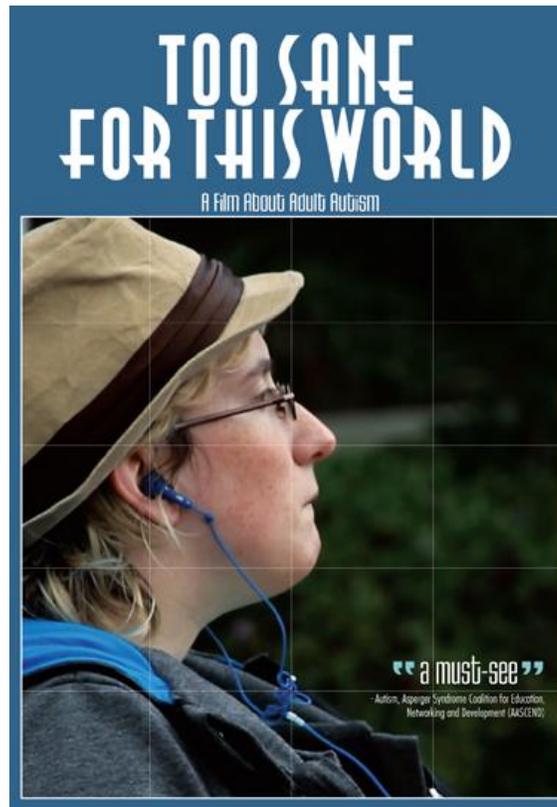




Presents:



COMING TO DVD ON APRIL 8, 2014 + ON DEMAND ON MAY 8, 2014
AVAILABLE NOW FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

DVD Details:

SRP: \$ 19.95
Street Date: 4/8/14
UPC: 881394119123 | Catalog: CLS 1191
Genre: Documentary
TRT: 76 Minutes

DVD EXTRAS:

- “Space Cadet” Music Video, Featuring Robyn Steward and Mark Tinley (formerly of Duran Duran)
 - Trailer
- Interactive Menus

MEDIA CONTACT

Beth Portello

Cinema Libre Studio
6634 W. Sunset Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90028
T: 323-785-1585

press@cinemalibrestudio.com

www.facebook.com/toosaneforthisworld | www.toosaneforthisworldmovie.com



"Deeply moving and a profoundly inspiring insight into the lives of autistic adults. William Davenport's *Too Sane for This World* is essential viewing for anyone interested in the realities of autism today."

Dr. Liz Pellicano

Centre for Research in Autism and Education (CRAE) , University of London

"Filmmaker William Davenport's revealing documentary, *Too Sane for This World*, tells the heartfelt story of adults living on the autism spectrum. Davenport's insightful interviews and arresting camerawork take us into the lives of these extraordinary and yet often misunderstood individuals. The film is a must- see for teachers, professionals and parents who work with Asperger's and AS."

- Camilla Bixler

Co-Director AASCEND (Autism, Asperger Syndrome Coalition for Education, Networking and Development)

"This film does not minimize the problems of autistic adults by pretending that autism has not made life difficult and painful for most of us. But it does not over-dramatize our problems to try to get you to feel sorry for us or to give somebody money. *Too Sane for This World* does not present us as a tragic puzzle or a sophisticated freak show. It shows us as people."

- thAutcast.com

"Too Sane for the World very poignantly shares insights into autism as experienced by 12 adults on the spectrum. Visually appealing and moving, this film highlights the strengths and talents of individuals with autism as well as the challenges they experienced, particularly in bullying and marginalization that has shaped them into the adults they are today. The resilience and strength of character of these 12 adults should serve as an inspiration for anyone who "marches to the beat of a different drummer." The perspectives shared in this film can help individuals on the spectrum and those who support them understand autism and its limitless potential."

- Brenda Smith Myles, Ph.D., Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence



VOICE AWARDS HONORABLE MENTION

ABOUT THE FILM

Short Synopsis

Too Sane for This World explores the challenges, gifts, and distinct perspectives of 12 adults on the autism spectrum. A unique collaboration between neurotypical and atypical individuals, men and women living on the spectrum speak candidly about the neurodiversity of the mind and its limitless potential.

