

Proposal:

A large part of the interest arising from a major film production lies not actually in the film being made but in the people who gather together to make it. *Dune* is of more than usual interest in this respect, both because of the sheer size of the project and because of the international nature of the cast and crew.

Seldom have so many major film talents been brought together in one place for such a length of time.

We feel that it would be both valuable and entertaining to take advantage of this fact and explore some of the ~~the~~ personalities involved in *Dune*. Specifically, we propose a series of perhaps twenty-five half-hour programs, each focussing on one particular person. These shows would utilize material shot by us in the course of our documentation of the making of *Dune*, intercut with interviews conducted by us in Mexico City, plus relevant material gleaned from our subjects' earlier work.

start with
Ruffalo +
David →

Although the format would remain much the same for each program, the emphasis would vary somewhat according to subject. For instance, Freddie Francis' career spans much of the history of British cinema - he worked his way up to being one of the foremost cinematographers in the Fifties, turned to directing low-budget horror films in the Sixties and Seventies, and returned to cinematography in 1980, when attitudes and technology had changed enormously. Not only is he a fascinating character, he could provide a social and technical history of those changes.

Kit West, from his extensive experience, could give us an inside view of the complexities of providing on-set special effects - the kind which have to work right now in conjunction with the principle action of the film.

Tobias Rytting could show us the other side of effects work, the painstaking building up of illusions layer-by-layer in the laboratory and model shop, elements which must be blended seamlessly with material shot at other times, in other places.

Ruffella de Laurentis could give us insights not only into the enormous responsibilities of producing a big-budget film - but also the special aspect of being a young woman in this traditionally male position.

With an international cast, we can gain insights into the different approaches taken to acting by people of different nationalities and backgrounds: from England, Francesca Harris, Freddie Jones, Patrick Stewart; from Germany, Jürgen Prochnow; from Italy, Sylvana Mangano; from the U.S., Dean Stockwell, Kyle MacLachlan (working on his first film)....

Using this format, we can cover every major area of the production - camera, sound, set design and construction, production, props, special effects, acting, ^{makeup, costumes} and also preserve something of the special nature of the group gathered here in Mexico City in 1983. It would be a pity to lose this opportunity, particularly since this material could be gathered concurrently with the documentation we are gathering for "The Making of Dune".

production

- X Ruffella (of Dune)
- X David
- X Freddie
- Alan Splet (w. Nelson & John)
- X Kit West (a crew - John Stoker)
- X John Dykstra
- Gianniella & Mirella
- Bob Furumwood
- Graham Gurnow
- X Peter Pearson
- X Tony Masters (w. Gals)
- X Tony Sibbs (w. Perry)
- Pope & Cookie
- Maggie

actors

- X Kyle
- X Francesca
- Jürgen
- Max
- Sting
- X Paul Smith
- X Jack Hance
- Brod Pawluf
- X Sylvana
- Freddie Jones
- Patrick Stewart
- Dean Stockwell
- X Linda Hunt
- X Jose Ferrer
- X Ken MacMillan
- Sion Phillips

Top priority: actual Dune material will be kept to a minimum - first, so as to act as a focus in the months before the film's release without giving out dates, and so can be redubbed in later years if the international nature of the personal should ever make the important Europe as well as in the U.S.