



Beach Dancer Films

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Beach Dancer Films Begins Principal Photography on *Too Much Too Young* Coming-of-Age Miniseries Features Sex, Drugs, and Some Friends of Rock-'n'-Roll

MARINA DEL REY, CA, [Sept 23rd 2018] – Beach Dancer Films has is ready to begun principal photography on *Too Much Too Young*, a teen-tribes drama set in the UK during the early years of the Thatcher regime. The miniseries weaves together the plots of three celebrated pulp novels.

By 1979, the targets of punk rock's venom remained: unemployment was still high, inflation was still rising, and working families faced even bleaker prospects. But the fury of punk's first wave had gone the way of most angry outbursts, and largely dissipated. In its wake, England's youth looked farther than ever for inspiration. They found it in the unlikeliest of places: the Empire's former colonies.

"Punk was never going to galvanize people for long," recalls producer, screenwriter, and native Londoner Sandie West. "But it opened up youth culture for a rethink. Punk showed that the old mods v. rockers dynamic was old. Boring. Complacent. And what kids came up with after punk was just amazing."

In the industrial Midlands, bands like the Specials, the Beat, and The Selecter drew heavily from Jamaica's musical heritage, fusing ska, rocksteady, and reggae with punk and new wave to form a defiantly inclusive, irresistibly danceable hybrid: two-tone. In London, other kids went back just as far in history but a bit farther north, putting a mock-horror edge on American rockabilly music and dubbing it psychobilly. And Northern Soul fans uncovered gems from the catalogs of American labels like Okeh and Tamla, lending fresh momentum to a movement that had been brewing for years.

When West first read Steve Piper's novel *Too Much Too Young*, which documents the rise of two-tone, she immediately pictured a feature film. Plans changed when she read Craig Brackenridge's psychobilly homage *Psychobilly* and Pete McKenna's northern soul novel *Who the Hell is Frank Wilson?*

"Each of those genres, each of those subcultures, is worth a movie or ten on its own," she says. "But the bigger story is about the immense pressures facing kids back then and the ingenious ways they responded. By pulling those three plots together and taking our time with each, we can tell a bigger, more important story."

Too Much Too Young is tentatively scheduled for release in 2019.

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Sandie West is an award-winning director, actress, and producer, and the president of Beach Dancer Films. She was also the stunt double for the Pink Power Ranger in the original TV series.