Long Synopsis

Too Sane for This World explores the challenges, gifts, and distinct perspectives of 12 adults on the autism spectrum. Featuring an introduction by bestselling author, Dr. Temple Grandin, and interviews designed by adults with high-functioning autism, the film discusses many of the problems facing the autism community – from bullying to marginalization and discrimination. A unique collaboration between neurotypical and atypical individuals, men and women living on the spectrum speak candidly about defining and coming to terms with their autism, difficulties they've faced, and the experiences that have shaped their lives, illustrating the neurodiversity of the mind and its limitless potential.



Noted professor, author and public speaker Dr. Temple Grandin

FEATURED IN THE FILM



GREG



JANIS



FRANK



JACOB



WOODAH



DON



ANDREW



KEVEN



RUDY



JIM



ROBYN



KAMAL

Robyn Steward is now 27 and lives in London (UK). She met William Davenport by cold calling organizations for her first visit to the USA, William welcomed her into his family home, since they have kept in touch collaborating on each others work. She has had her first book published "The independent woman's handbook for super safe living on the Autistic spectrum" published by Jessica Kingsley publishers. Steward is a trainer for professionals and mentor for others on the spectrum as well as providing consultancy for services. She is an artist and musician. The track "Panic Attacks" was released on delektra records (www.delektra.com) in September 2013 and appears on the EP "Super Safe Living" available in a limited press of 111 hand painted copies and for digital download. Steward's website can be found at www.robysteward.com

"No matter what somebody's disability is, they have a great number of things to offer to the world. And it's just a matter of being able to see those things and work around them. Because even the most able-bodied person has difficulties if you think about it." – Robyn Steward

Jacob Wang was born in Taiwan in and immigrated to San Francisco in 1978. He was diagnosed initially with PDD-NOS in 1990. That was changed to Asperger's in 2001. Wang has been with AASCEND for 10 years. He is still single and working as a scanning clerk at the California Division of the State Architect's Oakland region office.

FEATURED IN THE FILM CONT'D

Greg Yates was in childhood a head-banging, toe-walking and sensory-overloaded "little professor" with focused interests in electronics and, later, brains. Born to a family of big professors Yates studied biophysics at UC Berkeley and was briefly in a PhD program in Psychology at MIT. With this background he realized that he was on the autism spectrum and had feet in both autistic and neurotypical worlds. He went on to co-found and co-direct AASCEND.org, a collaboration of autistic adults, family members, and autism professionals — now America's oldest adult-autism support nonprofit. Yates continues independent work in brain science (autismtheory.org, dragonpuzzle.net) and is an avid student of non-dogmatic spiritual practice with decades of experience in zen meditation, prayer, and suicide prevention. Also a cancer survivor, he works happily as a part-time handyman in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Rudy Simone is the author of four best-selling books on Asperger Syndrome: "Aspergirls: Empowering Females with Asperger Syndrome" (2010), "Asperger's on the Job: Must-have Advice" (2010) "22 Things a Woman Must Know If She Loves a Man With Asperger Syndrome" (2009) and "22 Things a Woman with Aspergers Wants her Partner to Know" (2012). Three of her books have won awards, including the Independent Publishers Gold medal (Ippy), Foreword Review Gold medal and a Living Now Silver medal. Her books have been translated into several languages. Simone lectures regularly at Autism/Asperger conferences around the world. Her website www.help4aspergers.com is the #1 resource in the world to find information on general Asperger traits, and on how AS manifests in females. She is also a singer/songwriter. Her new album "Gothic Blues" is available on Amazon. You can watch videos at www.rudysimone.net. She has just published a fantasy epic on kindle "Orsath: an epic tale of a screw-up who does alright in the end".

