### **DELFINO'S JOURNEY**

# MOCTESUMA ESPARZA I EXEC. PRODUCER



Esparza was born and raised in East Los Angeles, California. His father, a refugee of the Mexican Revolution, migrated to the United States in 1918. His father's awareness of the motivations behind the Revolution imbued him with a strong sense of social justice. As a child, he viewed Spanish language films in the many Los Angeles theaters that offered such fare. Moctesuma was a theatre major in high school. He acted, played the saxophone, and loved movies.

He attended the School of Theater, Film and Television at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he received his B.A. in 1971 and M.F.A. in the same field in 1973. During his sophomore year at UCLA, Moctesuma created an eth- no-communications program at the film school. He wrote a proposal, made the curriculum, and successfully

created (and was a student in) the first multicultural film program in the United States.

During the 1960s, he participated in the Chicano Movement, advocating for the civil rights of Mexican Americans. He was one of the organizers of the 1968 Chicano Blowouts, a series of youth-led protests inspired by educator Sal Castro in which Mexican-Americans demanded equal educational opportunities. His role in the walkouts as "liaison to the press," which led to his interest in the media. The movement is memorialized in his 2006 HBO film Walkout.

## JOSEPH N. COHEN | EXEC. PRODUCER



Joseph N. Cohen, a Yale and Oxford graduate, is renowned for his expertise in international finance and deep involvement in the entertainment industry. Over his extensive career spanning senior roles at prestigious firms like N.M. Rothschild & Sons, Salomon Brothers, and Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb, he specialized in investment banking, particularly in media and entertainment financing across the globe. With a focus on motion pictures, television, and other media, Cohen pioneered innovative financing methods, notably in the UK and Canada, and played a key role in establishing major production companies like Largo Entertainment and Alcon Entertainment.

Transitioning from investment banking to producing and financing motion pictures, Cohen co-founded American Entertainment Investors (AEI),

advising companies like Alcon and River Road Entertainment. His producer and executive producer credits include a range of successful films such as "Point Break," "Iron Eagle IV," and "The Blindside." Cohen's influence extends beyond production, as he's served as an advisor to various independent production companies, financial institutions, and legal entities, contributing significantly to complex litigation cases and strategic acquisitions in the entertainment industry. Additionally, he's authored "Investing in Movies: Strategies for Investors and Producers," solidifying his status as an authority in entertainment finance and media strategy.

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### MICHAEL POLLACK | PRODUCER



Michael Pollack has held leadership positions for more than 35 years in the legal, financial, and entertainment industries. Michael is the founder and former President of a litigation support firm that is today part of an international group of companies. He has held directorship positions for more than a dozen financial institutions that are both private and publicly held. Specializing for decades in M&A and Turnaround Management, he has spearheaded tens of billions of dollars of financing in commercial real estate, business, and entertainment-related transactions. Michael has spent decades consulting for industry leaders on the finance, production, and distribution of feature films. Stage and screen projects in which Michael has played an integral role in financing and/or producing have grossed more than \$3 billion at the box office.

Michael's current projects include the feature films Delfino's Journey, Major, Because of You, Mattress, Out of the Woods, Cold Feet: A

Wedding Tale, A Six Gun for the Devil, Meet Me in the Kitchen at Midnight, The Angel Of Harlem, Moonlight Blonde and The Untitled Chic Harley Project. In addition, Michael has developed and recently anounced two new episodic series titled Hoops Without Borders and Studly Vegan. Both are currently in production and expected to reach the public by 2025.