

Document Citation

Title	Year of the gun
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Toronto International Film Festival</i>
Date	1991
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	51
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Year of the gun, Frankenheimer, John, 1991



Year of the Gun

John Frankenheimer

USA, 1991, 111 minutes

Colour/35mm

Production Company: Edward R. Pressman Film Corporation/Year of the Gun Productions

Executive Producer: Eric Fellner

Producer: Edward R. Pressman

Screenplay: David Ambrose, from a book by

Michael Mewshaw

Cinematography: Blasco Giurato

Editor: Lee Percy

Art Director: Aurelio Crugnola

Music: Bill Conti

Principal Cast: Andrew McCarthy, Valeria Golino, Sharon Stone, John Pankow

Print Source: Triumph, 711 5th Avenue, New York, New York, USA 10022. Tel: (212) 702-6166.

Fax: (212) 702-6241.

Foreign Sales Agent: J & M Entertainment, 2 Dorset Square, London, Great Britain NW16PU. Tel: (71) 723-6544. Fax: (71) 724-7541.

John Frankenheimer, master of the modern suspense thriller, is back with a daring new film about love, betrayal, people who aren't what they appear to be, and a world where fact and fiction are too close for comfort. The setting is Italy in 1978, and the country is under a de facto state of siege with social and political structures reeling under attacks from the terrorist Red Brigade. In this maelstrom we find David Raybourne (Andrew McCarthy) a young American expatriate reporter who returns to Rome to covertly write a novel based on a well-known terrorist organisation. He renews a love affair with an Italian seductress (Valeria Golino) and a friendship with his old pal Italo Bianchi (John Pankow) a university English professor. Raybourne becomes involved with Alison King (Sharon Stone) a beautiful and aggressive American photojournalist who suspects that Raybourne's novel is more fact than fiction. Raybourne is drawn into a web of treachery and deception beyond his control — and forced to run for his life. Like Frankenheimer's other masterpieces, *Year of the Gun* explores the human conflicts that arise out of global events. Gifted at blending the visceral pleasures of a thriller with the intellectual challenge of a mystery, Frankenheimer has laced his new film with extensive action sequences set within a personal context. The film was shot entirely on location in Rome, but depicts a side of the city never seen before, one that is far removed from the romantic picture-postcard image. In Frankenheimer's hands, Rome becomes a character in the film. And, in the role of the naïve journalist, a part that is a marked departure from the wise-cracking characters he has portrayed in the past, Andrew McCarthy emerges as a leading man, while rising star Sharon Stone develops a strong leading female role.



John Frankenheimer established himself as a distinctive director as early as his second film, *The Young Savages* (61), with his bold visual style, inventive tracking shots, and meticulous use of locations.

Most significantly, it revealed an aptitude for dramatizing social issues — which have become a Frankenheimer trademark. Born in 1930 in Malba, New York, Frankenheimer graduated from Williams College then worked with directors John Ford and Sidney Lumet before becoming a director himself. Working first on the television programmes "You Are There" and "Person to Person", he soon moved to dramatic anthology series such as "Danger" and "Playhouse 90". From 1952 to 1960, he directed an astonishing 152 live television dramas. Frankenheimer moved from television to film at the beginning of the sixties. Feature films include: *All Fall Down* (62), *Birdman of Alcatraz* (62), *The Manchurian Candidate* (62), *Seven Days in May* (64), *The Train* (65), *Seconds* (66), *Grand Prix* (66), *The Fixer* (68), *The Gypsy Moths* (69), *The Iceman Cometh* (73), *French Connection II* (75), *Black Sunday* (76), *Year of the Gun* (91).

Sponsored by

