

Bill W., The New and Revealing Documentary about Bill Wilson, The Co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, Is Now Available on DVD and Online and Can be Purchased by Visiting billw.com/store

Bill W., the poignant story of the man who helped millions recover from the ravages of alcoholism, is now available on DVD and can be purchased by visiting billw.com/store.

During a successful six-month theatrical release, *Bill W*. filled theaters in the U.S. and Canada as word-of-mouth enthusiasm and social media spread the news of each new opening. Additional showings in select Landmark and Regal theaters across the country have made this film one of the top-grossing documentaries of the year.

This insightful look at a man TIME Magazine recognized as one of the 100 Heroes and Icons of the 20th Century was made by two first-time filmmakers, Dan Carracino and Kevin Hanlon—neither of whom are members of Alcoholics Anonymous. How did a West Coast former computer chip distributor and an East Coast businessman become documentary film producers?

"I had wanted to make a documentary film for a long time," producer Dan Carracino recalled. "Kevin happened to be reading a book about the history of Alcoholics Anonymous. Both of us had witnessed first-hand the impact of alcoholism on family members and friends."

Kevin Hanlon agrees. "The whole history of A.A. is fascinating, but what really jumped out at us was Bill Wilson's personal story. Here's someone who almost died of his own addiction, found sobriety, and then dedicated the rest of his life trying to help others not die from the same thing. And he's a great example of someone who worked in relative obscurity most of his life but who has had an enormous impact on the lives of millions of other people."

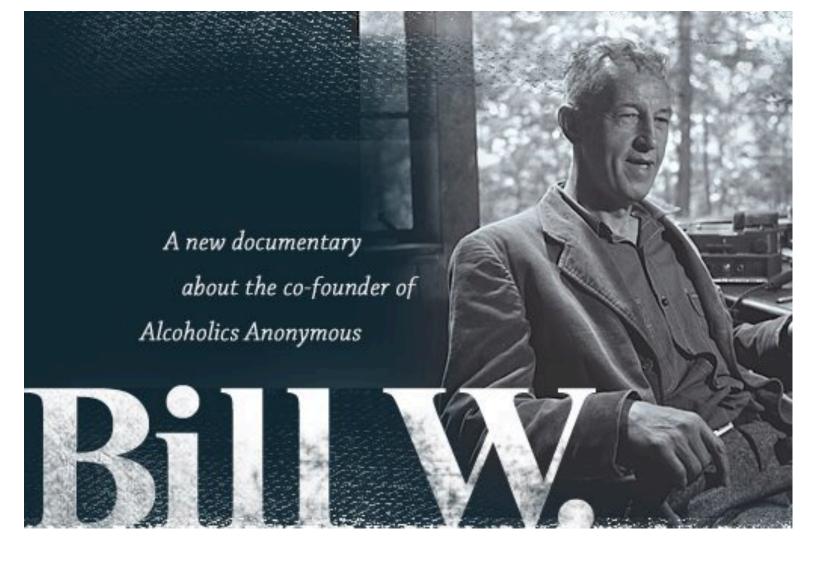
Bill W. portrays both the timeless story of one person facing overwhelming odds for his own survival and, at the same time, a life that has particular relevance today. Production started eight years ago, as Carracino and Hanlon began researching archives across the U.S. to find film footage, photos, and audio recordings of Bill Wilson. The filmmakers also recorded interviews with historians and many A.A. members, some who knew and worked with Wilson. Their film follows Bill Wilson through his 17 years of devastating alcoholism, the events that led to his own sobriety, and the crucial years of A.A.'s founding and growth. With Bill as its driving force, A.A. grew from a handful of people to more than 2 million men and women worldwide. Millions of people across the globe credit him with saving their lives.

Bill W. on DVD is now available for sale at billw.com/store and on iTunes and Cable On Demand (complete list of distributors below*). Bill W. is a film by Page 124 Productions. For more information, visit page124.com, "Like" us on Facebook at Bill W. Movie, follow us on Twitter @BillWMovie, view the trailer on YouTube: The Bill W. Movie Channel.

