



WHY
DO
THEY
LOVE
BEING
POLITICIANS
SO MUCH?

of by for

LA ARTHOUSE
WINNER BEST DOCUMENTARY
LOS ANGELES ARTHOUSE FESTIVAL

LAS VEGAS
OFFICIAL SELECTION
LAS VEGAS FILM FESTIVAL

AFI CANNES
OFFICIAL SELECTION
AFI WORLD CINEMA INITIATIVE CANNES

LIGHTHOUSE
WINNER BEST DOCUMENTARY
LIGHTHOUSE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

NYCIFF
OFFICIAL SELECTION
NEW YORK CITY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

A FILM BY **OLD MACHINE**

SYNOPSIS

A journey across America's Route 66 finds a country united in disappointment with the status quo in Washington.

Citizens from all walks of life discuss money in politics, divisive campaign tactics, broken promises and the helpless feeling that as the election nears they must choose between the lesser of two evils.

Of By For features in-depth analysis and candid conversations with some of the country's most notable politicians, campaign consultants and psychologists. Uncovering the powerful interests that corrode our political system and divide the people, *Of By For* finds that hope for real change still exists - we've just been looking in all the wrong places.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Christopher Kay is a director, designer, photographer, musician and writer who grew up in urban Columbus, Ohio. A husband and father of three boys, he earned a bachelor of science degree in visual communication from The Ohio State University. His deep interest in semiotics has enabled him to relate stories and ideas in simple, compelling ways for small boutique businesses and *Fortune 500* companies alike.

Chris is the co-founder of Old Machine, LLC an Ohio based film production company.

"*Of By For* is not so much about politics as it is human nature," Chris says. "It is about the relationship that we have with one another and with those that seek to lead us. It is about the many interests that turn well intentioned people into masters of a very dangerous game. It is about why every politician campaigns on change, yet the big issues—war, debt, poverty—continue to plague us no matter who is in charge. It is about a system that has taken on a life of its own and the dysfunctional relationship that we have with it. It is about all of us that feel trapped in the swirling maze of divisive rhetoric, fear and hate. It is about the fundamental idea of America—that if this is a country of, by and for the people, change begins at home. Change begins with us. With neighbors and brothers and sisters. This film is about how we end this abusive cycle.

"At the start this seemed like a fun, simple project—a few friends and a couple of cameras on a trip across Route 66. Being personally disillusioned with the Bush administration and the dashed hope and many broken promises of Barack Obama's presidency, I was also eager to hear what my fellow countrymen had to say about our political system. I never could have imagined that it would evolve and grow as it did, much less take me on such a profound, personal journey.

"I truly hope that this film will illuminate the interests and motivations of those who seek to divide us and that it will run away from anyone and everyone who does."

PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

Chad Monnin is the producer of *Of By For*, a documentary about why the political parties work so hard and spend so much money to divide the American people.

Born in Dayton, Ohio on his father's birthday in 1971, he moved to the French Quarter of New Orleans with his mother in 1974 where he soaked up the local music and culture even as a small child. In 1977, he and his mother moved to Miami, where he was immersed in yet another culture, that of the thousands of Cubans in the area, including those from the Mariel boatlift. In 1982, he moved back to Dayton to be with his father, a Vietnam veteran who worked second shift at a General Motors plant, and his devout Roman Catholic grandparents. Chad obtained his bachelor's degree in political science from Wright State University in Dayton, where he was chairman of the College Republicans.

Chad was in the US Army from 1991 to 2003. In February 2002, he suffered a career-ending injury on a parachute jump while in the Special Forces Qualification Course at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina. During this time, Chad was part of a security detail during the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta and also appeared in the 1997 Wolfgang Petersen film *Air Force One* as a hostage rescue (Delta Force) background actor.

Following his honorable discharge from the US Army, he served as the deputy finance director of the Ohio Republican Party focusing on voter contact and direct mail finance operations. After the 2004 presidential election Chad, a service disabled veteran, co-founded a company which now has more than 7,000 employees providing program management services around the globe. The company, from which he stepped down as CEO in 2009, was on the *Inc. 500* list of fastest growing companies in America for four consecutive years.

