

ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD (2017)

- Released on December 25th, 2017
- 2 Hours 12 minutes
- 50 million USD (estimated)
- Directed by Ridley Scott
- Written by David Scarpa, John Pearson
- Imperative Entertainment, RedRum Films, Scott Free Productions
- Rated R for language, some violence, disturbing images and brief drug content

QUICK THOUGHTS

- Marisa Serafini
- Phil Svitek

DEVELOPMENT

- On March 13, 2017, it was reported that Ridley Scott was finalizing plans to direct the David Scarpa-scripted *All the Money in the World*, a film about the kidnapping of John Paul Getty III. Scott stated that he was attracted to the project because of Scarpa's script, adding "I just consumed it [...] I knew about the kidnapping, but this story was very, very provocative... Gail Getty was an exceptional character, and there are many facets of the man Getty that make him a really great study. There's this great dynamic. It was like a play, and not a movie."
- *All the Money in the World* was pulled from the prestigious AFI Fest in a move seen as a precursor to the movie being withdrawn
- The reshoots for "All the Money in the World" cost around \$10 million, which would put Wahlberg's \$2 million at 20% of the additional budget
- Kept the movie's holiday release (it moved from Dec. 22 to 25) and added \$10 million, paid for by financing partner Imperative Entertainment, to the drama's \$40 million budget as he filmed nearly 400 new shots over nine days in the U.K. and Italy.

WRITING (David Scarpa, John Pearson)

- Based on the 1995 book by John Pearson originally titled *Painfully Rich: The Outrageous Fortune and Misfortunes of the Heirs of J. Paul Getty*

STORY/TOPICS

CAST:

- Natalie Portman was initially pursued for the role of Gail Harris
- On March 31, 2017, it was reported that Michelle Williams and Kevin Spacey or Gary Oldman were circling the roles of Harris and J. Paul Getty, respectively, while Mark Wahlberg was in talks for an unspecified role
- On casting Spacey, Scott stated, "When I read the script, I started thinking, 'Who was Paul Getty?' In my mind, I saw Kevin Spacey. Kevin's a brilliant actor, but I've never worked with him, and I always knew I would have to have him portray Getty in this film [...] He was so obsessed with what he was doing [...] He wasn't giving people a second thought."
- In regards to Williams, Scott stated that while she was not his first choice, "Michelle is very special as an actress, and I've never done anything with her before [...] The family was very private and there was very little footage of [Gail], but around the kidnapping,

there was one particular interview she did that Michelle jumped at, and it shows Gail Getty being very assertive, very smart," both qualities Williams possessed

- On May 2, Charlie Plummer joined the cast as John Paul Getty III
- Timothy Hutton was added to the cast on June 16
- *The Hollywood Reporter* the secret part Jenkins played in replacing Kevin Spacey with Christopher Plummer. "If it gets out, and we don't cast this and we can't make it happen, the movie is dead," Scarpa recalled.
- "Ridley's casting agents basically asked if they could send the call out for the part under their production's name," Scarpa said. "So basically it was, 'Patty Jenkins is looking for a 90-year-old guy.' That was basically how they were able to do it. There was a lot of this sort of... crafty maneuvers in order to make this thing come off." "It was better to do it like this," the director said of keeping the recasting quiet, "because once you inform the system, it's everywhere. Once two people know what it's about, *bang*, it's all out there."

CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER (J. Paul Getty)

- Filmed 400 new shots with Christopher Plummer as J. Paul Getty.
- Had been on Ridley Scott's original cast wish list. Scott met with him at the Four Seasons the evening of Kevin Spacey's allegations. The next morning Plummer had read the script and agreed to do the film.
- Scott says that when Spacey was in the role it was a much colder version of Getty, but now, "Christopher is both sympathetic and cruel sometimes".
- "I want to keep working in my fifth act, until I drop dead. You know, things were coming to an end, and I thought 'I suppose I've got to retire now', even though I didn't want to. Then Ridley called me. When I read it, it was clear to me that it was a classic role. I couldn't wait to get my hands on it."
- He didn't have to wear any prosthetics (like Spacey) for the role but because Getty was a "mysterious recluse" the actor had to use his imagination
- After Kevin Spacey was replaced by Christopher Plummer, director Ridley Scott decided not to show Plummer any footage of Spacey in character, or even tell him how Spacey played the scenes. When finished, Scott found both performances to be quite different and equally effective in their own particular styles
- Ridley Scott said that one interesting aspect of re-filming all of Kevin Spacey's scenes with Christopher Plummer is that Spacey played J. Paul Getty as a more explicitly cold and unfeeling character, while Plummer's take on the role showed both a warmer side to the billionaire and the same unflinching refusal to simply pay off his son's kidnappers. Scott also stated that Spacey or his representatives had not called him since the news about Spacey's history of sexual harassment came out, and added that he had no plans to ever release the footage with Spacey to any public viewing forum

