

# FIRST RUN FEATURES PRESENTS



# Esquire in the 60s

<sup>how</sup> harold hayes rocked journalism

#### FEATURING ROBERT BENTON PETER BOGDANOVICH NORA EPHRON GEORGE LOIS GAY TALESE GORE VIDAL AND TOM WOLFE

LING THROUGH THE APOCALYPSE Esquire in the 6os

Los Angeles Times

### **BY SHERI LINDEN**

The writerly pyrotechnics of the New Journalism had a major forum at *Esquire*, and Harold Hayes was the man igniting the fireworks. He shepherded rising talents who included Nora Ephron, Tom Wolfe, Gay Talese, Peter Bogdanovich and Gore Vidal, all of whom provide vivid recollections of those charmed years in this documentary portrait by Tom Hayes, Harold's son. Fascinating anecdotes unfold, illuminating the spontaneity and daring that went into producing the groundbreaking periodical, from its sometimes-incendiary covers to its deep-dive explorations of the zeitgeist.

Hayes not only curated a stable of dazzling young reporters but also gave bylines to established literary giants, among them Dorothy Parker and W.H. Auden. A strong sense of his genius and leadership style emerges, down to the sound of the taps on his shoes as he approached an employee's desk.



'ivid...fascinating!" -Los Angeles Times



Exploring the revolution in journalism sparked by the turbulence of the 1960s, *Smiling Through the Apocalypse: Esquire in the 60s* is the story of maverick editor Harold T.P. Hayes, who made *Esquire* magazine a galvanizing force in American culture.

In this fascinating documentary, filmmaker Tom Hayes (Harold's son) paints a portrait of editorial genius using the voices and images of the iconic writers, photographers and artists who, with Hayes at the helm, brought *Esquire* to the vanguard of the cultural revolution

## **DVD BONUS FEATURES** THREE EXTENDED INTERVIEWS:

- Gore Vidal on William Buckley
- Nora Ephron at *Esquire*
- Gay Talese: Sinatra has a Cold





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