

A FILM BY STEVEN LORING



77 Minutes • English • HD(16:9)

WORLD PREMIERE • NEWPORT BEACH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE • THESSALONIKI DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

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Media Contact: Steven Loring • Free Play Pictures, LLC
steven@theAgeofLoveMovie.com
585.451.9251



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77 Minutes • English 
Blu-ray/DCP/DVD • HD 16:9
theAgeofLoveMovie.com/press-kit

PRODUCTION + SCREENING INFO,

WORLDWIDE SALES:

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WORLD PREMIERE



INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE



"The film humanizes aging in an unprecedented way. It flies in the face of our culture's rampant ageism... and lets viewers genuinely experience the truth that love and companionship transcend age."

ChangingAging®

"The narratives that unfold in this film are full of vulnerability and frankness from a demographic whose experiences usually go untold."

HUFF/POST50

LOGLINE

THE AGE OF LOVE follows the playful and poignant adventures of thirty seniors who attend a first-of-its-kind Speed Dating event for 70- to 90-year-olds, and discover how the search for love changes – or doesn't change – from first love to the far reaches of life.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

An unprecedented speed dating event for 70- to 90-year-olds serves as the backdrop for THE AGE OF LOVE, an alternately poignant and spirited look at the search for love among the senior set.

Over one summer, we intimately follow as ten speed daters – recently widowed, long-divorced or never-married – prepare for the big day, endure a rush of encounters, then anxiously receive their results. Fearlessly candid about themselves and what they're seeking, these WWII babies are spurred to take stock of life-worn bodies yet still-hopeful hearts.

Then, as they head out on dates that result, humorous and bittersweet moments reveal how worries over physical appearance, romance and rejection, loss and new beginnings change – or don't change – from first love to the far reaches of life.

The Age of Love is a story of the universality of love and desire, regardless of age.

FULL SYNOPSIS

THE AGE OF LOVE follows the playful and poignant adventures of thirty seniors in Rochester, NY who sign up for a first-of-its-kind speed dating event exclusively for 70- to 90-year-olds. From anxious anticipation through the dates that follow, it's an unexpected tale of intrepid seniors who lay their hearts on the line and discover how emotional needs and desires change – or don't change – from first love to the far reaches of life.

Born in the years around WWII, none of the 30 registrants for Rochester's first senior speed dating event dreamed of being flung into the high-tech social scene of the next millennium. But now, as posters go up, local media buzzes and

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FULL SYNOPSIS, CONTINUED...

anticipation grows, these typically-overlooked elders are spurred to confront the realities of physical appearance, intimacy and loneliness, a chance for growth and new beginnings.

An 81-year-old bodybuilding champ, divorced since his fifties, imagines someone new by his side; a skydiving widow dulls her loss by pursuing younger men; a grandmother and online-dating addict searches the web for Mr. Right; a romantic 79-year-old discards his portable oxygen for a sunset tango on the beach; a 1940s movie fanatic who escaped an abusive marriage still seeks her 'Fred and Ginger' romance.

Faced with feelings "even our own kids never ask about," each dater's fearless and candid confessions blend with preparations for the big day, a rush of five-minute encounters and then the anxious anticipation of receiving their results. Then, as new couples set off on first dates, the film exposes the wide range of intense and complex feelings that still lurk behind deepening wrinkles and thinning hair.

Playful and revealing, wise and inspiring, the speed daters both engage and enlighten with a candor that puts media stereotypes to shame. Just as we're all destined to age, and the aged were all once young, we suddenly come to realize just how much, and how little, our hearts change over a lifetime.

The film takes viewers where no documentary has gone before — into the emotional lives of older singles who still yearn to be seen and understood, to feel the comfort of another's warmth and touch, and who may still be open to a new chance at love.