MARK WAHLBERG (Fletcher Chase)

- Mark Wahlberg had lost 30 pounds for his next film when he was asked to come back for re-shoots. His costumes had to be refitted
- Mark Wahlberg was able to negotiate for a pretty big fee in order to return to the film, landing a \$1.5 million bonus for about 10 extra days of shooting. The Post's first story on the topic estimated Wahlberg was making \$2 million for approximately 10 days of work of reshoots.
- Wahlberg is notorious for demanding high salaries. An anonymous source told the newspaper that "All is the Lost" director J.C. Chandor dropped out of "Deepwater

Horizon” during development because Wahlberg’s pay requirement was too much of the budget

MICHELLE WILLIAMS (Gail Harris)

- A source told The Post that Williams agreed to a figure in the hundreds of thousands of dollars or less but that Wahlberg demanded more and received a six-figure salary. Williams didn’t hesitate to agree to the reshoots, telling USA Today that she said to producers they could have her salary and her Thanksgiving holiday if it meant saving the film. “I said I’d be wherever they needed me, whenever they needed me,” Williams told USA Today. “And they could have my salary, they could have my holiday, whatever they wanted. Because I appreciated so much that they were making this massive effort.”
- Made less than one percent of what Wahlberg made during the reshoots.
- Williams is also repped WME

CHARLIE PLUMMER (John Paul Getty III)

- “I just sent in one audition tape,” Plummer recalls of the casting process. “My girlfriend actually taped it on her iPhone, and also read with me, so it was like a shaky camera.” His casting agent wasn’t too impressed with the quality. “She sent feedback like, ‘Charlie needs to do much better audition tapes.’ So I thought for sure I was, like, ‘Oh my God I totally ruined my chances.’”
- “I don’t have a lot of experience and this is certainly the first time I played a character who was at all based on a real person. So I did take full advantage of that and I did do as much research as I could. But I also didn’t want to overwhelm myself with research because I wanted to do my own interpretation. I thought if I was going to do it, it would really have to come from who I am as well. I then spoke to Ridley to really see his vision of the character and who this person was at this time in his movie; that was also really important for me. So I think all of those components really made up what my performance ended up being like.” - Plummer
- The Plummers, who are separated by 70 years and are not related, did not share any screen time, but the younger Plummer says the press tour has been eye-opening
- Hair designer Ferdinando Merolla says that he first used a wig and makeup to make Plummer look 10 years younger for scenes set in 1962, then ditched the wig so the actor would appear with his own hair in scenes set in 1973
- Christopher Plummer claimed he was prepared to replace Kevin Spacey as J. Paul Getty on short notice because he had previously been considered for the role and had read the script. He had less than two weeks to memorize his lines, but did have the advantage of having met Getty in London at a couple of his parties during the 60's

ROMAIN DURIS (Cinquanta)

- “I think he’s a good person who’s doing the wrong job.”

SYMBOLISM/TRIVIA/EASTER EGGS

- Although extremely rare, this is not the only time that a major character had to be recast in a Hollywood film after the filming was almost or entirely completed. For instance, after more than half of the movie Solomon and Sheba (1959) was done, the film's star and co-producer Tyrone Power, who played Solomon, suddenly died and had to be replaced with Yul Brynner. All of his scenes were then re-shot save for the ones where Power is in the far distance and therefore can easily be mistaken for Brynner

CONTROVERSY

- Beginning in late October, numerous sexual harassment and sexual assault allegations were made against Spacey, who played J. Paul Getty in the film. The film's premiere at the AFI Fest on November 16 was cancelled, and its Academy Awards campaign – which focused on Spacey's supporting role – was reworked.
- On November 8, it was announced that although the film was otherwise ready for release, reshoots had been commissioned to replace Spacey with Christopher Plummer in the role of Getty. Despite his earlier statements to the contrary, Scott clarified that Plummer had been his original choice for the role, and that studio executives had persuaded him to cast the "bigger name" Spacey. Spacey still appears in some wide shots that would have been too expensive or complex to reshoot within the release deadline.
- Reshoots with Plummer began on November 20 and ended on the 29th, with the first footage of him in the role released in a new trailer the same day. The decision cost millions of dollars in rush fees, among other costs, to meet the film's late-December release. The reshoots ended up costing \$10 million, making the final production cost of the film \$50 million.
- While it was initially reported that the actors filmed the reshoots for free, it was later revealed that Wahlberg was paid \$1.5 million while Williams only received \$800 in per diems, as she was contractually obligated to appear in reshoots, while Wahlberg was not. Wahlberg's fee for the original shooting is reported by the Hollywood Reporter to have been 80% of his usual \$15 million fee, however, the New York Times has reported that he was paid 80% less than his usual fee. The \$1.5 million received for reshoots was in addition to this. Wahlberg's contract allowed him to approve co-stars, and he reportedly refused to approve Plummer as Spacey's replacement unless he was paid extra. In response to the backlash brought on by the difference in the actors' pay, Wahlberg announced he would donate the \$1.5 million to the Time's Up movement in Williams' name