"We are different. We are a subculture; we have our own culture. And, we have the right to go out and to behave and to hold jobs and to dress and stim, or whatever we need to do. Whatever is organic to our nature. We have a right to be in the world." – Rudy Simone

Andrew Bixler creates pencil and ink portraits of characters accompanied by a brief explanatory text. A man of many talents, he also plays the piano and clarinet. Bixler's practice is split between drawing and sculpture. His ceramic pieces take the form of his portraits with loosely worked, expressive proportions; while his renderings of animals in wire, accented with fabric and found objects, offer a beautiful, spectral counterpoint. A San Francisco native, Bixler has been a Creativity Explored artist since 2006.

Janis Oberman is a web developer and designer. Oberman recently graduated from the multimedia graduate program at CSUEB where she developed a Facebook app using HTML5 Canvas, CSS and jQuery as her thesis. She is a member of Meetup.com where she looks for like-minded people interested in coding and computers.

FEATURED IN THE FILM CONT'D

Jim Ullrey is currently an engineer for Inresco in the San Francisco Bay area. For the past 15 years, Ullrey has been a member of the board of directors of AASCEND. Beginning his education at CSU Hayward, he earned a degree in chemistry before pursuing a PhD at UC Davis with his dissertation "Model Compounds for the Bacterial Bioluminescence Reaction".

Camilla Bixler is an AASCEND Co-chair and member of the City College of San Francisco faculty. She is an honoree of Support for Families and the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Disability. Bixler is a Star Academy founding board member and the parent of Andrew Bixler, featured in this film.

Temple Grandin is an American doctor of animal science, a professor at Colorado State University, a best-selling author, an autistic activist, a consultant to the livestock industry on animal behavior, and an engineer. She also created the "hug box", a device to calm those with autism. The subject of an award-winning, 2010 biographical film, *Temple Grandin*, she also was listed in the Time 100 list of the one hundred most influential people in the world in the "Heroes" category.



Jim Ullrey

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

Many adults on the autism spectrum discover their condition much later in life, some being diagnosed as late as the age of forty. Knowing that you are on the spectrum can bring a great relief and understanding of oneself, but also a label that brings its own set of societal discriminations. "Too Sane for This World" is about exhibiting the strengths, discussing the challenges and exposing the immediate need for society to address the concerns being voiced within the autism community. The questions for the interviews were devised by adults on the spectrum, and this film is a collaboration between neurotypical and A-typical filmmakers.

What is unique about this project is that the film crew featured adults on the spectrum that also worked on the editing and pre-production. I believe it is so important that this film come from an authentic perspective, and even though I am the director my eyes and ears are open to their views. This film is about breaking the myths of how we view people on the autism spectrum. It is about giving a voice, where a voice has been silenced by society. The general public needs essential information about autism, and the true nature of living on the spectrum. We are in need of a bridge that we all can cross together.

- William Davenport, Director



ABOUT THE FILMMAKER

William Davenport (Director) has worked on many award winning productions and has shown his work at film festivals around the world. William owned a successful commercial production company for many years, before becoming a teacher and autism activist. He worked with a wide range of clients including Sega, Levis, Apple, and a number of other Fortune 500 companies. William has developed courses and taught filmmaking and technology at San Francisco State University, U.C. Berkeley, the San Francisco School of Digital Filmmaking, Art Academy and the Art Institute of San Francisco. William taught filmmaking, journalism and broadcast television courses at Fremont High School in Sunnyvale for four years. He oversaw the operations of a cable broadcast station located at a high school. During his tenure at the high school he became interested in special education, and worked with many students who had special needs. After leaving the high school William received a masters degree and teaching credential in special education. William became the executive director of the Autism

Social Connection, where he created a unique filmmaking program for teaching social skills to children, teens and adults on the autism spectrum. He was a member of the Marin Autism Task Force, and holds advanced degrees in education and filmmaking. Recently he has completed two feature documentaries: **Too Sane for This World** (2011) and **Citizen Autistic** (2013). He presently resides in Washington DC and teaches filmmaking at the Washington International School.

WHAT IS AUTISM/ ASPERGER'S SYNDROME?

