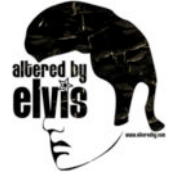


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## SYNOPSIS

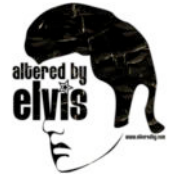
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*8 stories...about one man...who changed their lives...forever!*

ALTERED BY ELVIS is a documentary exploration of lives deeply and permanently affected by Elvis Presley. As a society we know everything there is to know about Elvis Presley, but what about those he left behind?

ALTERED BY ELVIS follows those who have been imprinted, fathered, fulfilled and even destroyed by the King of rock and roll. The love for Elvis is contagious, and everyone knows someone that claims to be – “Elvis’ number ONE fan”. However, what if we dig much deeper to find the untold stories of the people he left behind... the ravages of pop culture. We will follow these individuals home and show the viewer their own lives. How they literally walk with Elvis - in his shadow, with his ghost and in his light - still to this day. We will hear Larry Geller’s recounting of styling Elvis’ hair for the star’s funeral and hear about the outrageous tales of devotion from fans ... and the reason why Jimmy HATES Elvis.

Most certainly we will see what it is like to have been truly ALTERED BY ELVIS.



## **THE STORIES** (In order of appearance)

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### **PAUL MACLEOD**

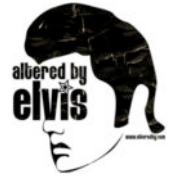
By all estimates, Paul MacLeod is the King of Elvis - the world's greatest fan, not to mention owner and operator of Graceland Too, a 24 hour a day Elvis museum in Holly Springs, Miss. known to fans as the Taj Mah Hall of "Elvisology". Paul is large, lovable, and can tell you what starlet danced opposite the King in any one of his B beach films. Visit him any hour of the day, and see what this outsider artist has done to his antebellum home which is currently bright pink. Let's not even mention his homage to Jailhouse Rock that he is constructing in the backyard with spray paint and blocks of cement!

### **VICKI FRITZ**

Vicki, a daughter of the Mid West, grew up after Elvis' heydays. She watched his movies on Sunday afternoons because they made her feel safe, but didn't think anything of it until one day she found herself moving from Milwaukee to Memphis to be near his grave. How does that happen? Her family and classmates scratched their heads, but one look at Vicki and you know she is at home cruising around Tupelo, Miss, doing her own maverick research on the King's "lost" early years. Is Vicki lonely? Nope. She's got the King for company.

### **LARRY GELLER**

Larry knows his share of handsome faces. He was one of the most in-demand men's hair stylists at Jay Sebring's famous salon in Hollywood. Ask Larry who was the best looking...Paul Newman, Steve McQueen, Warren Beatty...no way, Jose...Elvis Presley. Larry styled Elvis' hair for decades and got in a lot of trouble doing it. He is the man responsible in many ways for the King's spiritual awakening, much to the dismay of the Colonel. A deeply spiritual man himself, Larry recounts in heart wrenching detail his last "appointment" with Elvis in the mortuary in August 1977.



## **THE HUZZIES**

Huzzies - No, not Hussies, cheap, bar room floosies - but Huzzies! This sisterhood – Rozanne Chamberlain, Jo Ann Peaden, Cindy Fellows – from Texas journeys every year to the Candle Light Vigil to see the man that may have kissed their lips at a concert in the 1970's or fueled their girlish imaginations when they saw him swivel his hips back in '55. The Huzzies make their own commemorative tee-shirts and love nothing more than a good laugh over the one Elvis movie where you can see the King's "package". They'll never tell...and we won't either! But I will say these Huzzies are armed with liquor and are prowling Memphis as we speak.

## **JIMMY AND JESSE LEE DENSON**

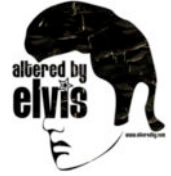
Jimmy Denson hates Elvis more than any man alive. Why? His brother, Lee, taught Elvis how to play guitar in the laundry room at Lauderdale Courts where they all grew up together. Lee was the local talent, the rising star of the poor projects; and Jimmy was a Golden Gloves champion of Memphis who defended the scared, scrawny Elvis from local toughs on more than one occasions. But when Lee's star never shone as radiantly as Elvis', and the years went by leaving both men disillusioned...Jimmy's hatred multiplied. Hear the sad Cain and Abel tale of the brothers bruised by the King.