*Online streaming: iTunes, Amazon Instant Video, YouTube Rentals, Vudu, CinemaNow. Cable VOD channels: Time Warner Cable, Comcast, Cox, Charter, Verizon, Suddenlink, Frontier, Movies on Demand and Mediacom.

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a film by Kevin Hanlon and Dan Carracino





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More information available at: www.BillW.com



PRODUCER

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

Bill W. tells the story of William G. Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, a man included in TIME Magazine's 100 Persons of the 20th Century. Interviews, recreations, and rare archival material reveal how Bill Wilson, a hopeless drunk near death from his alcoholism, found a way out of his own addiction and then forged a path for countless others to follow. With Bill as its driving force, A.A. grew from a handful of men to a worldwide fellowship of over 2 million men and women - a success that made him an icon within A.A., but also an alcoholic unable to be a member of the very society he had created. A reluctant hero, Bill Wilson lived a life of sacrifice and service, and left a legacy that continues every day, all around the world.

TECHNICAL INFO

103 minutes, Color/B&W, Stereo & Dolby Digital Exhibition Format: BluRay, DCP, DVD, HDCAM SR Production Format: DVCPro HD & 16mm Film English, USA, 2011

CONTACTS

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PRODUCER

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SYNOPSIS

In 1999, Bill Wilson was named one of TIME Magazine's 100 Heroes and Icons of the 20th Century for his role as co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous. But 65 years earlier, in 1934, he had faced almost certain death from his uncontrollable drinking. At the time, medicine viewed alcoholism as a symptom of deeper psychiatric issues, and alcoholics were treated with lobotomies, shock therapy, or imprisonment. Despite this, Bill Wilson found a way to sobriety, and then forged a path for countless others to follow. With Bill as its driving force, A.A. grew from a handful of men to a worldwide fellowship of over 2 million men and women. Thousands of people throughout the world now credit him with saving their lives - both alcoholics and members of dozens of other 12 Step recovery groups. Bill's leadership eventually made him an icon within A.A. - and a man unable to be a member of the very society he had created. Through interviews, recreations, and rare archival material, Bill W. traces Wilson's life through his 17 years of devastating alcoholism, the crucial years of A.A.'s founding and growth, his battle with depression, his experimentation with LSD, and his struggle with celebrity status in an anonymous society. A reluctant hero, Bill Wilson lived a life of sacrifice and service, and left a legacy of recovery that continues every day, all around the world.

Bill W. took eight years of full-time work to complete. The filmmakers conducted research in dozens of archives and private collections, and interviewed A.A. members and historians in the United States, Canada, and Europe.

Making a film about the founder of an anonymous society, especially one who died in 1971, presented many obstacles. Very few people who knew Bill W. were still alive at the time this production began. At first, it seemed as if there would be very little visual material available for use in a film. But research and a healthy dose of good fortune allowed the producers to unearth film footage and photographs - including some that had never been seen before - and some new material that had not been included in previous written biographies of Bill Wilson. As a result, *Bill W*. presents a new look at the co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous.

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

KEVIN HANLON & DAN CARRACINO DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

Why a Film About an Anonymous Man?

Bill Wilson may be the most famous person that almost no one has ever heard of. Almost everyone has heard of Alcoholics Anonymous, of course, but Wilson himself is largely unknown because he helped create a fellowship based on anonymity - at first, mainly for the protection of its members. But over time, Bill Wilson became a firm believer in the spiritual value of anonymity, and he chose to do all he could to maintain his own anonymity while he was alive. From within that anonymity, he became one of the most influential people of the 20th Century, and the work that he did in creating Alcoholics Anonymous - with no notoriety or fame attached - continues to make itself known all around the world every day, changing people's lives in profound ways. Now, more than forty years after his death, it's time to take a look at the man who was the driving force behind Alcoholics Anonymous - and who gave so much of himself to help others.