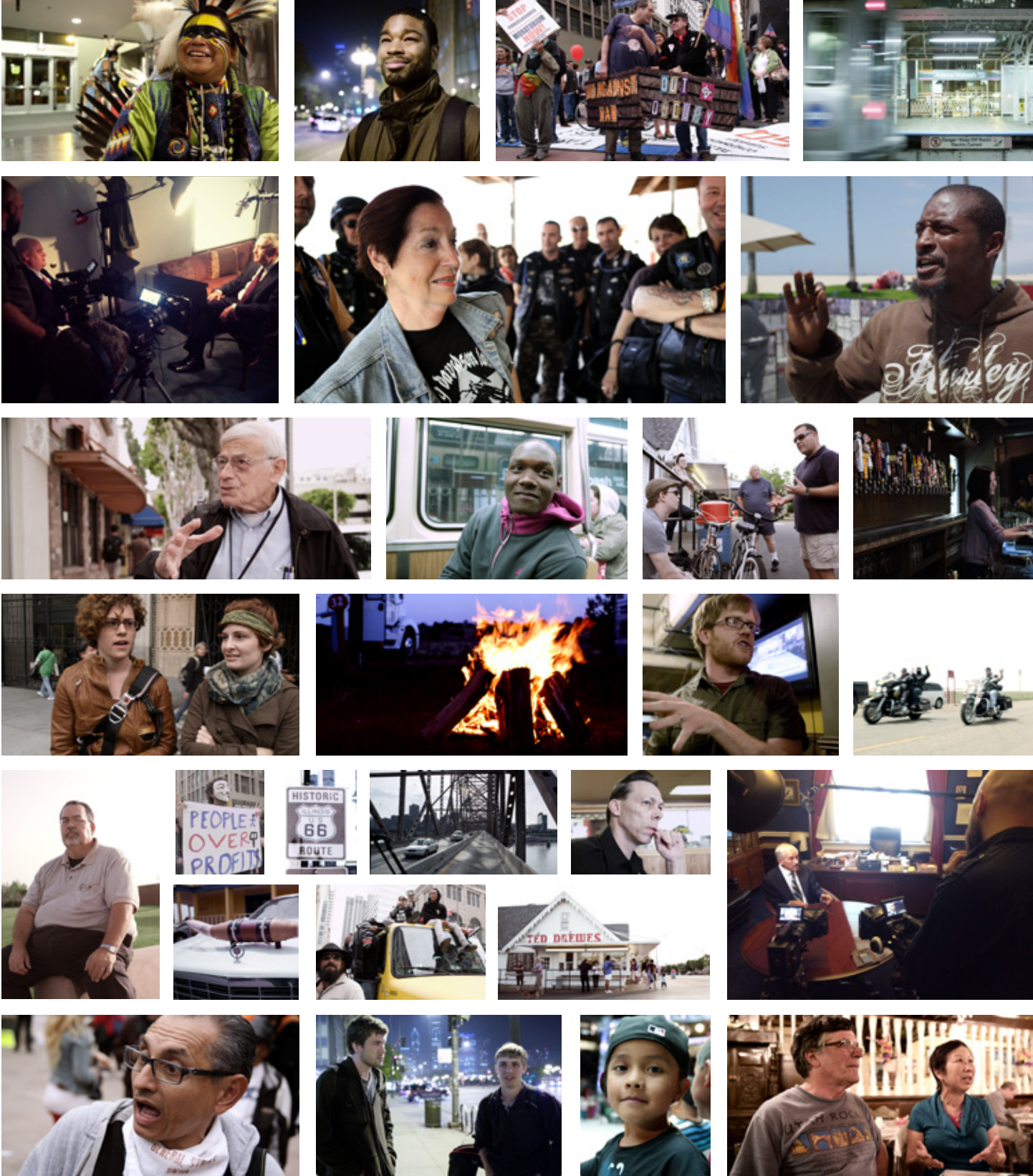
In December 2011, Chad was asked to serve as a senior advisor to the presidential campaign of Newt Gingrich in matters of management and finance. He worked for the campaign through the New Hampshire, South Carolina and Florida primaries.

Disillusioned with the political process, Chad wanted to find out if anyone else felt this way about our political system, so he hired a tour bus and went from Chicago to Los Angeles on Route 66 with a film crew to find out.

When asked why he decided to make the film, Chad said "I have participated in the political process in various ways, including hiring lobbyists, and have come to realize the joke's on all of us. Campaigns solicit billions from the people and spend it on advertising and election engineering consultants to put us in opposition with one another so we get to the polls, meanwhile the serious issues important to all of us go unresolved and I wanted to find out why."