DIRECTING (Ridley Scott)

- Was adamant that he didn't want the release date of his film moved.
- "I'm fast and I thought that I have to do something right now," says Scott. "So already at that moment, I was discussing with my partner who had paid for the film, [billionaire] Dan Friedkin, if I can get Christopher Plummer, we can be off and running and I'll be shooting it in nine days."
- "He is so concerned with the present moment and whatever's happening right in front of him. That's one-hundred percent of where his priority lies. With Ridley, it's just about that moment on camera — not thinking about tomorrow, not thinking about yesterday, just whatever's right in front of you. It's just always wonderful to have a director who encourages you so much to focus on the present," he continues." - Charlie Plummer

PRODUCTION (Dariusz Wolski)

- On May 31, 2017, it was reported that *All the Money in the World* had begun principal photography

- Filming continued at Elveden Hall in west Suffolk for a week at the end of July
- The aristocratic Grade II-listed stately home was used to represent a Moroccan palace in the filming of a series of flashback scenes
- Kevin Spacey worked for just ten days on the film
- The original production reportedly concluded in August
- Dan Friedkin stumped up \$10m to fund the reshoots
- Some shots combined new footage with shots from the original that didn't include Plummer (like a scene during which Getty speaks to a group of journalists). "We staged them in a similar way, but we adapted a little based on the performance and the dynamic between the actors," Wolski says.
- The re-shoots needed to replace Kevin Spacey with Christopher Plummer took eight days to film at a cost of \$10 million. It also involved Mark Wahlberg and Michelle Williams having to return to the Rome set during the Thanksgiving holiday of 2017

EDITING/VFX (Claire Simpson)

- Scott leaned on visual effects only for a scene that was originally shot in Jordan; since it was impractical to return, Plummer was filmed in front of a green screen and the original desert photography was added behind him once Spacey had been digitally removed.
- "The rhythm was very different, his emphasis on the dialogue was very different, and that impacted the other performances in the scene. So we decided to replace complete scenes."-editor Claire Simpson

SOUND/MUSIC (Daniel Pemberton)

- "There were some great nuanced deliveries from the original scenes that made it into the new. We spoke to Tim Fraser, who was the production mixer for the reshoot, and asked him to use the same mics as Maurizio Argentieri had used in the original shoot to make it easier to swap between the material that was filmed six months ago and the new. We knew we'd have no time for ADR so the location recordings had to be of a very high standard."- sound editor Oliver Tarney
- "The sound effects were conformed into the new scenes, ... and we had time for a two-day foley shoot but that wouldn't cover what was nearly 30 minutes of new material," he adds. "It's mostly a mix of old and new, but the foley for Getty's feet and moves had to be replaced entirely as it's a very different performance."

PROMOTION

- Sony's marketing campaign has so thoroughly pushed the detail of the boy's severed ear that it spoils the film's biggest surprise

BOX OFFICE

- As of January 16, 2018, All the Money in the World has grossed \$23.5 million in the United States and Canada, and \$12.7 million in other territories, for a worldwide total of \$36.2 million, against a production budget of \$50 million
- On Christmas Day, the film's opening day, it grossed \$2.6 million from 2,068 theaters. In its first full weekend the film made \$5.4 million from 2,074 theaters, finishing 7th at the box office
- In its second weekend the film made \$3.6 million, dropping 36% and finishing 10th

RECEPTION

- On review aggregator [Rotten Tomatoes](#), the film has an approval rating of 77% based on 171 reviews, with an [average rating](#) of 7.1/10
- The site's critical consensus reads, "*All the Money in the World* offers an absorbing portrayal of a true story, brought compellingly to life by a powerful performance from Christopher Plummer."
- On [Metacritic](#), the film has a weighted average score of 73 out of 100, based on 45 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews"
- Audiences polled by [CinemaScore](#) gave the film an average grade of "B"
- Writing for [The Hollywood Reporter](#), [Todd McCarthy](#) said, "[Scott and Plummer] show what they're made of in *All the Money in the World*, a terrifically dexterous and detailed thriller about the Italian mob's 1973 kidnapping for ransom of the grandson of the world's richest man, John Paul Getty [sic]."
- [Matt Zoller Seitz](#) of [RogerEbert.com](#) gave the film three out of four stars, commending it as a whole despite criticizing the middle section as repetitive, and the character of J. Paul Getty being "repugnant" without proper context. He stated that "The film is also a testament to the awesome work ethic of its 80-year old but still apparently tireless director, who fired Kevin Spacey.... they're worth noting because the end product is much better than anyone could have expected, considering the challenges faced and met by all involved."

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS:

- Ridley Scott - Best Director
- Christopher Plummer - Best Supporting Actor
- Michelle Williams - Best Actress in a Motion Picture, Drama.

SEQUEL/LEGACY