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and autism are both general terms for a group of complex disorders of brain development. These disorders are characterized, in varying degrees, by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication and repetitive behaviors. They include autistic disorder, Rett syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder, pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) and Asperger Syndrome. ASD can be associated with intellectual disability, difficulties in motor coordination and attention and physical health issues such as sleep and gastrointestinal disturbances. Some persons with ASD excel in visual skills, music, math and art.

Autism appears to have its roots in very early brain development. However, the most obvious signs and symptoms of autism tend to emerge between 2 and 3 years of age.

FACT: Autism statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identify around 1 in 110 American children as on the autism spectrum—a 600 percent increase in prevalence over the past two decades. Careful research shows that this increase is only partly explained by improved diagnosis and awareness. Studies also show that autism is three to four times more common among boys than girls. An estimated 1 out of 70 boys is diagnosed with autism in the United States.

FACT: More children will be diagnosed with autism this year than with childhood cancer, juvenile diabetes or pediatric AIDS combined. ASD affects an estimated 3 million individuals in the U.S. and tens of millions worldwide. Moreover, government autism statistics suggest that prevalence rates have increased 10 to 17 percent annually in recent years. There is no established explanation for this continuing increase, although improved diagnosis and environmental influences are two reasons often considered.

Asperger syndrome, also known as Asperger's syndrome or Asperger disorder, is an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) that is characterized by significant difficulties in social interaction, alongside restricted and repetitive patterns of behavior and interests. It differs from other autism spectrum disorders by its relative preservation of linguistic and cognitive development. Although not required for diagnosis, physical clumsiness and atypical use of language are frequently reported.

Asperger syndrome is named after the Austrian pediatrician Hans Asperger who, in 1944, studied and described children in his practice who lacked nonverbal communication skills, demonstrated limited empathy with their peers, and were physically clumsy. Fifty years later, it was standardized as a diagnosis, but many questions remain about aspects of the disorder. For example, there is doubt about whether it is distinct from high-functioning autism (HFA); partly because of this, its prevalence is not firmly established. It has been proposed that the diagnosis of Asperger's be eliminated, to be replaced by a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder on a severity scale.

RESOURCES

AASCEND (Autism, Asperger Syndrome Coalition for Education, Networking and Development) Unites adults of all ages on the autism spectrum, their families and friends, academics and professionals in the autism field unite as a community in AASCEND. Our members sit down at the table as peers to support one another and work together to achieve AASCEND'S goals of Education, Networking and Development. For the past ten years AASCEND members have been meeting monthly to share information resources, support one another emotionally, and in the process learn to appreciate the view points of others. Our group is intergenerational and comes from all walks of life. Find out more at <http://www.aascend.org>

ASAN (Autistic Self Advocacy Network) is a nonprofit organization run by and for Autistic people. ASAN's supporters include Autistic adults and youth, cross-disability advocates, and non-autistic family members, professionals, educators and friends. ASAN was created to provide support and services to individuals on the autism spectrum while working to educate communities and improve public perceptions of autism. More at: <http://autisticadvocacy.org>

Help4Aspergers Rudy Simone's website, here you can find Asperger books, in the areas of Employment, Female Aspergers and Relationships where at least one person is on the spectrum. You will also find lists of Asperger traits, research on possible causes, diet, information on adult diagnosis and more. Read more at: <http://help4aspergers.com>

The Autism Society improves the lives of all affected by autism through education, advocacy, services, research and support. <http://www.autism-society.org/>

Autism Woman's Network is dedicated to building a community of autistic girls and women, their families, friends and supporters. <http://autismwomensnetwork.org/>

Wrong Planet is the web community designed for individuals (and parents /professionals of those) with Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, ADHD, PDDs, and other neurological differences. <http://www.wrongplanet.net/>

The **Autism Acceptance Project** works to promote acceptance of and accommodations for autistic people in society. <http://www.taaproject.com/>

Autism Network International is an autistic-run self-help and advocacy organization for autistic people. <http://www.autreat.com/>

I Think I Have Aspergers: Now What? By thAutcast.com

So-- you think you have Aspergers, or fall someplace else on the autism spectrum. Maybe you've been formally diagnosed, maybe you're just starting to consider the possibility yourself and nobody else has ever said a word. What do you do now?

