



TEENAGE

A FILM BY MATT WOLF WRITTEN BY JON SAVAGE

For General
of the Wild
Its
fetes met





Generations
The Wild, The Red

LIFE



APRIL 2, 1945 **10** CENTS
YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION \$4.50



SYNOPSIS

Based on a groundbreaking book by the punk author Jon Savage, *Teenage* is an unconventional historical film about the invention of teenagers. Bringing to life fascinating youth from the early 20th century—from party-crazed Flappers and hipster Swing Kids to brainwashed Nazi Youth and frenzied Sub-Debs—the film reveals the pre-history of modern teenagers and the struggle between adults and adolescents to define youth.

Incredible archival material mixes seamlessly with 16mm recreations featuring actors. Based on actual teenage diaries, the footage resembles period home movies made by kids themselves. Stylized narration dramatizes this turbulent story and a contemporary soundtrack heightens emotions. The result is a visually explosive, pop meditation on how teenagers were born.

LIANT

The Shocking Truth
about

Teen-age Vice!

(Designs In Scarlet)

J. EDGAR HOOVER,
Director of the F.B.I., who
inspired this book, says:

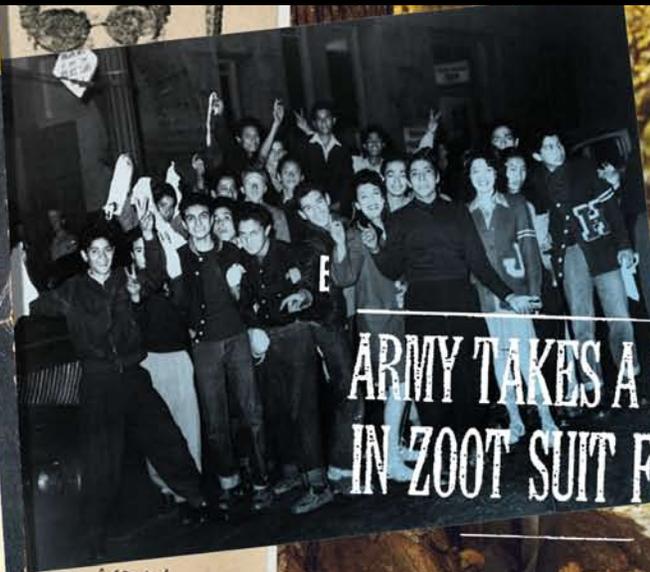
"Something has happened to
the balance and common sense of
young people. I mean the type of
youngster who is causing crime
figures to run so high. Why is it?
Why should one boy work to make
an honorable name while another
ends up in a cell block? Why
should great numbers of girls be
accomplishing beneficial things
while numerous others chase crazy
rainbows?"

READ THIS BOOK and FIND OUT

by
COURTNEY

Written in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of
Investigation, the U.S. Post Office, the Federal Bureau
of Narcotics, the U.S. Public Health Service, the U.S.
Treasury Department, as well as many district attor-
neys, sheriffs, chiefs of police, crime prevention officers
and judges. Revised and edited with

- This book exposes:
- The Vice Racket
 - Dope Addiction
 - Juke Joint Binges
 - Cabins for the Night
 - Prisons that Pervert
 - The Smut Peddlers
 - Lonely Hearts Clubs



**ARMY TAKES A HAND
IN ZOOT SUIT FRAYS**

Hollywood
studio
Magazine

BY ANNA MARCH 1932

Vera Bow—the "It" girl
Filmland's human torch
The incomparable Barrymores
Password is name of game
Eva and Jane News of the

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



When I read Jon Savage's book *Teenage*, I was captivated by the intensity of his writing—biographies mixed with hidden histories about one of my obsessions: youth culture. Today society is infatuated with youth. Teenagers pioneer new styles and ideas that influence a global marketplace. Adults try to stay young forever. It's no wonder because adolescence is the most formative and experimental period in our lives. Teenagers always represent the future.