ABOUT PAGE 124 PRODUCTIONS:

Page 124 Productions is a documentary production company with a distribution arm, based in New York City and owned by Dan Carracino and Kevin Hanlon. Page 124 Productions has just released its first film, the award-winning documentary, *BILL W*

DISCLOSURE ABOUT AA MEMBERSHIP:

The filmmakers are not members of Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.). This film does not have any affiliation with or endorsement from A.A. Neither the film nor the filmmakers speak for A.A. or represent it in any way. The filmmakers are deeply committed to telling an accurate history of the life and work of Bill W. and the founding and history of A.A. This film is not intended to promote or to criticize A.A. in any way.

CHARACTERS & CREATIVE TEAM

INTERVIEWS:

Candace C. Shep S. Ernest Kurtz

Tom W. Dr. Abram Hoffer Bill White

Bill S. Phil P. Mitch K. Tom I. Gail L. Mel B. Sara N. Merton Minter Bob P.

Ruth O. Norm F.

RE-ENACTMENT CAST:

Bill Wilson Blake J. Evans Dr. Bob Chris Gates

Hank Parkhurst Dennis Lowell

Julia Schell Lois Wilson Tim Intravia Ebby T.

Anne Smith Leila Babson

Henrietta Seiberling Lenore Pershing

Young Bill Max Owens Bill's grandfather Ron Nagle

Martha Deane Laura Kauffmann Andrew Langton Bill's Armistice Day friend

Francis Stallings Kathleen Parkhurst Ruth Hock Rachel Lynn Jackson

Norman Shultz Father Ed Dowling

Ed Moroney (Double Silvercup) Tom the Caretaker

Nell Kathleen Emmans Waitress Catherine Hogan Men at 182 Clinton St. Brendan McMahon

> David Caporale Martin McColgan Robert Shulman

CREATIVE TEAM:

Written by Kevin Hanlon, Dan Carracino

Edited by Patrick Gambuti, Jr.

Line Producer Mike Fox

Post Production Supervisor Mike Harrop Dahlia Kozlowsky Co-Producer

Associate Producers Christopher Loughran

Laura LaPerche

CREDITS (ABBREVIATED)

Music conducted by Gil Talmi

Music Performed by Yo-Yo Ma

Courtesy of Sony Masterworks

By arrangement with Sony Music Licensing

Additional Cinematography

Peter Nelson Peter Hawkins Jay Kuntz

David Malysheff Council Bradshaw

Tim Snider Scott Imler

First Assistant Editor Assistant Editor

Supervising Sound Editor

Sound Mix Sound Design Photography Editor Mutoscope Capture

Motion Graphics and Titles Archival Photo Printing Unit Production Manager

Production Coordinator

Jib Operator

Steadicam

First Assistant Director

2nd Assistant Director

First Assistant Camera 2nd Assistant Camera Kristen Swanbeck Amy McGrath Ed Campbell Ed Campbell Deborah Wallach John Braxton Pollack

John Braxton Pollak

Nol Honig

Jim Megargee, MV Photo Labs

Kerry Taylor Lauren Heanes Gabrielle Smith Alexander Friedman

Brandon Sumner Peter Fernberger Alan Mehlbrech Bruce Hall

Randall Ehrmann

Anne Marie Dentici (no release?)

Laura LaPerche Christopher Loughran

Dion Matthews Edward Rodriguez Sebastian Almeida Michael Indursky David Regan Kris Enos

John Burke Matt Klammer

Camera Assistants Mo Rida

Gordan Yu

Digital Intermediate Harbor Film Company
Supervising Colorist Zak Tucker

Colorist Roman Hankewycz Digital Intermediate Producer Kellan Anderson

Legal Counsel Frank Lunn Lunn & Associates

Kevin Hughes Tisdale & Nicholson, LLP

Archival Post Production Supervisor
Archival Research

Archival Research

Elissa Birke
Polly Pettit

Archival Coordinator

Research Assistant

Cailley Frank-Lehrer
Dahlia Kozlowsky
Ethan Weinstock
Biankah Bailey

Gaffer James Usmanov
Best Boy Holly Hosman
Electric Jordan Bell
Daniel Choy Boyar

