to help move things along.

Legendary leatherman Jack Fritscher met Mark Hemry in the late '70s at Harvey Milk's birthday party – and the two fell head over heels in love. When the AIDS epidemic swept through San Francisco, the couple left the city to begin a new venture: turning a rural ranch in Sonoma County into a safe-sex porn studio that offered viewers new sexual possibilities in an age of plague. Casting rugged non-professional models to explore their unique erotic fantasies onscreen, the studio explored a wild array of queer kinks – and helped champion sex-positivity in the porn industry.

See their brand new Wohler Films account on Instagram (@wohlerfilms) so you can stay up to date for their release date and more info about their festival release.

21 LGBTQI+ Films To Look Out For in 2021

WOW Report (February 18, 2021)

YOU ARE HERE: HOME / MISC / WOW EXCLUSIVE: 21 LGBTQH FILMS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN 2021

WOW EXCLUSIVE: 21 LGBTQI+ Films To Look Out For in 2021

BY JARED ABBOTT ON FEBRUARY 18, 2021 1/58 PM



Based on the book by **Alexis Coe**, director **Jennifer Kent**'s (*The Babadook, The Nightingale*) lesbian murder thriller *Alice + Freda Forever* tells the true story of two teenage girls in late 1800s Memphis whose unstable romance turns into a violently jealous obsession. If the filmmaker's previous work is any indication, this one's gonna go hard.



Last week, the prudish Instagram content moderators deleted the account for *Raw! Uncut! Video!*, **Ryan White** and **Alex Clausen**'s upcoming documentary about Palm Drive Video, a DIY porn company that specialized in raunchy solo videos at the height of the AIDS crisis. We caught an early cut and it's everything you could ask for – political, provocative, educational – while also telling the sweet love story of the Palm Drive founders (leather men **Jack Fritscher** and **Mark Hemry**).

Raw! Uncut! Video! How Palm Drive Video got me to wear an apricot hanky Drummer (Fall 2019)

RAW! UNCUT! How Palm Drive Video got me to wear an apricot hanky

STORY: Ryan A. White | Photos: Courtesy of Palm Drive Video and Wohler Films

I'M A BELLY MAN, A TOTAL SUCKER FOR A GUY WITH A GUT.

From a burgeoning dad bod to a massive tank, my attention goes directly to a man's midsection. While this love runs deep down to my sexual core, only recently have I found the power to openly claim these desires. For most of my adult life, it was a secret that I rarely admitted to, for fear that my appetite for non-normative bodies would be ridiculed.

A few years ago, I was introduced to the legendary Jack Fritscher while I was making Cruising Elsewhere, a film about a lost gay beach on the Russian River. After that initial meeting, my co-director, Alex Clausen, and I became fascinated with Palm Drive Video, the kinky porn studio that Fritscher and his husband Mark Hemry ran out of their Sonoma County ranch in the 1980s and '90s. During the height of the North American AIDS crisis, their two-man production company produced over 150 mail-order fetish videos covering a diversity of kinks, from leather cowboys and biker bears to medical torture and vomit play. The couple explained that they wanted the videos to promote safe-sex alternatives to penetrative intercourse during the plague, and to help keep sexual exploration alive. After viewing Toilet Cigar Butt, starring the criminally sexy Jack Husky, Alex and I decided that Palm Drive would be the topic of our next documentary.

"At the core of every interview and Palm Drive tape is a joyous celebration of the idiosyncrasies of erotic desires."

As we immersed ourselves in the project, I was excited to learn that Palm Drive had produced some early bear and chub videos. I spent some extra time "researching" their films, Bellybucker and Water Bear. During our production trips, I started getting frank with Alex about my fetish for big dudes, explaining that our exploration of this sex-positive production company was helping me feel empowered in my sexual desires. My kinks weren't making me feel ashamed anymore; instead, I felt unique, more whole...and honestly, hornier!

For the past three years, Alex and I have been working on RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO!, our documentary about Fritscher and Hemry's adventures in safe-sex fetish porn production. We've interviewed legends of porn and kink such as Donnie Russo, Roger Earl, Durk Dehner, Rick Castro, Mickey Squires, Susie Bright, and mr.Pam. We've spent countless hours digging through archival behind-the-scenes footage from raunchy Palm Drive shoots. At the core of every interview and Palm Drive tape is a joyous celebration of the idiosyncrasies of erotic desires. And, at every stage of production, the project has reinforced my belief in the importance of promoting, preserving, and participating in sexual cultures. If I've learned anything, it's this: if fucking a mud-puddle is your thing, or slurping up the ass-juices of sweaty construction workers, or even expanding your limits with sounding, don't upestion it! Own it! And maybe even make a porno about it!

