



October 1, 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I write this letter in wholehearted support of the new documentary film “Far Out: Life On and After the Commune” by Charles Light and Daniel Keller. All of us at the Latchis Theatre had high hopes for this film – it told an important local story, and we knew it would connect. But we were not prepared for the audience response. Initially pitched as a one-off, we committed to showing the film for a week, hopeful there would be enough interest to justify that decision.

As I write this, we have just committed to holding over “Far Out” for a fifth week. Response has been steady, word-of-mouth has been strong, and the audience demographics have been broad. We knew the film would connect with folks “where were there then.” But there has been strong interest from younger folks, curious to connect with that important chapter in history and with young people just like them from an earlier time.

Why is this? Chiefly, I think, because the film is well-made, and it speaks authentically, lovingly, with humor, but without preaching. “Far Out” brings to life an era, and the cultural and spiritual forces of the times, but its chief lens is on the humanity of the people, the honest struggles and triumphs and regrets along the way. These themes are universal.

Later in the film, we see people returning to activism and doing it on larger and larger stages, culminating in some incredible moments working alongside some of the greatest rock and folk stars of the day against nuclear power. Again, this part of the film connects universally.

The end result has been an experience for us at the Latchis that has been truly “Far Out.” The film has done so well it has surpassed all films in sales here since the pandemic, except “Barbie.” I urge you to take a chance on “Far Out” – and to be willing to be very pleasantly surprised!

Please let me know if you need anything further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Potter". The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with loops and flourishes.

Jonathan Potter  
Executive Director of the Latchis Theater  
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