But the role of youth wasn't always so clear. For decades, adults were desperately trying to control youth. They were seen as a problem, a source of political influence, or an opportunity for marketing. Adolescents just wanted to be free. Jon Savage has uncovered a fascinating pre-history of the teenager. In this living collage of different groups, from different periods and countries are the seeds of today's youth culture.

I wanted to bring this explosive history to life and to create a historical film like none that I've seen before. In *Teenage* archival footage will reveal fascinating youth movements from the early 20th century. Narration performed by actors will dramatize the broader history from which these groups emerged. Unconventional 16mm recreations will integrate seamlessly. Like visual diaries or vintage home movies, they'll be filmed explicitly from the point of view of youth.

Actors in period-blurring locations and costumes will convey what archival footage cannot—heightened emotions and subjective experience. In voice over they'll read from the actual diaries of teenagers. All this material will be scored with an innovative soundtrack, infused with universal sentiments of teenage angst and hope.

The story focuses on a period before teenagers were understood: between the first and second World Wars in America, England, and Germany. After World War I, teenagers rejected adults who sent them to war, where they died in unprecedented masses. The seeds of generational conflict were planted for the next tumultuous eras.

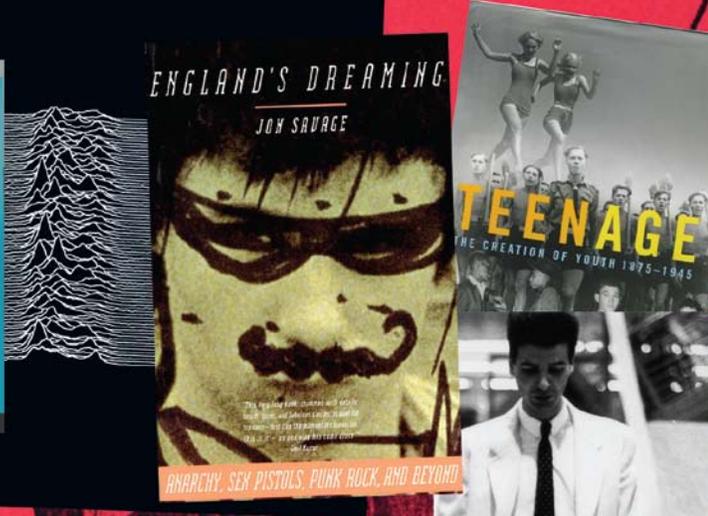
In recreations, we zoom in closer on significant adolescent characters, using their stories to understand larger events and phenomena. We experience a 1920s freak party through the fictionalized home movies of "Bright Young Thing" Brenda Dean Paul. We discover Tommie Scheel and his friends, the Hamburg Swings, who used American subculture to resist the Nazis. Young American, British, and German narrators show the connections between these disparate groups and the competing forces struggling to define youth. By 1945, the year the A-Bomb dropped and World War II ended, the term "Teenager" was finally coined.

Jon Savage's unique entry point to this material is his incredible experience with punk rock. As a young journalist in 1970s London, he saw young punks buying thrift clothes from the 1940s, 50s, and 60s. These teenage pioneers used safety pins to reassemble relics from previous youth cultures into something startlingly new. He termed this impulse "living collage" in his now legendary and definitive book *England's Dreaming*.

Jon and I share this impulse to collage elements of the past in order to reveal something about the present. By collecting stories and imagery of historic teenagers, and examining the origins of youth culture, we believe there's much to be learned about our youth-obsessed society today.

Recently after a long night of work I was walking down the street past a large group of kids. As I passed by, one of the boys ran up to me, and with a burst of fury and humor he screamed, "I'M SEVENTEEN!" At that startling moment I recognized the universality of these themes. Regardless of time or place, adolescence is a period of intense anger, frustration, excitement, and passion. The boy on the street just needed me to understand one thing: he's a teenager.