WISDOM FROM THE AGE OF LOVE'S SENIOR SPEED DATERS

“**Let's face it**, when you're 25, jeez, you can throw yourself on the stairwell and do it. Now...it would hurt my back.” – **Addie**



“**I got so much love** to give to some woman, and it's just sitting there getting stale. I still have that excitement, that feeling in my heart.” – **Fran**

“**At this age, beauty** is different. It's not about wrinkles and plastic surgery, it's about being open and adventurous.” – **Frank**



“**My arms are wrinkled** and flabby. Do I want them to be? No, but this is who I am, and I think it's better just to be me.” – **Linda**

“**In my generation**, it was simple to ask a girl out. Now you have manuals, websites and therapists, but relationships don't seem any better.” – **Phil**



“**People still look** for intimacy. I'll admit it right out. I don't mean to be obnoxious about it or anything, but yeah, that's part of life.” – **Matt**

“**I don't think the feeling** of love changes over time. It remains just as challenging and intense as when you were younger.” – **Nancy**



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

While the world's fastest-growing age group is 65 and over, when we consider love and desire, our youth-obsessed media still embrace the clichés. Rarely in modern cultures are older adults given voice as emotionally intricate individuals.

My desire to explore this issue began when my dad's death ended an intense half-century love affair, leaving my still-vibrant mother struggling to face a new life alone. That same year, my 78-year-old uncle, who'd never married or even dated, met an 80-year-old woman, and they fell madly in love, like teenagers, behind the locked bedroom door. Trying to understand the needs of those closest to me, I searched for stories where seniors spoke openly about their intimate, emotional lives, but found very few.

And so, when a 'healthy aging' coalition in Rochester, NY announced a speed dating event exclusively for 70- to 90-year-olds (at which many chuckled), it struck me as both iconoclastic and obvious. Here was a unique chance to discover how age affects our desire to start over, to be held once again in someone's arms, to seek new companionship and affection. And so I set out with one question: Do decades of life and loss constrict our hearts, or might time develop them in unexpected ways?

Unlike other recent documentaries on aging, I saw an opportunity to break social and generational barriers by looking at older adults not in terms of specific talents or communities, but through shared, human desires. By telling a story involving a universal quest, I could connect them directly to the mainstream through situations to which all can relate. Regardless of age, I thought, who doesn't understand loneliness, or intimacy, or the search for love?

Gaining exclusive rights to the dating event and its participants, I filmed without a crew, aiming to develop easygoing, personal relationships with the speed daters, to follow their everyday routines and allow candid stories to emerge. I listened both for humor and confessional poignance, and discovered a wide-ranging narrative told through an ensemble of voices. In the end, I was amazed by how this group of conventional 70- to 90-year-olds, from the generation before baby boomers, opened up so willingly.

(Director's Statement Continues →)

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT, CONTINUED...

By attracting a wide audience with the humorous premise of 'grandparents going speed dating', THE AGE OF LOVE becomes provocative entertainment that also addresses many societies' most insidious misconception of aging – that the emotional needs of all older adults are similar and self-evident, focused on health and financial concerns and largely unrelated to those of younger generations.

On the contrary, as we watch these seniors navigate the comedy and drama of dating, their actions and emotions combine into something much deeper – revealing how the desire to love and be loved not only connects hearts of young and old, but, more unexpectedly, remains just as confounding, nerve-wracking and rewarding at any stage in life.

We're all destined to age, and the aged were all once young. As an unmarried filmmaker somewhere in the middle, this project represents, in many ways, my own journey to understanding love and relationships. The key for me and, hopefully, for all audiences, is that this story lets us meet characters we thought we knew, but in their own space and in their own words, without assumption or judgment – introducing new voices to mainstream media that cannot be easily categorized or ignored.

