

SCRIPT TO
SCREEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 2022 / 2:00 PM

WITH

ERIC ROTH
(SCREENWRITER)





Adapted from the celebrated science-fiction novel by Frank Herbert, *Dune* follows the epic story of Paul Atreides (Timothée Chalamet), son of the noble family that governs Arrakis. This inhospitable desert planet is notorious for its monstrous sandworms and vast reserves of spice, the precious substance that awakens the senses to make interstellar travel possible and incites the bloody conflict between House Atreides and House Harkonnen, the brutal empire that seeks to overthrow the rule of Duke Leto Atreides (Oscar Isaac). As the machinations of the cruel Baron Harkonnen (Stellan Skarsgård) unfold on Arrakis, Paul stumbles into the mysterious world of the native Fremen people after seeing visions of a mysterious woman (Zendaya). Seeking to protect his family and the planet, Paul finds aid from his mother Lady Jessica (Rebecca Ferguson), who has ambitions for her son with wide-reaching implications far beyond his understanding.

Oscar-nominated screenwriter and UCSB alumnus Eric Roth will join Pollock Theater Director Matt Ryan for a post-screening discussion of *Dune*.

COVID-19 event guidelines: Patrons attending this event will be required to show either a UCSB COVID status green pass, proof of full COVID-19 vaccination, or the results of a negative PCR test taken within 24 hours of the event, with matching photo ID. Audience members must bring masks and wear them for the entire duration of the event.

SCREENWRITER ERIC ROTH

Academy Award® winner Eric Roth attended UCSB, Columbia University, and UCLA. His first produced screenplay was Robert Mulligan's *The Nickel Ride*, which premiered at the 1975 Cannes Film Festival. Roth's other writing credits include *The Drowning Pool*, *Suspect*, and *Mr. Jones*. He wrote the Academy Award Best Picture winner *Forrest Gump*, for which he received Oscar and the Writers Guild awards for Best Adapted Screenplay. His other films include *The Horse Whisperer*, *The Insider*, *Ali*, *Munich*, *The Good Shepherd*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, and *A Star is Born*.



In television, Roth is the executive producer of five-time Emmy Award nominated Best Drama *House of Cards*, *Berlin Station*, and the 2018 Emmy Award-nominated Outstanding Limited Series *The Alienist*. His most recent film work includes *Dune*, directed by Denis Villeneuve, and *Killers of the Flower Moon*, directed by Martin Scorsese. He produced David Fincher's *Mank*, which was nominated in 2021 for Best Picture. He is writing the adapted screenplay from the Jo Nesbo short story *London*, directed by Ben Stiller and starring Oscar Isaac, as well as a biopic for Cher and a love story starring Chris Hemsworth. Mr. Roth has been nominated for six Academy Awards, three British Academy of Film Awards, three Critics Choice Awards, and five Writer's Guild of America Awards, including the prestigious Laurel Award for Screen, which is the Writers Guild of America West's lifetime achievement award.

MODERATOR MATT RYAN

Matthew Ryan earned his MFA in Screenwriting from Loyola Marymount University in 2008. He has been the Pollock Theater Director since the theater opened in October 2010. He created and hosts the *Script to Screen* series, which has welcomed prestigious guests such as writer/director/producer Jordan Peele (*Get Out*), writer/director Damien Chazelle (*Whiplash*), screenwriters Emily V. Gordon and Kumail Nanjiani (*The Big Sick*), and writer/director/producer David Mandel, actor Tony Hale, and actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus (*VEEP*). Ryan oversees the Pollock Theater Internship, which offers industry-level experience in live multi-camera television production and event planning. TV shows produced by students through this program have generated 15.1 million online views on the UCTV cable station.



SCRIPT TO SCREEN

The *Script to Screen* series examines the screenplay and its transition to the screen from the perspective of writers, directors, producers, editors, and actors. The Pollock Theater connects artists to our audience of aspiring production students, and Guild & Academy Members. Our Q&As transform into a television show that airs on UCTV. The series is hosted by the Pollock Theater Director, Matt Ryan, and co-produced by the Pollock Theater student staff.

This event is sponsored by the Carsey-Wolf Center and the Department of Film & Media Studies.