At the end of World War II, teenagers resolved the question posed by the war: what kind of mass society will we live in? In contrast to fascism, the future would be organized around pleasure and acquisition. The teenager born in wartime America became the model and ideal of youth that still exists today. This is a history of the future.



THE FILMMAKERS

MATT WOLF, DIRECTOR

Matt Wolf was recently named one of the 25 New Faces of Independent Film by *Filmmaker Magazine* and he is a 2010 Guggenheim Fellow. His critically acclaimed and award-winning feature documentary *Wild Combination*, about the avant-garde cellist and disco producer Arthur Russell, premiered at the Berlin Film Festival and played in over 70 international film festivals, museums, and cinemas (Edinburgh, AFI Silverdocs, IFC Center, MoMA, ICA London) and was included on a number of "Top 10" lists of 2008. The film was released theatrically in the US and UK, distributed worldwide by Plexifilm, and was broadcast globally on the Sundance Channel.

Matt has produced and directed short documentaries for *The New York Times*, the series "High Line Stories" for the Sundance Channel, and he recently directed documentary components of *NY Export: Opus Jazz*, a feature length dance film in collaboration with New York City Ballet dancers and PBS Great Performances.

JON SAVAGE, WRITER

Jon Savage is an award-winning writer and broadcaster. He is the author of *Teenage: The Creation of Youth Culture 1875-1945*, which was published and critically acclaimed in the UK, North America, and Germany in 2007. His film and television writing credits include the BAFTA winning BBC Arena documentary, *The Brian Epstein Story*, and most recently the acclaimed *Joy Division*, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival, is distributed by the Weinstein Company and The Works, and was awarded the UK Film Council's Best Documentary Award at the 2008 Griersons. After graduating from Cambridge he published a fanzine called *London's Outrage*, and worked for *Sounds*, *Melody Maker*, and *The Face*. His first book, *The Kinks: The Official Biography* was followed by *England's Dreaming*, the award-winning history of the Sex Pistols, punk, and Britain in the late seventies. It was the basis for the BBC Arena documentary *Punk and Pistols* and is widely considered the definitive record of punk.

PRAISE FOR TEENAGE

Jon Savage captures the hell and adventure of adolescence with stunning detail and thrilling force.

—David Fricke, *Rolling Stone*

Compulsive reading... *Teenage* is a rich, rewarding book that makes an important contribution to cultural history.

—*New York Times Book Review*

There's so much pleasure and insight to be gained from these turbulent pages... Savage's evocative, exuberant chronicle overflows with ideas it will probably take a dozen writers a decade to work out in more rigorous books. It's safe to say that none of them are likely to be as marvelous or maddening as this one.

— *Washington Post*

Savage, author of *England's Dreaming*, arguably the definitive study of 1970s youth culture, shows in this well-researched, readable new book the 'symbiotic relationship between mass media and youth.'

— *Los Angeles Times*

PRAISE FOR WILD COMBINATION:

Wild Combination, a tender, fascinating documentary will delight the cult and instantly convert new members.

— *Critics Pick*, *New York Times*

Finely tuned... a remarkably affecting and informative portrait. — *Film Comment*

Top 10 Film of 2008. — *Artforum*, *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, *Hammer to Nail*, *LA Weekly*

Resourceful and refreshingly open minded... a rich, complicated picture.

— *Los Angeles Times*

Shattering, nuanced, and hopeful...

A revelation! — *San Francisco Bay Guardian*

Artful... Wolf plays visual accompanist to Russell's remarkable compositions.

— *Chicago Sun-Times*

BIOS

JASON SCHWARTZMAN (executive producer) is currently the star of the HBO series *Bored to Death*. He debuted as the iconic teenage star of Wes Anderson's *Rushmore*, and is well known for his roles in *I ♥ Huckabees*, *Marie Antoinette*, *The Darjeeling Limited*, *Funny People*, and most recently *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World*. Jason also makes music as Coconut Records.

