



# "MY FRIEND OSCAR"

A new documentary feature film from Rhode Trip Pictures

Award-winning filmmaker James Andrew Walsh directs London West End star Oscar Conlon-Morrey as Oscar Wilde in a new documentary feature retracing in 2023 the author's little-known 1882 cross-country American lecture tour from New York City to Hollywood.



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INVESTOR PROSPECTUS

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## THE FILM

“On January 3, 1882, Oscar Wilde arrived in New York City aboard the British ocean liner, SS Arizona. The 27-year-old recent Oxford graduate, dressed in lavender pants, silk stockings and shiny black patent leather shoes, presented his baggage to the customs agent. When asked if he had anything to declare, Wilde flipped his purple calfskin gloves and said: “Nothing... Nothing but my genius!”

Over the next 300 days, the unpublished poet-writer saw more of North America than most modern day Presidential candidates. In his green wool coat trimmed at the collar and cuffs in seal fur, Wilde traipsed through the streets and fashionable salons of Eastern cities and crisscrossed the Western frontier from the Rocky Mountains to California’s Pacific shore. Crowds who came to hear him lecture on The Decorative Arts or The English Renaissance gawked and stared (and sometimes ridiculed) the self-anointed Irish high priest of Aestheticism.

“**My Friend Oscar**” the film documents the journey of a contemporary queer explorer in 2023, West End star Oscar Conlon-Morrey, in search of his own identity by retracing Wilde’s footsteps in the place where his public persona was forged: America.

The film will chronicle the people and places Oscar Conlon-Morrey meets and sees in a series of professional bookings and social appearances as Oscar Wilde. We will follow Conlon-Morrey’s two-week journey from the Northeast, to the Deep South, and across the Western frontier, as he performs in gay bars and theatres, private dinner parties, nightclubs, and rodeos, on horse back, stage coach and covered wagon, by railroad, and by hot air balloon, just like Oscar Wilde himself.

By the time Oscar reaches Gay Pride in LA, his two-week performative journey as Oscar Wilde will prove to be as entertaining as it is insightful and algorithmic, the camera processing his observations of Americans and our current attitudes about our country and ourselves.

The stakes in “My Friend Oscar” are the existential ones we see played out nightly on cable news TV: the version of America that survives our current political and constitutional crisis ultimately depends on whether we will include or we will rebuke and exclude Oscar Wilde.



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## INVESTMENT SUMMARY

- “My Friend Oscar” is considered a **pre-sold title in the industry**, as the subject of the film, Oscar Wilde, remains a relevant, recognizable name for marketing and publicity, with multiple non-competitive, highly successful movies and works of theatre celebrating his life and legacy already in existence in the marketplace;
- The central theme of “My Friend Oscar” has **universal appeal: the potential healing, poignant, and redemptive power of the human experience**;
- Documentary features like “My Friend Oscar” are **the holy grail of commercial independent movies**, grossing upwards of 1,200,000% of their initial investments;
- Rhode Trip Pictures owns **the back-end in its entirety, 100%**; there are no rights encumbrances, or other production companies or entities involved whatsoever;
- Strong material like “My Friend Oscar” attracts **A-list actors who will work at SAG scale** in exchange for back-end points from the producer’s share;
- **A small cast and crew** keep production costs to a minimum;
- We are offering **5 investor point/shares at \$26,000 each**. The break-even is **\$222,538**, when each point/share will return **107.5% of initial invest or \$27,950**. Beyond the break-even, **each point pays \$.53 on every \$10 the movie earns**, less distribution costs;
- To individuals who bring in investors, we are offering **5 corresponding incentive shares, each represents 1.2% of the producer’s share of gross receipts**;
- Minimum point ownership will qualify for **IMDB producer credit and award recognition** ;
- London production wrapped in Spring 2022 - US Production slated to resume in May 2023



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# THIS IS NOT A CHARITY

Rhode Trip Pictures makes commercial feature and documentary films and television programs. We have a proven track record with our most recent release, the awarding-winning “The Extinction of Fireflies”, and the upcoming festival favorite “Jimmy and Carolyn”, starring Gregory Harrison and Mary Beth Peil. We do not want you to invest in “My Friend Oscar” as a handout or a generous, kindly way to support the arts.