## **DIXIE LOCKE EMMONS**

Dixie's prom picture with Elvis Presley is widely recognized by anyone who has read about Elvis. She is famous for having been Elvis' first girlfriend. Who met the Elvis Presley no one knew – a man with only potential – and decided to leave once everyone knew his name. How could a woman leave a man like Elvis? Dixie was there the day it all began...the day that Elvis began to alter our culture forever. Yet she decided to say goodbye in order to live her life fully devoted to the church.

## **RAY "STING RAY" FITZPATRICK**

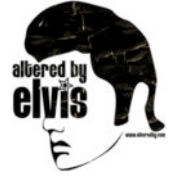
Yeah, you know you want to put on a skin tight white, rhinestone studded jump suit and thrust your hips out at adoring blonde beauties even if the suit fits a little too tight these days. Well, lucky Ray "Sting Ray" Fitzpatrick does it for a living, and makes a pretty good one at that! Weddings, parties, casinos...Elvis never had it so good. And he's got to be the most well adjusted Elvis tribute artist there is, no hang-ups here. But watch out....they don't call him Sting Ray for nothing. On stage, he packs a wallop...and pushes the New York Tri-state area competition to the parking lot making him the most in-demand Elvis on the East Coast.



## **ALFRED WERTHEIMER**

Ever seen that famous picture of the young, handsome Elvis touching tongues with a nameless beauty in the dark recesses of a stairwell circa 1956? Sure you have! It was taken by famed photojournalist, Al Wertheimer. Any shockingly candid portrait of the early, punk rock Elvis was probably snapped by, New Yorker, Al. He was the first and last photographer allowed unlimited access to the rising star (before the Colonel put the cabosh on that). Elvis on a Harley doing his best Marlon Brando, Elvis plunking at a piano in an empty rehearsal studio...Al was there for those exciting moments. And his life has never been the same. Shaped by supply and demand, Elvis is his blessing and curse...his trademark and his Scarlet Letter.

*They are all...Altered By Elvis*



## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

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### TIFFANY BARTOK (Co-Director and Producer)

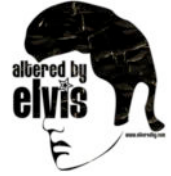


Arriving in New York from her hometown of Portland, Oregon with her BFA in Musical Theatre from University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Tiffany appeared in several productions around Manhattan, her favorite being the starring role in *Eurydice* at the Storm Theatre. She has achieved success as a makeup artist, painting the faces of a variety of celebrities from Daphne Rubin-Vega to Rue MacClanahan. Recently, she starred as Hayley Mills' daughter in Red Sky Pictures' and Vinyl Foote's debut collaboration, "*Stricken*", a short film written and directed by Jayce Bartok. She and Jayce just premiered "Altered By Elvis" at the 2006 Memphis International Film Festival.

### JAYCE BARTOK (Co-Director and Producer)



After appearing in numerous films and television shows as an actor, most notably Richard Linklater's "Suburbia", John Frankenheimer's "Andersonville" and Tom McCarthy's "The Station Agent", Jayce Bartok was inspired to write and direct, "Stricken", a short film starring Hayley Mills which made its world premiere at the 2005 Vail Film Festival. Eager to embark on a larger project, he produced and directed "Altered By Elvis", a feature length documentary about lives permanently changed, for better or worse, by the King of Rock 'n Roll. "Altered By Elvis" premiered at the 2006 Memphis Film Festival and is continuing its festival run to great response. "The Cake Eaters", Jayce's deeply personal feature screenplay, completed production in July of 2006, directed by Mary Stuart Masterson and starring Bruce Dern, Kristen Stewart, and Aaron Stanford. "Livingston Avenue" and "Tiny Dancer", Jayce's newest screenplays, are currently in development. With one produced feature script and an acclaimed documentary under his belt, Jayce steps into the realm of feature directing with "The Wedges", a stark, gritty drama set in the Smokey Mountains of North Carolina in the 1980's.



### **ANDY BATES (Producer, Director of Photography, Editor)**

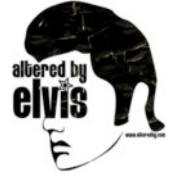


Andy has been creating award winning work for such companies as Rubbermaid, The Hoover Company, Invista, PGRDi, EDS, AMD and First Data for the past 10 years. During this time Andy was also recognized for independent projects such as the Best Cinematography award for his collaborative work in the 48 hour film festival short, "Wired", and filming and editing the Steve Almaas & Ali Smith's music video "Moving In Your Sleep" which was featured on the Paisley Pop label's "Stand-Ins for deciBels' A Tribute to the dB's" CD. With his wife, Joelle Carter, they founded Blarma Productions, a company that develops movies, commercials and music videos.

