



City of Hate: Dallas and the Assassination

A documentary by Quin Mathews

Total running time: 56:46

<http://www.cityofhatemovie.com>

CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION Synopsis

When the world mourned President Kennedy fifty years ago, a different kind of grief settled on Dallas. Distraught residents could not believe such a tragedy could happen in their own town. Some outsiders labeled Dallas the “City of Hate,” blaming a hostile atmosphere for Kennedy’s murder. It was a different mood on the morning of November 22, 1963 when hundreds of thousands of people filled the streets eager to see their president.

CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION explores a politically turbulent city preparing for a presidential visit, the immense pride many Dallas residents felt to see the president in their hometown and the city’s damaged reputation that followed the death of President Kennedy.

Unlike any other documentary on the Kennedy assassination, this story comes through the personal perspective of the filmmaker, Quin Mathews. On that November morning, a 13-year-old Quin saw the president at Love Field. Forty-five minutes later the president was shot.

Quin’s personal home movies, archival television coverage and photographs follow him from the moment he waved to the president, to his family’s home with a half-staff American flag and to Dealey Plaza with hundreds of other stunned mourners.

CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION sheds light on an era of dark Dallas history with accounts from people who lived through it. Hear from the city’s most prominent conservative leader at the time, Congressman Bruce Alger, who earlier led a protest against Lyndon Johnson, journalist and former Mayor Wes Wise, who filmed the attack on United National ambassador Adlai Stevenson less than a month before the assassination, and from other contemporaries who recount the story of a city in pain.

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Director's Bio



Filmmaker, journalist and broadcaster Quin Mathews has devoted his life to telling stories. He became a news anchor at age 22, when he was still a college student, and remained in journalism for 21 years. In 1993 he left WFAA-TV in Dallas to devote full time to Quin Mathews Films, telling stories through television, film and radio about business, culture and the arts.

Quin has shot documentaries around the world on subjects like emerging artists in China, folk churches in Mexico and solar power in Africa. His films about art have shown in major museums in the United States, Asia and Europe.

In 1988, with radio partner Sharon Benge, he co-founded the program “Art Matters,” which recently concluded its 25-year run on WRR. While on the air, the show aired more than 2,500 interviews with artists, musicians, and other people across the world who have shaped our culture.

Honors include the Legend Award from the Dallas Contemporary and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Business Council for the Arts.

He has, over the years, reported on the legacy of the Kennedy assassination on air and for the Sixth Floor Museum in Dallas through the perspective of one of the thousands of people who came out to greet the president on November 22, 1963.

Some of the Featured Interviews in CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION

Bruce Alger (former Dallas congressman) – Known for his conservative views, he is credited with instigating a protest against Lyndon Johnson on his visit to Dallas in 1960. Alger describes Johnson as “filth, but he was our filth.”

Wes Wise (former Dallas mayor) – Before politics, Wise worked as a journalist in the early 1960s for KRLD-TV. Wise was the only reporter who captured on a camera an assault on UN ambassador Adlai Stevenson during his visit to Dallas months before the assassination.

Jess Hay (Former Democratic National Treasurer) – Hay recalls the turbulent political period before the president’s visit in 1963. He believes city leadership was civil despite the “noise” created by the right wing of the time.

Jim Schutze (Dallas Observer columnist) – Schutze remembers an experience on a trip to Germany. He recalls how after finding out where he was from, a German local referred to Dallas as “The city that killed Kennedy”

Caroline Brettell (Cultural Anthropologist) – Noted anthropologist Brettell explains how city leaders reacted to the assassination, an event they could not manage. Brettell also describes how the Dallas of 1963 ascended to the thriving diverse city that we live in today

Lucy Billingsley (Entrepreneur and philanthropist) - Billingsley waited at the Trade Mart for the President the day of the assassination. She remembers that day well, saying, “It was the first time I had ever seen grown men cry.”

Larry O. Waters (Vice President of The John Birch Society) - Waters recalls the efforts by the John Birch society to discredit President Kennedy in the days before his visit to Dallas. This included handing out pamphlets in the city streets and buying ads in The Dallas Morning News.

Evadene Peters – Evadene saw the President at Love Field on November 22. Peters remembers the excitement of the morning as the large crowd waited for the President to arrive.

Lisa Hembry - Lisa was a young girl when she saw the motorcade go through downtown. She describes the President and First lady as the “most beautiful people on earth.”

Selected Stills from CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION

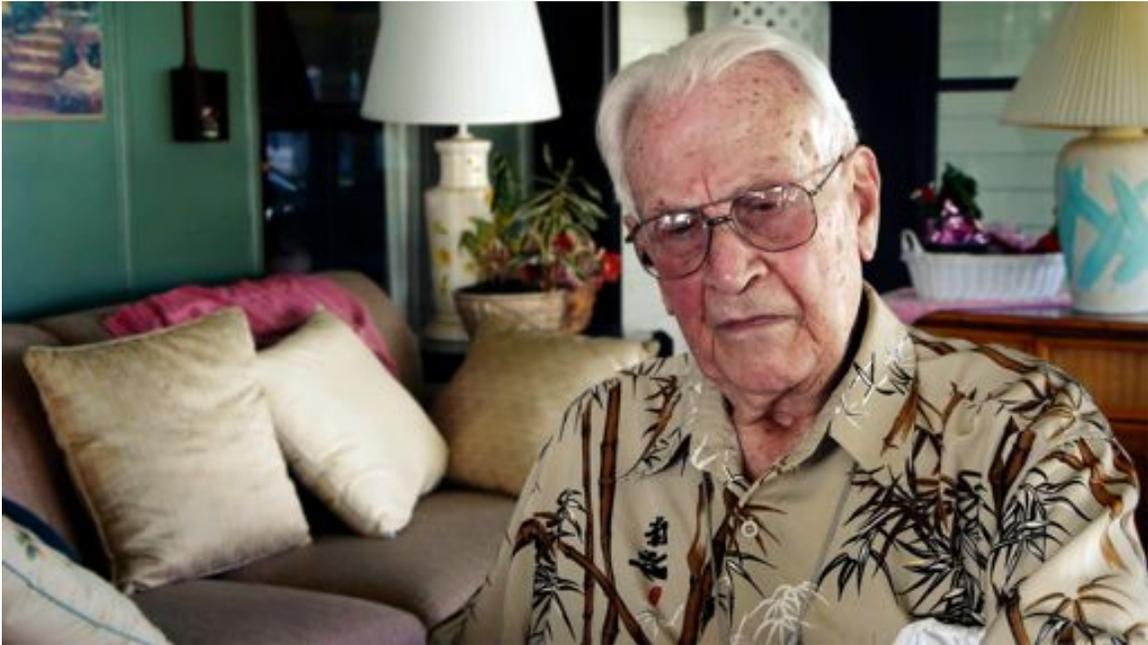


Filmmaker Quin Mathews, then 13, visits Dealey Plaza after the assassination. Image by Quin Mathews



CITY OF HATE Filmmaker Quin Mathews, then 13, waves to President Kennedy at Love Field. Image by WFAA courtesy of Sixth Floor Museum

**Selected Stills from CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION
(cont.)**



Former Congressman Bruce Alger reflects on Dallas' turbulent political past. Image by Quin Mathews



President Kennedy responds to Filmmaker Quin Mathews wave. Image by Charles E. Ball

**Selected Stills from CITY OF HATE: DALLAS AND THE ASSASSINATION
(cont.)**



Trade Mart Waiter reacts to the assassination. Image from KRLD courtesy of Sixth Floor Museum