## How do I invest?

Following industry standards, Rhode Trip Pictures is selling 5 financing points from the Investors’ Share (40%) of the film’s Net Proceeds. Each point is being sold for exactly \$26,000. Buying a minimum of 1 point gets you invested.

## When do I make money?

You will be the first to be paid back (100% + 7.5% Interest) from the Gross Receipts after all distribution fees and costs (typically 1/3 of the gross) are paid from the film’s Total Revenue. Once all investors are repaid, of the remaining Net Proceeds, 60% is paid to the production company, Rhode Trip Pictures (the Producer’s Share), and 40% is set aside for back-end payments due to the investors (the Investors’ Share).

## How much?

Our break-even point is approx. \$222,538, when each investor point sold will have been paid back 107.5% of the initial investment (i.e., each \$26,000 point returns \$27,950). Beyond that break-even amount, for every \$10.00 the movie makes, a single investor point will earn \$.53.

# Points	\$10,000	\$100,000	\$250,000	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,000,000
1	\$533	\$5,333	\$13,333	\$26,666	\$53,333	\$266,666
2	\$1,066	\$10,666	\$26,666	\$53,332	\$106,666	\$533,332
3	\$1,599	\$15,999	\$39,999	\$79,998	\$159,999	\$799,998
4	\$2,132	\$21,332	\$53,332	\$106,664	\$213,332	\$1,066,664
5	\$2,665	\$26,665	\$66,665	\$133,330	\$266,665	\$1,333,330

## What is my exit strategy?

There is no exit strategy—because there’s no exit. Movies make money in perpetuity. In the past, movies made money exclusively in their initial theatrical releases, domestic and international, and then from video and DVD sales. What was once limited to subsequent network television broadcasts of movies eventually expanded to cable, pay-per-view, streaming services, online rentals, airplane rentals, smart TVs, etc.—and every six months there’s another new platform or service appears where you rent, own, or stream content on your computer, TV, tablet, and mobile device.

## Will I be credited on the film?

Yes. You will be credited in the film. Any investor who purchases a minimum of 2 points will have a single title card in the final credits roll of the film as “Producer”; all others point owners will be credited together as “Producers” on a single card in the final credits roll. The investor who buys all 5 points will have a single title card in the beginning and final credits roll of the film as an “Executive Producer”.



## OUR CORE TEAM



### JAMES ANDREW WALSH

Owner of Rhode Trip Pictures

Executive Producer/Co-Creator/Director

is the 2019 Cannes Silver Lion Award winner for his co-creation and direction of the immersive theatre piece "As Much As I Can" at the Public Theater in New York City. Walsh wrote and directed the award-winning "The Extinction of Fireflies", starring Michael Urie, Tracie Bennett, Kario Marcel, and Drew Droege, currently available on your favorite streaming platforms. TV/stage veterans Gregory Harrison and Mary Beth Peil star in his latest film, "Jimmy and Carolyn", which premiered on the 2022 global film festival circuit, where it won numerous awards, including Best Picture, Best Director, Best Supporting Actress and Best Original Screenplay.



### OSCAR CONLON-MORREY

Executive Producer/Co-Creator/"Oscar Wilde"

is currently starring opposite Sir Ian McKellen in the West End smash "Mother Goose". He will join Sir Ian in the Netflix film based on the same. Oscar was last seen in Only Fools and Horses (Theatre Royal Haymarket, West End), for which he was been nominated for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical at the 20th Annual What'sOn-Stage Awards. Oscar was the winner of the Julia McKenzie Prize for Comedy at the Stephen Sondheim Society Student Performer of the Year Award 2017



### KIMBERLY CHESSER

Executive Producer/Co-Creator

is the award-winning executive producer of Rhode Trip Pictures' "The Extinction of Fireflies", and the upcoming "Jimmy and Carolyn" starring Mary Beth Peil and Gregory Harrison, As an actor, teacher, and writer, Kim has performed all over the United States and Internationally. She has operated a successful voice studio in NYC for almost 20 years. In addition, she created the one woman show "Stages", that sold out at Emerging Artists Theatre. Kimberly was Assistant Director of the Cannes Lion Award winning, "As Much As I Can".



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