Steven Loring
Brooklyn, NY

FESTIVAL REVIEWS

"A touching and funny look into the lives of seniors who just want to find love." – Katherine Brooks, The Huffington Post

"Worth viewing, by anyone at any age." – NPR-St. Louis

"Immensely honest...raw emotional drama and comedic touches." – Linda Abbit, SeniorPlanet.org

"Honest, occasionally hilarious...emotionally moving. Like its subjects, it deserves to have audiences fall in love with it." – Erich Van Dussen, Gatehouse Media Syndicate

"Paints a rich portrait...tender, honest and inspiring." – Hunter Ingram, STAR NEWS, NC

"Already something of a sleeper hit...vulnerable, funny, clear-eyed and warm." – K. Leander Williams, Senior Planet

"Full of vulnerability and frankness from a demographic whose experiences usually go untold." – Rebecca Adams, HUFF/POST50

"No matter what your age, THE AGE OF LOVE is one film you will want to experience." – WeAreMovieGeeks.com

"Transformational...this film humanizes aging in an unprecedented way." – Kavan Peterson, ChangingAging.org

"Eye-opening, thought-provoking...poignant and humorous...a ground-breaking film." – Brenda Lind, AARP Community Engagement Specialist

"Growing older doesn't mean that we cease to have the same desires as anyone else, and it's heartening to see "The Age of Love" take those desires seriously." – Adam Lubitow, Rochester (NY) City Newspaper

"You're in for a treat...The Age of Love leaves you with a newly engrained appreciation for those countless moments of simple living that we take for granted." – ARTINFO International

"The Age of Love is a wonderful corrective to all those films that deny seniors the full range of who they are and who they can be." – Dr. Pepper Schwartz, Sociologist, Author 'Dating After 50 for Dummies'

FESTIVAL SELECTIONS

Newport Beach International Film Festival (World Premiere)
 Paley Center DocFest Competition (Winner, Jury & Audience Award)
 Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival (International Premiere)
 Society for All Ages International Film Festival (Moscow)
 Documentary Edge Film Festival (New Zealand)
 DOXA Documentary Film Festival (Canada)
 DOC NYC Film Festival
 Rhode Island International Film Festival
 Cincinnati Film Festival
 Cucalorus Film Festival
 St. Louis International Film Festival
 Mendocino Film Festival
 Big Sky Documentary Film Festival
 Tallgrass Film Festival
 St. Louis Jewish Film Festival
 Tuscon International Jewish Film Festival
 Legacy Film Festival on Aging
 Frozen River Film Festival
 AARP National Expo Film Festival
 Hamptons Doc Fest

PRESS FEATURES

NPR 'All Things Considered' & 'Weekend Edition'
<http://n.pr/1ERNAzd>

ChangingAging.Org
<http://bit.ly/38yuBBP>

CBC Radio 'Q' Arts and Entertainment
<http://bit.ly/1F5FocL>

ABC News / Good Morning America: Seniors Look
 for Love Through Speed Dating
<http://abcn.ws/1uljRdx>

WROC-TV (Rochester) CBS News
youtube.com/watch?v=RQ1kuYOEyUo

FOX 2 NOW Morning News interview (St. Louis)
<http://bit.ly/1yetexw>

The Portland (OR) Mercury
<http://bit.ly/1Mf8DyK>



CONFERENCES

IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics
 ASA 'Aging in America' Conference
 Association for Gerontology in Higher Education
 National Institute of Senior Centers SEEK Conference
 Aging Life Care Association National Conference
 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
 LeadingAge Pennsylvania, Missouri & Leadership Academy
 NYS Department of Aging ACUU Conference
 Southern Gerontological Society Annual Meeting
 Masterpiece Living Lyceum Conference
 Council on Social Work Education Conference & Film Fest

The Huffington Post/Post 50
<http://huff.to/1vGVfZO>

NBC TODAY Show with Kathie Lee and Hoda
<https://on.today.com/2jaMnRT>
<http://on.today.com/1w1oIn9>

WXXI/NPR (Rochester) 'Healthy Friday'
<http://bit.ly/1tdd9FP>

Age UK/The Wireless (London)
<http://bit.ly/1Qdep81>

Spokesman Review (Spokane)
<http://bit.ly/1PBPNUl>

WXXI/NPR (Rochester) 'Morning Edition'
www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtPZUprGOec

