



DYING TO KNOW: Ram Dass & Timothy Leary
(2015; 95 Minutes) Released by CNS Communications

PRESS KIT

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Some Celebrity Testimonials

"The idea of anything that expands our thinking beyond conventional borders has always been of interest to me. When I see the living, breathing portraits of these characters, especially the early archival footage... To see them intelligent and smart – they were a kind of blessing considering how they have been caricatured in later times. I like what this film explores and I'm glad to be a part of it. - Robert Redford

"Gay- I just finished watching your documentary "Dying to Know" again. It is a tremendous and beautiful piece of filmmaking. It was so deeply engaging and touching. Thank you for putting this into the world." Darren Aronofsky

"The film left me open. It's a historic document chronicling two majestic lives." - Jeff Bridges, "The Dude"

"A great piece of work and an extraordinary story well told. - Sting

"This film is stunning and literally left me speechless. It is so powerful on so many levels, whether personal, political, spiritual or ultimately facing death. It is an amazing piece of work. Thank you so much for doing it. You will make history with it." - Ambassador Joe Wilson

"It is highly entertaining and enlightening on all levels. I was never bored!" - Kathryn Altman

"But don't let me lead you to believe that this is just another documentary about the Sixties. To me it's not a documentary at all, but rather a film about how a man came to the end of what can be called one of the most extraordinary lives in modern American history." - Lorenzo Haggerty

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SOME BACKGROUND

In the early 1960s Harvard psychology professors Timothy Leary and Richard Alpert began probing the edges of consciousness through their experiments with psychedelics. Leary became a missionary for mind altering drugs, igniting a global counter-culture movement and landing in prison after Richard Nixon called him "the most dangerous man in America." Alpert journeyed to the East to become Ram Dass, a spiritual teacher for a new generation and the author of the book "Be Here Now". This cinematic vision quest encourages us to ponder questions about life, death, drugs & the biggest mysteries of the human condition.

Whether you've heard of them or not, they've changed your life and shaped a generation.

Now, nearly 50 years later, a new documentary re-assesses the lives of two iconic figures through the lens of their work, successes and failures, collaboration, and remarkable journey through life. Together as friends, collaborators and individuals they were both celebrated and vilified. Once viewed as luminaries of social change, they were also portrayed as caricatures in a larger power game of political upheaval. In reality, by choice or by chance, they became two sides of a coin, the mind and the heart of a generation.

After they had weaved in and out through each other's lives for decades, Leary announced his terminal cancer and his wish to be public about the process of his passing. His condition inspired a December 1995 reunion at Tim's house in Los Angeles, (one arranged by the filmmakers.) Ram Dass came down from San Francisco to visit Tim and the ideas began to fly. The result, "Dying to Know: Ram Dass & Timothy Leary" captures them in intimate and entertaining conversation about a lifetime of friendship, work, death and the psychedelic explorations that began it all. It would be their last time ever filmed together.

Now in release after 19 years in the making, the feature documentary incorporates 80 years of rare footage and never before seen interviews of Leary and Ram Dass. Director Gay Dillingham explores an iconic history of personal, professional and collective struggles and updates it for future

generations. Her lucid and intimate portrait of the life and times of Tim Leary and Ram Dass ultimately begs a new conversation around their contributions to the science of the mind and the heart. *Dying To Know* examines their seminal work as individuals and together as potentially more relevant today than in the past.

Robert Redford narrates this enlightening and entertaining journey of two iconic lives.

DYING TO KNOW

THE INTERVIEWEES

Timothy Leary, PhD

Philosopher, Psychologist, Author, Convict, Lifestyle Icon

Ram Dass (nee Richard Alpert), PhD Psychologist, Author, Spiritual Teacher

Andrew Weil, MD

International Best-selling Author, Founder/Director: Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine

Ralph Metzner, PhD

Harvard Contemporary Psychologist with Leary and Alpert, Author

Huston Smith

Professor of Religion, Author: "The World's Religions"

Peggy Mellon Hitchcock

Millbrook House Resident/Owner, Benefactor

John Perry Barlow

Rancher, Author, Grateful Dead Lyricist, Co-Founder Electronic Frontier Foundation

Roshi Joan Halifax

Author, Founder and Abbot: Upaya Zen Center, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Tsultrim Allione

Tibetan Buddhist Lama

Joanna Harcourt-Smith

Former Wife of Timothy Leary

Zach Leary

Timothy Leary's Son

Dean Chamberlain

Photographer, Light Painter

DYING TO KNOW

KEY FILMMAKING PERSONNEL

Producer/Director, Gay Dillingham Narrative

Writer/Editor, David Leach

From an Idea by, Andrew Ungerleider

Robert Redford, narrator

Michael Donnelly, Co-Producer

Alan Kozlowski, production and camera David Aubrey, camera

Steven Postell, composer

Ken S. Polk, Audio re-mixing

Colin Gill, motion graphics

Dustin Lindblad, illustrations

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Dal LaMagna Rena Shulsky David & Sam S. David Andrew Ungerleider

Giancarlo Canavesio

Sarah Redlich Johnson

Carla Kleefeld & Celeste Worl

Running Time: 95 minutes. Format: Mixed Digital Media Producer: CNS
Communications, LLC Completed: October 2014

For More Information:

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