# "We Must Shoot!" The Life and Art of Gary Graver

# "We Must Shoot!" The Life and Art of Gary Graver

## by

Andrew J. Rausch, Dave Wain, and Matty Budrewicz

#### "We Must Shoot!" The Life and Art of Gary Graver

Copyright © 2025 Andrew J. Rausch, Dave Wain, and Matty Budrewicz

All rights reserved.

No portion of this publication may be reproduced, stored, and/or copied electronically (except for academic use as a source), nor transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the publisher and/or author.

Published in the United States of America by:

BearManor Media

1317 Edgewater Dr. #110 Orlando, FL 32804

bearmanormedia.com

Printed in the United States.

Typesetting and layout by PKJ Passion Global Cover photo used by permission of Brinke Stevens

ISBN-979-8-88771-794-4



"That's the thing about Gary—you could just call him up, and he'd come over. He'd shoot anything, and I mean that in the nicest way."

—Allan Arkush

"Gary probably has one of the most unique careers in Hollywood history. To go back and forth like that, and the fact that he worked with some of the best and alleged worst directors. I can't think of anyone in Hollywood who's done that."

—David Konow

"I've directed about twenty feature films, and I'm sure you've never heard of any of them."

—Gary Graver

### **Contents**

SECTION	ON ONE: AN ORAL HISTORY OF GARY GRAVER	
	by Andrew J. Rausch	1
Introdu	action: "One of a Kind"	3
1.	Who's Who (Rogues Gallery)	9
2.	Who was Gary Graver?	13
3.	Childhood	15
4.	The Navy	19
5.	The Early Years in Hollywood	21
6.	Making Movies with Al Adamson	28
7.	Wives	33
8.	Children	43
9.	Working for Roger Corman	51
10.	Random B-Movies	59
11.	Ladies' Man	63
12.	Working with John Cassavetes	68
13.	Gary and Orson	70
14.	Filming The Other Side of the Wind	78
15.	Trying to Finish <i>The Other Side of the Wind</i>	95
16.	The Other Side of the Wind Finally Gets Completed	107
17.	The Citizen Kane Oscar Debacle	110
18.	"We Must Shoot!"	116
19.	Passion for Cinema	120
20.	On the Set	123
21.	Director	127

22. Trick or Treats	131
23. The Boys/Texas Lightning	133
24. Making Softcore Movies	136
25. Directing Porn	138
26. 3 A.M.	150
27. Cinematographer	153
28. Second-Unit Director	160
29. Jillian	164
30. Working with Fred Olen Ray	170
31. This and That	171
32. Drugs and Alcohol	178
33. Cancer	182
34. Death	188
SECTION TWO: THE FILMS by Dave Wain a Matty Budrewicz	nd 195
Directed by Gary Graver	197
1. The Embracers (1963)	198
2. The Kill (1968)	199
3. Sandra: The Making of a Woman (1970	200
4. The Hard Road (1970)	202
5. Erika's Hot Summer (1971)	204
6. And When She Was Bad (1973)	206
7. Midnight Intruders (1973)	208
8. Texas Lightning (1981)	209
9. Trick or Treats (1982)	212
10. Party Camp (1987)	215

11. Moon in Scorpio (1987)	216
12. Nerds of a Feather (1989)	219
13. Crossing the Line (1990)	221
14. Evil Spirits (1990)	223
15. The Many Loves of Jennifer (1991)	226
16. Roots of Evil (1992)	227
17. Angel Eyes (1993)	229
18. Sexual Roulette (1997)	231
19. Bikini-Hoe-Down (1997) and	
Bikini Traffic School (1997)	233
20. The Escort (1997), The Escort II (1998),	
The Escort 3 (1999), and Masseuse III (1998)	236
21. Angel in Training (1999)	241
22. Veronica 2030 (1999)	243
A Robert McCallum Film	
Enter the Golden Age, 1975-1984	247
1. <i>3 A.M.</i> (1975)	247
2. 'V': The Hot One (1978)	250
3. The Ecstacy Girls (1979)	252
4. Tangerine (1979)	254
5. Hot Rockets (1979)	256
6. Co-Ed Fever (1980)	258
7. Garage Girls (1980)	260
8. Peaches and Cream (1981)	262
9. Indecent Exposure (1981)	263
10. Amanda by Night (1981)	265
11. Center Spread Girls (1982)	267

	12.	Society Affairs (1982)	268
	13.	Private Moments (1983)	270
	14.	Satisfactions (1983)	272
	15.	Summer Camp Girls (1983)	273
	16.	Suzie Superstar (1983)	275
	17.	Private Teacher (1983)	277
	18.	Trinity Brown (1984)	278
	19.	Unthinkable (1984)	280
	20.	I Want to Be Bad (1984)	281
	21.	Sex Play (1984)	283
A i	Perio	od of Transition, 1985-1988	286
	1.	Tower of Power (1985)	286
	2.	Soaking Wet (1985)	288
	3.	Beverly Hills Exposed (1985)	290
	4.	Dear Fanny (1985)	291
	5.	Perfect Partners (1985)	293
	6.	Aroused, Young & Restless II,	
		Suzie Superstar II (all 1985)	296
	7.	Erotic City (1985)	301
	8.	Ecstasy Girls Too (1985)	303
	9.	Showgirls (1986)	304
	10.	Rated Sex (1986)	305
	11.	Irresistible II (1986)	307
	12.	Crazy with the Heat (1986)	308
	13.	Joanna Storm on Fire (1986)	310
	14.	Peeping Tom (1986)	312
	15.	Black Lava (1986)	313