Messenger Post Newspapers
<http://bit.ly/1u5Teut>

PRODUCTION BIOS

DIRECTOR / PRODUCER / CINEMATOGRAPHER / EDITOR



Steven Loring received his MFA in Social Documentary Filmmaking from the School of Visual Arts in 2012. His first film, 'SHACHARIT – A MORNING PRAYER', won several festival awards, including Best Short Film at the American Anthropological Association's Film Festival. Recently, he was Archival Researcher for Marshall Curry's Academy Award-nominated documentary 'IF A TREE FALLS'. As a screenwriter, Loring wrote eight Movies-of-the-Week for NBC, CBS and Lifetime, including 'THE OTHER MOTHER' with Frances Fisher and 'NO ONE WOULD TELL' with Fred Savage. This is his first feature.

SENIOR STORY CONSULTANT



Michelle Ferrari has written numerous episodes of PBS's celebrated *American Experience*--among them are SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR: THE FIRST, THE EUGENICS CRUSADE, PANAMA CANAL and ROADS TO MEMPHIS --along with the highly-rated SEABISCUIT. Michelle's work has earned her two Writers Guild of America Awards and a Primetime Emmy Award. Additional credits include the recent PBS series HALF THE SKY, Emmy-nominated REPORTING AMERICA AT WAR, and Sundance Audience Award winner OUT OF THE PAST. Michelle also has served as story editor and creative advisor on scores of independent docs, including BLUE VINYL (HBO) and MARINA ABRAMOVIC: THE ARTIST IS PRESENT (HBO).

CONSULTING EDITOR



E. Donna Shepherd redited ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN REVISITED for executive producer Robert Redford as well as the critically acclaimed special HALF THE SKY, a four-hour Independent Lens special for PBS and ITVS. She was nominated for a 2013 News & Documentary Emmy for Outstanding Editing for her work on the award-winning HBO film MARINA ABRAMOVIC: THE ARTIST IS PRESENT. Other projects over the last twenty years include the Emmy winning CARRIER for PBS, CIRCUS for PBS, the Emmy winning Bravo series, KATHY GRIFFIN - MY LIFE ON THE D-LIST, BALLERINA BOYS for American Masters and the mini-series SOUNDBREAKING: STORIES FROM THE CUTTING EDGE OF RECORDED MUSIC.

PRODUCTION BIOS

ADDITIONAL EDITING



Rachel Kittner began her career at Maysles Films, founded by legendary New York documentary filmmakers David and Albert Maysles (GIMME SHELTER, SALESMAN, GREY GARDENS). She has gone on to edit numerous films and television programs, including RUTHIE AND CONNIE for HBO (Berlin Film Festival), RISK/REWARD for Oxygen (Full Frame Documentary Film Festival // Hot Docs // Tribeca Film Festival), ORTHODOX STANCE for BBC (Silver Docs Film Festival), Michael Moore's THE AWFUL TRUTH for Bravo, STREET FIGHT (Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary Feature 2006), SINGAPORE DREAMING (San Francisco Film Festival), and THIS EMOTIONAL LIFE for PBS.

MUSIC COMPOSER / ARRANGER



Nathan Halpern, a NYC-based composer and singer/songwriter, recently scored Oscar nominee MINDING THE GAP as well as ONE CHILD NATION, AFTER PARKLAND, THE EUGENICS CRUSADE, ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN REVISITED (from Executive Producer Robert Redford) and MAKERS: THE WOMEN WHO MAKE AMERICA (PBS), narrated by Meryl Streep. Halpern made his film scoring debut in 2011 with RENEE (ESPN Films / 30 for 30). His next film, MARINA ABRAMOVIC: THE ARTIST IS PRESENT (HBO Films) premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was nominated for the Independent Spirit Award. He also composed the music for the 2014 Sundance Grand Jury Prize Winner, RICH HILL.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER



Dan Chapman has been an artist all his life and working in the film industry for 26 years. His poster designs have won numerous awards, and his work is included as part of the permanent collection in The Library of Congress. Dan spent 15 years as a creative executive working in motion pictures advertising for every major studio in Los Angeles before starting his own design company in 2002. He has created key art for dozens of films including THE SILENCE OF OTHERS, BASIC INSTINCT, AMERICAN BEAUTY, BOYZ N THE HOOD, ALMOST FAMOUS, THE WRESTLER, A FEW GOOD MEN and BILLY ELLIOT.

