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[Review: Earthwork](#)

28

Apr

2011

by [Marina Antunes](#) in [Marina's Reviews](#), [Reviews](#)



Director: Chris Ordal

Screenplay: Chris Ordal

Producers: Chris Ordal, Brendon Glad, Brad Roszell

Starring: John Hawkes, Bruce MacVittie, Brendon Glad, Sam Greenlee, Zach Grenier, Chris Bachand, Laura Kirk

MPAA Rating: PG

Running time: 93 min.



Earthworks, or as they're often referred to as Land Art, may have spawned in the 60s and 70s but in the early 90s, the art form still seemed foreign concept and in Kansas, artist Stan Herd's work was being seen by few. And then Stan met photographer Peter Kaplan who took gorgeous photos of his work and encouraged him to take his art to the masses. So in 1994, he made a change and Earthwork captures Stan's struggle to have his work recognized.



Donald Trump had a new tower going up in New York and while they prepared for construction, the corporation wanted to use the empty lot for some sort of art project. Stan arrived with his proposal and offered to work for free. He needed to have

his work seen and what better place than Manhattan's Upper West Side where the buildings are tall enough that one doesn't have to fly a plane over the work to see it. With his house mortgaged and his entire career staked on this one project, Stan moved himself to New York to begin on his multi-acre project that would take months to complete.

You'd think that this would be some great, feel good story about an artist being discovered in New York City after struggling for years but Stan's rise to fame cost him more than he bargained for and though NY eventually proved to be a success, it was the new understanding of the power of his work, work which was created with the help of a colourful group of homeless men who lived in an underground railway tunnel near the property, that brought him a feeling of success and accomplishment. It's the kind of thing that would usually leave a too-sweet taste in your mouth except for the fact that it's all true. And well put together.

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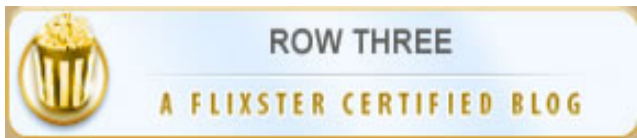
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 - [antho42](#): My statement was not meant to be serious. The bluntness of the statement was to show the horrific nature of...
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 - [Jonathan](#): Yeah, Antho... very strange comments. "Grow up?" Of course it matters that he raped a 14 year old....
 - [Hector](#): Antho42, did you really just say who cares if he raped a 14yo? Nice attitude.
 - [antho42](#): People need to grow up. Who cares that Roman Polanski raped a 14 year old. It's his private life. People like...
 - [Kurt Halfyard](#): I'll be there with bells on. I've not thought Polanski has ever been particularly great at Comedy...
- [Nic Cage and Nic Kidman go VOD: Trespass Trailer \(4\)](#)
 - [Matt Gamble](#): Trespass is getting a theatrical release.
 - [Kurt](#): That's the Millinium formula. Strait forward, kinda paint-by-numbers genre flicks with all the money thrown at big...
 - [David Brook](#): Yeah it's odd that they keep attracting this talent. They must make good

money to be able to afford to keep...

- **[DVD Triage: Week of July 12 \(3\)](#)**
 - [Goon](#): I picked up Uncle Boonmee, and very much regret it. There is really not much to say about it, it's just plain...
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 - [Jonathan](#): I think Duncan Jones (Moon, Source Code) is also making a film inspired heavily by Blade Runner at the moment. If I...
 - [Kurt Halfyard](#): I could make a very solid argument that Michael Winterbottom's CODE 46 is a very nice (if not quite as...
 - [Matthew Fabb](#): A friend of mine pointed out they've already made a new movie based off the old Blade Runner. It's...
 - [Ms Curious](#): Have to agree with Jonathan B. When someone doesn't actually get it, it's much easier to dish it, which...
 - [Jonathan B.](#): Devin's review is as shallow as he purports the film to be. It's a long-winded way of saying that the...
- **[Review: Another Earth \(30\)](#)**
 - [Nova](#): The moments we all have in our life that we wonder about...what if we did differently or what if we hadn't did...
 - [Nova](#): I loved this movie! Nova
- **[Cinecast Episode 225 – We Saw the Future \(6\)](#)**
 - [Rick Vance](#): Full Stop We all know the best Merlin on film is Karl Swenson and he also had the best scene of magic in film...
- **[Cinecast Episode 223 – Just the Alien from Cloverfield and Super 8? \(13\)](#)**
 - [ryan](#): its not an alien you idiot. dont have site that talks about shit that you dont even know about.
- **[Talk Amongst Yourselves \(2\)](#)**
 - [Marina Antunes](#): We had a moment of silence at the house this morning while watching a Portuguese news feed of his announcement...
 - [Jandy](#): Aw. I saw this briefly this morning as I was getting ready for work. I saw Mysteries of Lisbon at LAFF and quite liked...
- **[10 Teachers You Wish You Had \(13\)](#)**
 - [Jonathan B.](#): I love your comment, thank you! I was hoping adding her would provoke some emotion and discussion, although if you...
 - [Ms Curious](#): Please ditch Miss Jean Brodie off the list of '10 Teachers We Wish We Had'. This character does...
 - [Jonathan](#): Yeah, it's actually a very strange movie. She turns into quite the nutjob by the second act.
- **[Review: Certified Copy \(2\)](#)**
 - [Paulo Silveira](#): Jonathan, exactly my opinion. Very well written review and interpretation, congratulations.





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