

A FILM BY ROLAND JOFFE

THERE BE DRAGONS



FAQS WITH THE PRODUCERS

BUDGET & FINANCING

What is the budget of There Be Dragons?

There be Dragons has a medium size budget for Hollywood standards.

Who is financing the movie?

The film is being financed by a combination of equity investors, bank loans, a Spanish national television network (Antena 3 TV), and state tax incentives. There are over 100 private and institutional investors.

IS THIS AN OPUS DEI MOVIE?

Is Opus Dei involved in the financing of the movie?

No. Opus Dei as an organization has not invested in the movie, and is not endorsing the project. Some of the movie's investors are members or are connected to Opus Dei, but many other investors are not in any way associated with Opus Dei. There are also other investors who are atheists and agnostics. Two of the producers of the movie are members of Opus Dei, but they are acting in their individual capacity as in any other private or professional project.

What influence does Opus Dei have in the making of the movie?

Opus Dei as an organization has no involvement in the movie. Of the hundreds of cast and crew members, only three have any connection with Opus Dei (one of them being the lead producer, Ignacio G. Sancha). Just as he invited a well-know Jesuit priest, Daniel Berrigan, to help consult on The Mission, director Roland Joffe also invited a priest of Opus Dei to the set of Dragons to advise him and the leading actor, Charlie Cox, on matters relating to Josemaria Escriva and Opus Dei.

What is the position of Opus Dei regarding the movie?

Opus Dei has made no formal statement regarding its position on the movie. Moreover, the producers do not consider Opus Dei's position relevant, as their goal is to give director Roland Joffe artistic freedom to give his view on Opus Dei's founder, with no outside interference.

Do you think that Opus Dei people will like the movie?

The movie is intended to satisfy a very broad audience as it deals with all kinds of human dilemmas: love, passion, betrayal, crime, science and religion, humor, death, guilt, and above all, forgiveness.

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

Who is in charge of the project?

Roland Joffe is the director and screenwriter of the movie, with absolute freedom to make the film he wishes to make. Roland is also a producer on the film, and is joined by producer Guy Louthan (a Hollywood veteran), and lead producer Ignacio G. Sancha (a Spanish lawyer/banker) and his partner Ignacio Núñez, who collectively control the project.

SCRIPT & STORY

Who wrote the script?

The script has been entirely written by Roland Joffé. It was a pre-condition for his hiring that he would write the script¹ from scratch.

Are you portraying St. Josemaría Escrivá's relationship with General Franco?

No, the action in the movie takes place before Franco became ruler of Spain. However, the National army that was under Franco's orders during the Civil War will be part of the action and drama of the movie.

Is your portrait of Escrivá historically accurate?

Yes, we believe it is. This does not mean that every single event reflected in the movie is perfectly accurate, as the director has taken some fictional liberties that do not affect the overall historical accuracy. Moreover, the movie focuses more on concepts and themes as opposed to historical events.

Will the film appeal to general audiences?

General audiences will enjoy the action, adventure, romance, high production values and universal themes the movie offers.

It was rumored that Robert de Niro and Antonio Banderas were involved in this project. Is this true?

No.

Do you think that this movie will help to promote Opus Dei or the Catholic Church?

It is not intended to promote or criticize any organization or individual. Our goal is to entertain the audience while portraying ordinary human beings engaged in the drama of passion and betrayal, purpose and forgiveness.

Is this movie a reaction against The Da Vinci Code?

No, it has no relation to Da Vinci Code whatsoever. However, we are absolutely sure that the Da Vinci Code audience will enjoy this film, as it gives a lot of insight on the founder of Opus Dei, the organization that was portrayed as a secretive cult in the Da Vinci Code.

¹Heriberto Schoeffler, one of the previous promoters of the project, worked with Barbara Nicolosi, who wrote her own script that was never considered, as Roland Joffé wanted to write his own screenplay. Neither Schoeffler nor Nicolosi are involved in the project now.

DISTRIBUTION & RELEASE

Which studio will release the movie?

The film has been financed outside the studio system so it is not under the control of any studio. The producers will meet with distributors in early 2010 to determine who will distribute the film.

When will the movie be released?

The anticipated release of the movie will be late summer or fall of 2010.