PRODUCTION BIOS

SOUND AND FX EDITOR



Ira Spiegel is an EMMY award winner and three-time EMMY nominee for Outstanding Achievement in Film Sound Editing. His film credits include 120 films, both fiction and documentaries, and he has worked with directors including Spike Lee [SCHOOL DAZE], M. Night Shyamalan [PRAYING WITH ANGER & WIDE AWAKE], Nora Ephron [SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE], Brian De Palma [CARLITO'S WAY & SNAKE EYES], Robert Altman [SHORT CUTS], Milos Forman [THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLINT], Andrei Konchalovsky [MARIA'S LOVERS], along with the most prominent American documentary filmmakers Ken Burns [BASEBALL & LEWIS AND CLARK] & Ric Burns [THE CIVIL WAR & NEW YORK], and many others.

RE-RECORDING MIXER



Tom Paul is an Emmy Award winning Re-Recording Mixer and a highly regarded Sound Designer. He had three films presented at Sundance in 2013: Alexander Moors' BLUE CAPRICE, Jehane Noujaim's THE SQUARE, and Jason DaSilva's WHEN I WALK. Other re-recording credits include the Academy Award winning films THE FOG OF WAR and BORN INTO BROTHELS, as well as JUNEBUG, PALINDROMES, THE KING, and U2 360, the largest selling concert DVD of all time. Tom won a Primetime Emmy for outstanding mixing on Joe Berlinger's UNDER AFRICAN SKIES.

MUSIC EDITOR



John Carbonara has been a musician and songwriter for most of his life, and since 1998 has enjoyed working as a music editor for film and television. His dozens of film credits include music editor on CADILLAC RECORDS, SUNSHINE CLEANING and STATE AND MAIN and assistant music editor on CHOCOLAT, THE CIDER HOUSE RULES, THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE and the performance documentary NEIL YOUNG : HEART OF GOLD. He was nominated for a Prime Time Emmy for his work on the ground-breaking documentary THE JINX: THE LIFE AND DEATHS OF ROBERT DURST.

FULL CREW

Directed, Written, Produced by
Steven Loring

Film Editing by
Steven Loring ... editor
E. Donna Shepherd ... editorial consultant
Rachel Kittner ... additional editing

Art Department
Dan Chapman ... poster designer
Dean Chapman ... compositing artist
Eric Haseltine ... web design and programming

Editorial Department
John Dowdell ... digital intermediate colorist
Michelle Ambruz ... online editor
Travis Littlefield ... trailer editor
Jeanne Sison ... digital intermediate producer
Tim Spitzer ... technical supervisor

Other Crew
Michelle Ferrari ... senior creative consultant
Michel Negroponte ... creative consultant
Deborah Dickson ... creative consultant
Neil Rosini ... legal services
Caitlin Boyle ... outreach consultant
Dawn Schwartz ... associate producer
Raymond Vincent ... transcriptions

Music Composed and Arranged by
Nathan Halpern

Cinematography by
Steven Loring

Camera and Electrical Department
Lindsay Lindenbaum ... additional photography
Thom Marini ... additional photography

Sound Department
Tom Paul ... sound re-recording mixer
Michael Feuser ... sound re-recording editor
Marlena Grzaslewicz ... dialogue editor
Ira Spiegel ... sound editor
Matt Rigby ... sound editorial assistant
Donald Feigel ... sound technician

Music Department
John Carbonara ... music editor
Jackie Mulhearn ... music supervisor
Mike Judeh ... music recording engineer

Appreciation
Marshall Curry ... very special thanks
Bill Gallagher ... very special thanks
Greta Read ... special thanks
Betty Perkins-Carpenter ... special thanks