Chad is the co-founder of Old Machine, LLC an Ohio based film production company, and spends his time between Columbus, Ohio and Washington, DC.

THE JOURNEY



THE CAST



Jack Abramoff

Former lobbyist

Known as one of the most powerful lobbyists in the history of Washington, DC, he served 43 months in federal prison for mail fraud, conspiracy to bribe public officials, and tax evasion in a corruption investigation that led to at least 20 others being convicted. His story is told in the documentary film *Casino Jack and the United States of Money* and in the feature film *Casino Jack*, starring Kevin Spacey as Abramoff. Author of *Capitol Punishment: The Hard Truth About Corruption From America's Most Notorious Lobbyist*.



Lanny Davis

Special Counsel to President Bill Clinton

Co-founder, Purple Nation Solutions

Davis came to national media prominence as one of Bill Clinton's most dogged defenders during the impeachment crisis. In January 2012, Davis launched a new public affairs firm, Purple Nation Solutions, with former RNC chair Michael Steele.

Davis is also a member of the Philadelphia-based law firm of Dilworth Paxson LLP where he focuses on "legal crisis management" from the firm's Washington office.



Lisa Disch

Professor of Political Science, University of Michigan

Author, The Tyranny of the Two-Party System

Disch is a professor of political science and women's studies at the University of Michigan and author of *The Tyranny of the Two-Party System* and *Hanna Arendt and the Limits of Philosophy*.



Mickey Edwards

Former Congressman

Author, The Parties Versus the People

Edwards is a former Republican congressman who served Oklahoma's 5th congressional district. He is also a vice president of the Aspen Institute and director of the Aspen Institute-Rodel Fellowships in Public Leadership. He has taught at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Harvard Law School, and at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.



Kentaro Fujita

Professor of Psychology, The Ohio State University

Fujita is a psychology professor at Ohio State University. He received his A.B. summa cum laude in psychology from Harvard College in 2000, and his Ph.D. in psychology from New York University in 2006. His primary research interests are in motivation, social cognition, and judgment and decision-making.



Newt Gingrich

*Former Speaker of the House
Presidential Candidate*

Arguably one of the most influential members of Congress in American history, Gingrich led the Republican effort to regain control of the House of Representatives for the first time in four decades, prompting *Time* to name him 1995's Man of the Year. He represented Georgia's 6th congressional district as a Republican from 1979 until his resignation in 1999, serving as minority House whip from 1989 to 1995 and as the 58th Speaker of the House from 1995 to 1999.



Jonathan Haidt

*Professor of Psychology, New York University
Author, The Righteous Mind*

Author of *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion* and *The Happiness Hypothesis: Finding Modern Truth in Ancient Wisdom*, Haidt is a social psychologist whose work has been praised for its attempts to promote civil discourse and open-minded debate about political and religious issues.



Bill Hillsman

*Political Advertising Executive
Author, Run The Other Way*

Hillsman founded North Woods Advertising in 1985, and has since done groundbreaking political advertising and strategy work for political icons such as Paul Wellstone, Jesse Ventura, and Ralph Nader.



Dennis Kucinich

*Former Mayor & Congressman
Presidential Candidate*

A six-term congressman from Cleveland, Ohio, Kucinich was known as one of the most principled liberal members of Congress, consistently opposing the leadership of both major parties on issues like war, economic justice, and civil liberties. In 2012, gerrymandered reapportionment in Ohio effectively eliminated Kucinich's long-time district, forcing him into a Democratic primary fight against fellow long-term incumbent Rep. Marcy Kaptur, which he lost. Kucinich blamed fellow Democrats for encouraging Republicans to split up his base of support.



Ralph Nader

*Political Activist
Presidential Candidate
Author, Crashing the Party*

For more than half a century, Nader has been one of America's leading public intellectuals and activists on issues like consumer protection, environmentalism, and democracy. Subject of the 2006 documentary film *An Unreasonable Man*.



Ron Paul

*Congressman
Presidential Candidate*

Considered by some to be the father of the Tea Party movement, Paul has been an at-times lonely voice calling for individual liberty, limited government, and sound money. His unsuccessful runs for the Republican presidential nomination in 2008 and 2012 are credited with energizing a new type of, often young, libertarian voter more committed to ideas than to a political party.



Dan Rather

Journalist

Rather was the face of the evening news for a generation of Americans and the first network journalist to report the assassination of President Kennedy. Known for his down-home Texas style, he now hosts the news magazine *Dan Rather Reports* on the cable channel AXS TV.