Boris Cifuentes
Filipp Penson
Key Grip Roy Nowlin, Jr.
Grips Thomas Chaves
Inyoung Choi
Abu Koroma

Adam Lordi
Genny Operator Eugene Malkin
Production Designer Jeanelle Marie
Art Director Timothy Whidbee

Leadman David Huet
Lead Carpenter John Grace

Prop Master Brandon Tonner-Connelly

Set Dresser Brian Urbina
Dan Byer
Katja Greeff

On Set Dresser

Art PA

Jared Dancler Lauren Heanes Kenny Urbina Brady Nields Taylor Grant

Costume Designer Terese Wadden Wardrobe Assistants Anne Kennedy Polly Noble

Polly Noble Julia Sandy

Make-up artists Lillybeth Gonzalez

Joel Yapching

BIOS

KEVIN HANLON & DAN CARRACINO Director/Producer

Kevin Hanlon, a New York City resident, and Dan Carracino, a California resident, are first-time filmmakers and life-long friends who had talked of making a film together since their days in high school. Both have seen first-hand the devastation of alcoholism, as well as the hope offered by Alcoholics Anonymous. After learning that no feature length documentary had ever been produced about the man who co-founded A.A. and authored its Twelve Steps, they decided to make *Bill W.*

GIL TALMI Composer

Gil Talmi is a world-renowned, Emmy-nominated composer whose work focuses on socially conscious films. He has created music for a variety of award-winning films and TV programs, from productions for Warner Brothers, Paramount and Fox to pro bono collaborations with The International Rescue Committee and StoryCorps. Gil's compositions reflect a wide spectrum of influences: by combining his traditional orchestral background with eclectic world music sensibilities, he has created a signature sound that can be heard in film and television productions worldwide.

PATRICK GAMBUTI Editor

Patrick Gambuti, Jr. is an editor and writer whose work has earned two Emmy awards. Over the past 25 years his films have explored a number of topics relating to social transformation. Whether it is through deeply committed environmentalists fighting the Japanese whaling fleet in *At the Edge of the World*; Arab soccer players using a game to transcend cultural bias in Israel in *After the Cup: Sons of Sakhnin United*; or prostitutes struggling to overcome their plight in *Hookers and Johns: Trick or Treat*, Patrick aims to touch the audience with his work so that the story and characters enrich the lives of his viewers as much as they have enriched his own.

RYO MURAKAMI Director of Photography

Ryo Murakami is a bi-lingual cinematographer based in New York and Tokyo. His cinematic style marries the calm, composed qualities of still photography with the incidental nature of documentary filmmaking. His list of clients includes the United Nations, the Japanese Ministry of Environment, and many contemporary hip-hop artists. Ryo's work has appeared

on HBO and PBS, and in premiere film festivals such as the Berlin International Film Festival, Tribeca, and SXSW.

DAHLIA KOZLOWSKY Co-Producer

Dahlia Kozlowsky is a New York-based documentary film producer. Over the past ten years she has worked on a wide range of projects as a producer and/or archival researcher. Her credits include Run for Your Life: The True Story of Fred Lebow and the NYC Marathon; Le Cirque: A Table in Heaven; Saving Hubble; Boy I Am; and Tight Media's Sketch in the City - MF Gallery Episode. Dahlia is a graduate of Brooklyn College's film program.

MIKE FOX Line Producer

Born in Illinois and raised in Oklahoma, Mike Fox started his film career in 2006 after graduating with a degree in Film Production from Brooklyn College. In 2008, he produced his first feature film, INSIDE A CHANGE, which won Best Picture at the 2009 HBO International Latino Film Festival. Since INSIDE A CHANGE, Mike has produced other films, music videos, and commercials for clients such as Amex and Google. Currently he is producing a feature documentary on the wage disparity between men and women.