### **JOELLE CARTER (Co-Producer)**



Joelle is an accomplished actress and producer, and has been acting in film, TV, and theater for over a decade. She can be seen in many projects including the soon to be released thriller "Cold Storage", cult Favorite "High Fidelity", blockbuster "American Pie 2" and indie winners such as "Swimming", "Lisa Picard is Famous", and "Just one Time". In addition Joelle has starred in many television projects including last falls NBC show "Inconceivable", "Law & Order", and many more. She's also worked on national commercials for companies such as Barilla and Cingular. Together with her husband, Andy Bates, they created Blarma Productions.



# ALTERED BY ELVIS

## C R E D I T S

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**Directed by**

Tiffany Bartok & Jayce Bartok

**Produced by**

Tiffany Bartok & Jayce Bartok  
Andy Bates

**Cinematographer, Editor and Sound**

Andy Bates

**Co-Produced by**

Joelle Carter

**Music by**

Seth Rothschild

**Graphic Design**

Atoussa Ghanbarzadeh  
Kristine Rohl  
Nick Stone

**Additional Camera**

Lindsay Jaeger  
Jon Miller  
Jayce Bartok

Running Time: 54 minutes

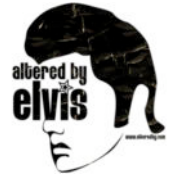
USA • 2005 • Color • Panasonic 100A • Stereo

A VINYL FOOTE & BLARMA PRODUCTIONS FILM  
NEW YORK • NY

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[www.alteredby.com](http://www.alteredby.com)

**VINYL FOOTE  
PRODUCTIONS**





**A Very Special Thanks To...**

Pamela Clarke Keogh  
Author "Elvis Presley The Man, The Life, The Legend"

and

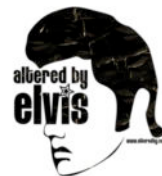
Tad Pierson  
American Dream Safari Tours

**A Special Thanks to Our "Stars"  
Without whom all this would not be possible**

The Huzzies:  
Rozanne Chamberlain  
Jo Ann Peaden  
Cindy Fellows

Jimmy Denson  
Jesse Lee Denson

Dixie Locke Emmons  
Vicki Fritz  
Larry Geller  
Terry Mike Jeffrey  
Paul MacLeod  
Alfred Wertheimer  
Ray "Sting Ray" Fitzpatrick  
Laureen Fitzpatrick  
Julia Fitzpatrick  
Leah Fitzpatrick  
Dennis Roberts  
Don Valentine  
Jason Baker  
Belinda (Kim) Gaddis  
Kambrie Jo Gaddis  
Kelsie Lynn Gaddis



# ALTERED BY ELVIS

## MUSIC

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### "ROCK N ROLL IS THE CURE"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

### "ALTERED BY ELVIS"

Written and performed by Ray "Stingray" Fitzpatrick  
and Mick Gaffney  
Published by Taffy Music

### "KING OF ELVIS"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

### "ABE BLUES"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recording

### "ACTION"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

### "PRIVATE WORLD"

Written & Performed by Valerie Morel  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

### "AMAZING GRACE"

Traditional  
Performed by Valerie Morel & Aaron Meicht  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

### "HUSSIES"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

### "JESUS AND MARY"

Written and performed by Lee Densen  
Published by Rainbow Music

### "THE MIRCLE OF THE ROSARY"

Written and performed by Lee Denson  
Published by Sony/ATV Acuff Rose Music (BMI)

### "PLEASE CONVINC ME"

Written and performed by Bettye Berger  
Published by Belardo Music

### "LONG ISLAND SURF SONG"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

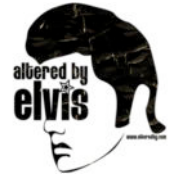
### "ABE PARTY SONG"

Written by Seth Rothschild  
Performed by The Altered Buys  
Published by Hairmat Music administered by BUG Music  
Courtesy of Little Recordings

The Altered Buys are:

Jayce Bartok, David Chernis, Andy Cotton, Konrad  
Meissner, Seth Rothschild

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## REVIEWS

**FILM** truth in entertainment  
**THREAT** .COM

### ALTERED BY ELVIS

by Timothy Brayton  
(2007-10-16)



2006, Un-rated, 52 minutes, Blarma Productions

Some thirty years after his death, Elvis Presley remains one of the most significant – hell, let's just say it, the single most significant pop artist of the modern age. We all know this, we all know that people continue to fall in love with his songs and strive to grasp some tiny shred of his aura, and yet the brilliant documentary "Altered by Elvis" still comes as a shock, with its catalogue of men and women whose lives were enhanced or destroyed – sometimes both at once – by the King of Rock and Roll, at all stages of his life and into the modern day.