Recognizing and dealing with the fact that I have a little bit of autism is that hardest thing I've ever done. Harder than finishing college. Harder than being married or getting divorced. Harder than doing any job I've ever had. Harder than coming out as gay. Accepting that your brain works in a way that is genuinely different from the majority of the population, and that nothing you do is ever likely to change that, hurts. Even understanding what autism is hard. Read more at: <http://thautcast.com/drupal5/content/i-think-i-have-aspergers-now-what-0>

CREDITS

With an Introduction by
Temple Grandin

Featuring:
Robyn Steward
Andrew Bixler
Rudy Simone
Greg Yates
Donald Moore
Frank Schulz
Jacob Wang
Janis Oberman
Jim Ullrey
Kamal Walker
Kevan O'Brien
Woodeh Hoebel

Directed by
William Davenport

Produced by
William Davenport
Sean Sullivan

Director of Photography
Sean Sullivan

Music by
Adrian Gormley

Edited by
William Davenport

Autism Consultation:

Jim Ullrey
Andrew Bixler
Kathlyn Hedges
Frank Schulz
Janis Oberman
Ellain DeMarkas

Rudy Simone Live
Camera Operators:
Alex Fletcher
Mark Sandhoff

Assistant to the
Producers
Miyoko M. Nida

Sound Operator Rudy
Simone Interview
Janis Oberman

Sound Operator Temple
Grandin Intro
Miyoko M. Nida

Special thanks:
Board of AASCEND
Tom Purvis
Jim Ullrey
David Van Etten
Jacob Wang
Greg Yates
Camilla Bixler
Ronald Bixler
Paul Nussbaum
Adam Pollack

Peter Yates for use of
his film "Duplicate the
Error"

Kate Rohan
Annie Crowder
Staff & Students Star
Academy
Geri Walker
Karen Kaplan
Jake Weins
Ed Ivey
Norm Meislich
Natasha Muse
Christopher Riggins
Mike Whipple
Keith Saunders
Aaron Germain
Vince Lateano
Harmony Gates
Anne-Laure Davin
Andrew Speight
Earle Davis
Future Horizons
R. Wayne Gilpin
Teresa Corey
Cheryl Miller
Gilles Combet
Creativity Explored
Amy Taub
Amy Auerbach
Doctor Chibs

Executive Producer: Talk
Story Films

DIGITAL ASSETS:

Flat Art: <http://cinemalibrestudio.com/clscatalog/2014/too-sane-for-this-world-key-art-72-dpi.jpg>

Vimeo Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/88930704>

Youtube Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQeQYae4G3w>

Clips & Trailer Album on Vimeo: <http://vimeo.com/album/2798429>

Clips & Trailer Youtube Album:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQeQYae4G3w&list=PLCOaARTyCSUIJw53YZew6UcoQ61JEP34b&feature=share>

Clip 1: High Functioning Autism With Temple Grandin

Renowned public figure Temple Grandin introduces Too Sane For This World before we meet David and hear how he discovered the clues to his autism through reading a book that described a similar unique personality to his own.

Clip 2: What is Autism?

Four people are stopped on the streets of Berkeley, California and asked what they know off hand about autism, often relating their information through their first hand encounters with people on the spectrum.

Clip 3: Activities for Autistic Children: Self Expression

Greg shares footage of a student film about hang-gliders he made years before because he thought the practice of filmmaking would force him to be more social and engage with other people, while still allowing him to focus on his interests.

Clip 4: Working With Autistic People: Autism Symptoms

Robyn explains the difficulties of having a job and how the social elements of the workplace add pressure to her life. She also reveals that she has a series of different afflictions and disabilities that make it hard for others to accommodate her.

Clip 5: AASCEND: Autism Resources and Support

Camilla Bixler, AASCEND Co-director, leads a support group where several of the subjects attend and discuss their disabilities. Camilla discusses how she learned to respond and think constructively about approaching people on the spectrum.