

WITH JIM SOTO

THE CREW-THE PRODUCERS



If no producer, no movie.

- Dino De Laurentiis

THE PRODUCERS

A film producer is generally involved in a movie right from its beginning. Producers may get an idea for a movie or may work with a director in choosing movie ideas as well as in hiring the scriptwriter, cast and crew.

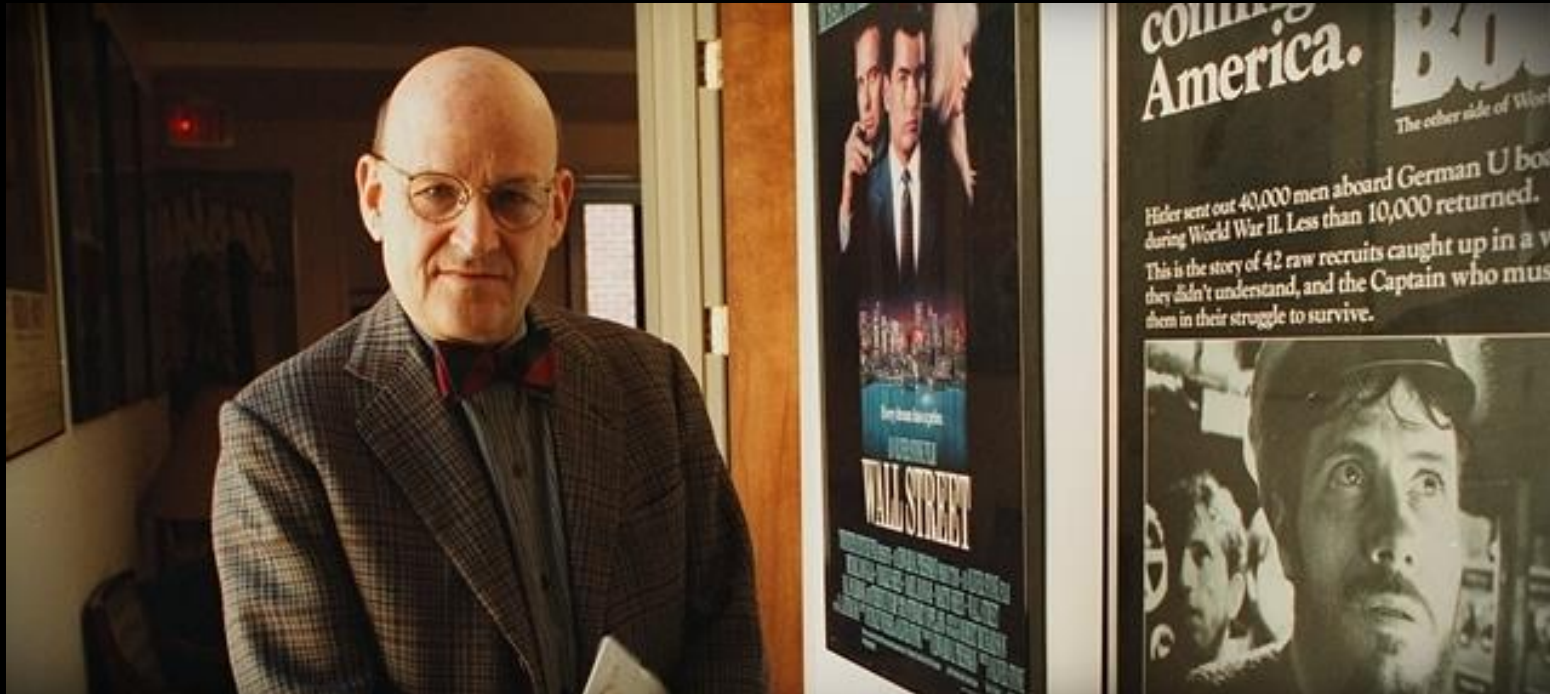




Producers are filmmakers who must be focused on getting enough financing as well as on distributing the finished film to theaters. Basically, a film producer makes the finished movie happen by taking care of the details and all problems behind the scenes.

IN THE FILM INDUSTRY

Often the Producer is the first person to become involved in a project, even before the writer, or they may be the agent-style Producer who focuses on the deal.





Producers shepherd the film from inception to completion and beyond, starting long before the film-making process and continuing to talk about and sell the film long after everyone else has gone to other projects.

TYPES OF FILM PRODUCERS

If you've watched the credits roll at the end of a movie, you know that a lot of different people were involved in making that movie. You may have noticed that instead of listing a single movie producer, the credits named movie producers of several different types.





Movie production is such a complicated process that usually one producer, known as the executive producer, supervises and is assisted by others who take on part of the producer responsibilities. Let's see more specific jobs of different producers.

Executive Producer - Supervises other producers as they perform their duties for one or more films. The executive producer may represent the film studio and keep watch over the producer to make sure the movie is within budget and being made the way the studio wants. Or the title may be given as a symbolic gesture or to give a movie visibility; even if he or she spend no time on the set!



Associate Producer - Handles certain aspects of production, as assigned by the producer. Usually the associate producer has worked through all three stages, from preproduction to post. Sometimes this title is given as a courtesy title to a key backer of the film who really does not have a major role in producing the film.

Assistant Producer - Works on tasks assigned by the associate producer.
(A Gofer!)

Co-Producer - Shares producer responsibilities as a team with other junior producers. One may take on creative responsibilities while another handles business functions.

Supervising Producer - Oversees one or more producers as they perform their duties. The supervising producer may take the place of an executive producer or work for him/her.

Coordinating Producer - Coordinates the work of several producers to create a unified end result. Coordinating producers are valuable when a studio produces several related films or particularly when related films are being produced at the same time, as with the two "Mockingbird" films.

Line Producer - Handles the physical aspects of a movie's production and usually is not involved in decision-making regarding creative issues. This is the person who oversees the budget and day-to-day activities during filming. The line producer handles any crises that may occur.

PRODUCER'S TASKS DURING FILMMAKING

A movie executive producer is responsible to the studio for making sure a high-quality film is completed on time and on budget. He/she supervises the whole process, while serving as liaison to the studio and managing the work of hundreds of individuals.



1. During development and preproduction, the producer finds the material that will become the movie story, gets the script written and finds the financing. Working alone or with the studio, he/she also finds the director and cinematographer, helps casting the lead actors, hires a production team, and helps develop a shooting schedule as well as a detailed production plan.





2. During production, the producer monitors the timetable and budget, keeps the movie on its original creative track and may offer creative advise to the director. Also informs the studio about the film's progress and acts as liaison between the studio and the film's cast/crew.
3. During post, the producer reviews the edited cut of the film and offers suggestions for revising the film before the final cut.
4. He also works with a movie distributor to secure distribution and reviews the distributor's advertising campaign for the film.

WHY DOES THE BEST PICTURE™ OSCAR GO TO THE PRODUCER?



Ask your self: Who spends the most making a movie happen from development to distribution?

IN YOUR PLANE OF REALITY

- As a producer you must be a highly self-motivated person. You're the person that has to make it HAPPEN!
- Producers usually need an entourage consisting of:
 1. Associate Producer
 2. Assistant Director
 3. Camera Operator
 4. Sound Engineer
- With this team you'll be able to set your budget, scout locations, schedule the shoot, get props and costumes, and feed... yes, feed the cast/crew!

RESHOOT

1. Explain the role of the Executive Producer.
2. Name the types of producers and what they do.
3. Explain and list the many tasks of the Producer during all stages of film production.
4. Should the producer(s) be artistically involved in a film project?
5. In your opinion, which is the hardest working type of producer? Why?



Next:

EVEN MORE CREW

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