We're currently editing RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO! Funding a documentary about queer fetish porn continues to be a challenge, but we're pushing forward for a late 2020 release. Check out rawuncutvideo.com for more information and find out how to support the project. We need your help to finish the documentary! And rest assured that as a result of making this film, I now proudly wear my apricot hanky on the right. (1)





RAW! UNCUT!

How Palm Drive Video got me to wear an apricot hanky

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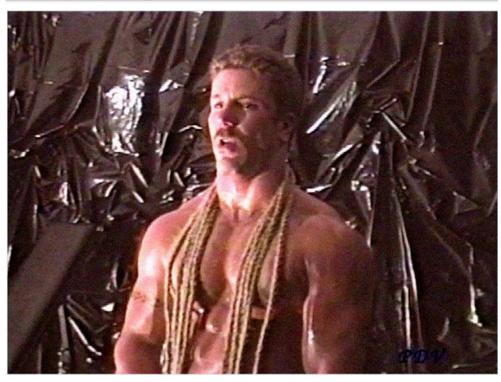
Masters of Erotica: The Fathers of Fetish Video Advocate (April 27, 2018)



Masters of Erotica: The Fathers of Fetish Video (Photos)

APRIL 27 2018 5:07 AM





Jack Fritscher and Mark Hemry's Palm Drive Video was a ray of hope for those of us who wanted something a little hairier, a little more real, and a lot more kinky that what the big gay studios were offering in the '80s and '90s. For many kink and leather afficionados, Drummer magazine set the standard. Small wonder that half of Palm Drive Video was co-founder Jack Fritscher, the former Editor-in-Chief of Drummer and one-time lover of Robert Mapplethorpe.

The men of Palm Drive included Mr. America Chris Duffy, Colt Studios stars Mickey Squires and Tom Howard, Raging Stallion co-founder JD Slater, plus countless "real men" hand-selected by Fritscher and his partner of 40 years, Mark Hemry. They are all intimately immortalized in hundreds of hours of videos and behind-the-scenes footage from the massive Palm Drive archive.

Director and producer Ryan White says, "We are inspired to create RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO! to explore the historic significance of gay fetish porn during the height of the AIDS crisis in the U.S., to trace the dedicated efforts of two leathermen (Fritscher and Hemry) to produce erotica that allowed queer men to safely explore their sexual boundaries in an age of plague, and to resurrect an assortment of wild characters who shared their own sexual kinks onscreen to help diminish the many impacts of AIDS.

"Ultimately, we hope that the film reveals the complexities of historic efforts to combat AIDS in the U.S., and in so doing, expand the discussion on best practices to continue fighting the epidemic around the world. At the same time, we hope to cast light on the importance of embracing non-normative sexualities and overcoming moralistic frameworks that only accept human sexuality in extremely limited terms.

"We have currently shot 75% of our footage and have upcoming shoots scheduled in Northern and Southern California throughout the Spring of 2018.

Production will wrap in Summer 2018. In order to raise critical funds for post-production we expect to apply for a series of grants – including the Frameline

Completion Fund and the Arch & Bruce Brown Foundation. Additionally, a public fundraiser was held in San Francisco at Mr S Leather in March 2018, and a

crowdfunding campaign is now underway on IndicGoGo."

We got a cool t-shirt as a contributor. Keep this history alive!

RAW! UNCUT! VIDEO! Palm Drive Documentary Kickstarts at Mr. S Bay Area Reporter (March 29, 2018)

Raw! Uncut! Video! Palm Drive documentary kickstarts at Mr. S



Nick Romanov in Palm Drive Video's Russian Rear (1987) Romanov Nick Rollianov in Faim Drive video's Russian Bear (1907). Rolliano is representative of the naturally masculine men that appeared in Palm Drive Video's catalog.

by Race Bannon

Anew feature-length documentary titled Raw! Uncut! Video! is in the works on the famed adult video company, Palm Drive Video, a boutique gay porn studio created by well-known leatherman, Jack Fritscher, and his husband, Mark Hemry, that produced more than 150 films between 1985 and 1997. Palm Drive Video was an edgy

porn studio that promoted kink as an integral form of safe sex at a time in our history when

the AIDS epidemic was decimating the gay men's community. Fritscher and Hemry felt that this gave gay men an out-let for their sexuality at a time when such alternatives were needed. This homegrown

mail-order porn company produced fetish videos that focused on a wide range of men and scenes, from bear and cowboys to BDSM and assort ed kink. The cast of the films were unique because the producers often hand-picked them from small town bars, rodeos, county fairgrounds, bodybuilding contests, construction sites, and back alleys.