The Rev. Al Sharpton

*Baptist Minister & Civil Rights Leader
Founder, National Action Network*

One of the most outspoken voices in American politics, Sharpton was a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2004, a four-time Senate candidate from New York, and a New York City mayoral candidate. Since 2011, he has hosted *PoliticsNation* on MSNBC.



Michael Steele

*Former RNC Chairman
Co-founder, Purple Nation Solutions*

As lieutenant governor from 2003 to 2007, Steele was the first black person elected to statewide office in Maryland. He was also the first black person to serve as chairman of the Republican National Committee, from 2009 to 2011. In January 2012, Steele launched a new public affairs firm, Purple Nation Solutions, with former White House counsel Lanny Davis.



Roger Stone

Political Consultant, Lobbyist & Strategist

Once a self-styled “GOP hitman” known for his ruthless tactics in support of candidates like Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, Stone left the Republican Party in 2012 for the Libertarian Party and a role as consultant on Gary Johnson’s presidential campaign.

CREDITS

Producer	Chad Monnin
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Photography & Sound, Eleciton Night	Levi Ely
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MUSIC CREDITS

“Brothers and Sisters”	Performed by Brother Ali Courtesy of Warner Music UK Ltd. By Arrangement with WMG Film and TV Licensing
“Us”	Performed by Brother Ali Courtesy of Rhymesayers Entertainment By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing Written by Brother Ali and Anthony Davis Turn That Snare Down (ASCAP)
“Children”	Performed by Delta Spirit Courtesy of Concord Music Group, Inc. Written by Jonathan Jameson, Matthew Vasquez, Sean Walker, Kelly Winrich, and Brandon Young BMG Ruby Songs (ASCAP) o/b/o Itself and The Order of the Spanish Preacher (ASCAP)
“My Dream”	Performed by Delta Spirit Courtesy of Concord Music Group, Inc. Written by Jonathan Jameson, Matthew Vasquez, Kelly Winrich, and Brandon Young BMG Ruby Songs (ASCAP) o/b/o Itself and The Order of the Spanish Preacher (ASCAP)
“Cash Machine”	Performed by Hard-Fi Courtesy of Warner Music UK Ltd. By Arrangement with WMG Film and TV Licensing
“Inner City Blues (Make Me Wanna Holler)”	Performed by Marvin Gaye Courtesy of Motown Records under license from Universal Music Enterprises
“Fake Empire”	Performed by The National Licensed courtesy of Beggars Banquet Records Limited By arrangement with Beggars Group Media Limited www.beggars.com Written by Matthew Berninger and Bryce Dessner Bughouse (ASCAP) o/b/o Val Jester Music (ASCAP)/Hawk Ridge Songs (ASCAP)
“Don’t Let Them”	Performed by Other Lives Courtesy of tbd Records Written by Jesse Tabish and Jonathan Mooney Chrysalis Music (ASCAP) o/b/o Watering Horse Music (ASCAP)
“Magazine”	Written by David Bazan Performed by Pedro The Lion Courtesy of Jade Tree
“Make My”	Performed by The Roots Courtesy of The Island Def Jam Music Group under license from Universal Music Enterprises

“Atackla” **Performed by Russian Circles**
Written by Russian Circles
From the album Empros
Courtesy of Sargent House

“This Land is Your Land” **Performed by Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings**
Courtesy of Daptone Records
Written by Woody Guthrie
Published by TRO – Ludlow Music, Inc.
(BMI)/Woody Guthrie Publications, Inc. (BMI)

“Cheerleader” **Performed by St. Vincent**
Licensed courtesy of 4AD Limited
By arrangement with Beggars Group Media Limited
www.4ad.com
Written by Annie Erin Clark
Chrysalis Music (ASCAP) o/b/o Itself and Nail Polish Manifesto Music (PRS)

“Black Swan” **Performed by Thom Yorke**
Courtesy of Chrysalis Group PLC
Written by Thom Yorke
Chrysalis Music (ASCAP) o/b/o Chrysalis Music LTD (PRS)

“Ashes of American Flags” **Performed by Wilco**
Courtesy of Nonesuch Records
By Arrangement with WMG Film and TV Licensing
Written by Jay Bennet and Jeff Tweedy
Bughouse (ASCAP) o/b/o You Want a Piece of This Music (ASCAP)