BEN WHISHAW is an acclaimed British theater and film actor best known for his starring roles in Jane Campion's *Bright Star*, *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* (BAFTA nomination), *Brideshead Revisited*, and Todd Haynes' *I'm Not There*. He was acclaimed as Hamlet at London's Old Vic and *The Pride* at the MCC Theater, New York.

JENA MALONE is a veteran actress, who has played iconic roles since childhood in diverse films such as *Donnie Darko*, Jodie Foster's *Contact*, and more recently in *Pride & Prejudice*, *The Messenger*, Sean Penn's *Into the Wild*, and *Sucker Punch*.

ALDEN EHRENREICH made his feature film debut opposite Vincent Gallo in Francis Ford Coppolla's *Tetro*. He's currently re-teaming with Coppolla for his forthcoming *Twixt Now and Sunrise*.

BRADFORD COX (composer) is the lead singer of the world-renowned indie bands Deerhunter and Atlas Sound. Deerhunter's most recent record *Halycon Digest* (4AD) was hailed a top record of 2010 by many, including *Spin*, *Pitchfork*, *Mojo*, *Clash*, and *NME* Magazines. *NME* said, "Cox's creative output has proved him to be one of—if not the—most forward-thinking and inspiring musicians of our generation."

BEN HOWE (producer) was a producer on Matt Wolf's *Wild Combination*. He recently produced Liza Johnson's Cannes Directors' Fortnight selection *Return*. Previous credits include So Young Kim's acclaimed *Treeless Mountain* (Berlin, Toronto, and Pusan film festivals) and Bradley Rust Gray's *The Exploding Girl* (Berlin, Tribeca film festivals). Both films were released theatrically by Oscilloscope and nominated for Independent Spirit Awards.

KYLE MARTIN (producer) was a producer on Matt Wolf's *Wild Combination*. He recently produced the SXSW award winners *Tiny Furniture*, directed by Lena Dunham, released by IFC Films, and nominated for 3 Independent Spirit Awards, and *New York Export Opus Jazz* for WNET/PBS Great Performances. Kyle is currently a Sundance Creative Producers Lab Fellow.

JACQUI EDENBROW (UK producer) produced the documentary *Joy Division*, written by Jon Savage, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival and won the Grierson Award for Best Cinema Documentary. Her latest film *The Posters Came From the Wall* directed by Turner Prize winning artist Jeremy Deller is about rock, art, and religion as told by Depeche Mode fans.

CHRISTIAN BEETZ (German producer) has produced over 50 documentaries with authors and independent filmmakers, including feature-length films, multi-segment programs, cross-platform projects, and weekly and daily cultural programs for Arte and ARD EinsFestival. He works extensively on international co-productions in the European creative television market. Recent films include *My Heart of Darkness* (IDFA) and *Autum Gold* (HotDocs).

but make in the mountains



ROU
PULSO



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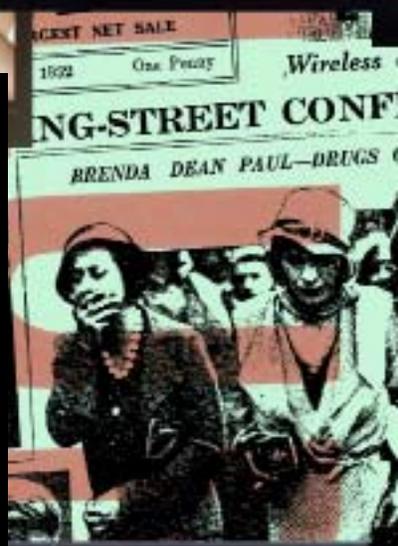
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TEEN-AGE LADS TELL
 OF ANTI-NAZI 'PIRATES'

...SSEL, Germany, May 8 (U.P.)
 German boys