The films stand on their own

not just as safe sex vehicles, but as a celebration of the kinkiest aspects of the naturally masculine men the studio gravitated toward. I've watched many of these films and consider them works of true erotic performance art as well as some of the seriest kinky films I've seen

The directors of the documen-tary, Ryan White and Alex Clausen, want to use their access to the vast Fritscher-Hemry archive, intimate observational footage of Fritscher and Hemry, and interviews with experts on gay fetish to reconstruct an erotic underground of hot men and wild sex that contributed to greater sex-positivity. Producing this proj-ect are White and Clausen along with fellow Producers Todd Verow,

Charles Lum, and Paul Lee. I attended the project's kickoff and fundraising event held at Mr. S Leather on Friday, March 23, along

with a large crowd in attendance The film's trailer debuted, and they played a short clip from one of the studio's more popular fetish films, Hazing in the Hay.

Afterward, there was a question and answer session during which the documentary's directors, and audience members, asked question of Fritscher and Hemry. Some fascinating details came ou

during the Q&A about the found-ers' creative process. They liked us-ing natural guys and tended to shy away from the more

polished porn actors some other studios em-braced. They didn't add music to their films, which was an artistic choice. Instead, they onscreen to stand alone as an experience between the viewer and the film, allowing the

viewer to add their own optional separate soundtrack.

Another aspect of Palm Drive Video films was that often the actors spoke directly to the viewer. Since many of the films were solo or extremely intimate performances, speaking directly to the viewer was a directorial device to better engage the viewer with the actor and create a heightened level of erotic, one-onone connection.

Fritscher mentioned that a few

of the actors in some films were straight. They could perform solo in the films, thereby giving them a platform to play out their exhibi-tionist proclivities in a fun, comfortable way for a gay male audience.

During the fundraiser there were some hot interactive performance by Baloney performers, live fetish performances, and great musica ambiance was provided by John Fucking Cartwright (Lyddle Jean). Also, on sale were exclusive new tshirts by the butchdick collection It all made for an informative and enjoyable evening.

I asked Co-Director White why he wanted to make this film.

"Alex and I are very interested in the ways that Palm Drive Video pro-moted fetish as a way for queer folks



Raw! Uncut! Video! documentary co-directors Alex Clausen and Ryan White, and the founders of Palm Drive Video, Jack Fritscher



Fop: Ryan White (right) recently filming Donnie Russo (left) in New York City. Russo appeared in many Palm Drive Video films. Bottom: Curtis James in Palm Drive Video's Redneck Cowboy Hellbent for Leather (1988).

o safely explore their sexuality during the height of the AIDS crisis," said White. "On top of completely devastating gay communities, AIDS prought on so much fear and sexnegativity in the '80s and '90s, and many LGBTQ people were driven back into the 'closet'. The government was primarily promoting ab-stinence to combat the epidemic

but sexuality is such an important part of people's lives that that was never going to be a valid solution. I think it's amazing that the kink community stepped forward and said: 'Hey, here are some other op-tions that may be outside your box, but are really fun and sexy, and safe. It allowed folks to continue explor-ing themselves erotically at a really critical time, and ultimately I feel that it was a really important step in ombating the disease

Personal side note: during the fundraiser at Mr. S Leather a sexy, grungy, blue collar stud was walk ing around the event encouragin everyone to piss in the metal bucke he was carrying. At the end of the evening, the event producers auc-tioned off the opportunity to the highest bidder to pour the contents of the bucket on to the sexy stud. man with a crowd watching and ap

man with a crowd watching and ap-plauding. I love my life. On that note, check out the proj-ect's website. This documentary will capture and celebrate an era in kinky gay male porn that needs to

be seen and preserved. This is an interesting project in terms of funding. Most traditional documentary grant-givers or funding sources hear the phrase "gay fetish porn" and say, "Uh, I don't think this is the right project for us." So, the producers are looking towards community support to help finish the film. They've launched a crowd-funding campaign to raise critical post-production funds that they need to finish the project. The project has some great sponsors and each of the fundraising levels comes with perks to incentivize people to help make this film happen. If you'd like to donate toward

the documentary's completion, you can donate at www.indiegogo.com/ projects/raw-uncut-video-gay. Also visit www.rawuncutvideo.com▼

For Leather events, visit www.ebar.com/bartab.

Race Bannon is a local author blogger and activist. You can reach him on his website

WORK

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415 290-1136

Massage>>



min. My work hours are 10 a.m. to midnite everyday. 415-515-0594 Patrick call or text.

> "If you live long enough, you'll see that every victory turns into a defeat."

- Simone de Beauvior

SEXY ASIAN \$60 Jim 415-269-5707

Models>>

FABULOUS F**K BOY Model looks 6' 150# 27yrs, 8" uncut beautiful tight yummy

ass. Smoky sexuality erotic male nympho. Hndsm hedonist. Str8, gav, married men at vr apt. 415-290-2639. Leather fetish fantasy roleplay kink dom sub group scenes mild to wild. Pretty boy with a dirty mind, romantion & unforgettable! \$400/hr, \$2000 overnight negotiable

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