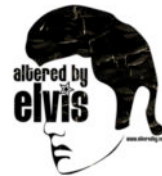
The place where fandom shades into obsession, where people begin to replace their own personality with the object of their veneration, might not seem like a very happy subject, but "Altered by Elvis" is playful and light throughout, perhaps because the crazies that Tiffany and Jayce Bartok found are by and large so gosh-darn nice. There's no better example than Paul Macleod, the operator of Graceland Too, the world's premier museum of Elvis memorabilia. In the short time we get to know Macleod, he comes across as more than a little unhinged, collecting every scrap of paper or gaudy knickknack that he can find for the apparent reason that he's not very good at doing anything else. Or Vicki Fritz, a transplant from Milwaukee to Memphis who practically brags about how her love of all things Elvis keeps her so occupied that she doesn't particularly care that she has no real friends or lovers. You hear these stories, and think that these must be sad, awful people; but they so clearly love their lives that it's frankly hard not to envy them a little bit. They may only find fulfillment in the vicarious adventures of a dead singer, but they are fulfilled when all is said and done.

As the documentary progresses from fans to those who actually knew Elvis personally, the focus begins to shift and intensify into something even more messianic. This can mean many things: for James Denson, brother of the man who taught Elvis to play guitar, the King was a sort of demon of ego. For Larry Geller, Elvis's hairstylist, he was a sort of holy object (Geller was the individual most responsible for Presley's late blossom of spirituality), and when Geller speaks of being one of the few people to touch his dead body, he uses the words that we might expect one to speak of a guru or saint. One might expect (at least, I did) that the more personal reflections would tend to be more, well, reflective: not so caught up with the Elvis myth as working to quietly demolish it, suggest that the King was just a human being. Not at all: the common thread of these interviews is if anything the idea that he was so much larger-than-life as to be something semi-divine or otherwise inhuman.

"Altered" isn't the half of it; these lives have been created and defined by Elvis, and watching one person after another explain how the mere fact of his existence has added weight and meaning to their own is by turns terrifying, hilarious and exhilarating. Simply put, "Altered by Elvis" is one of the finest studies you will ever see of the relationship between pop culture mythology and the needful fans so happily devouring those myths.

**VINYL FOOT**  
**PRODUCTIONS**





# **R THE REELER**

NEW YORK CITY CINEMA, FROM THE ART HOUSE TO THE RED CARPET

## **The King is Dead, Long Live the Kooks**

*By Chris Willard*

The boys have gone wild for the August 15 installation of NewFilmmakers! Summer Series, which features a range of features and short films about men exhibiting less than desirable behavior.

Screening in the “Mocks, Docs & More” category, co-directors Jayce and Tiffany Bartok’s *Altered By Elvis* opens on Paul McLeod’s Pepto-Bismal-pink shrine to Elvis, the Holly Springs, Miss. tourist attraction called

“Graceland Too.” The Bartoks didn’t have to put much effort into getting McLeod to talk about his masterpiece. “According to Paul, everyone wants to talk to him, and he instantly wants \$10,000,” Jayce Bartok told *The Reeler*. “I told him I had \$200 in my wallet, and he said, ‘\$300!’ He dropped like that. So I gave him the cash, and we filmed an hour-and-a-half of great footage.”

After McLeod’s story, the documentary features interviews with the men and women whose lives have been permanently affected by the infamous rock-and-roll legend -- his hairstylist, a woman he kissed onstage at a concert, classmates who have grown to despise him for his success. The interviews offer some comical insights into an aspect of Elvis’s life that is often overlooked: the millions of fans he left behind. “Elvis people are really nice and warm,” Bartok said. “And as kooky as they can be, I would hang out with them -- I have a real love for everyone in our film. They were definitely cool people, as bizarre as they are.”

Bartok said Elvis’s fan base continues to grow, with younger people and life-long fans looking for someone to fill the void the King of Rock and Roll left behind. “As time passes, there becomes a great nostalgia for an icon like Elvis,” Bartok said. “He put it all out there. He loved his mom; he was a drug addict, but a great performer. There is no real Elvis these days, [which creates] nostalgia for that kind of performer.”



**One of the many Presley devotees showcased in *Altered By Elvis* (Photo: Vinyl Foote Productions)**