

## The F Word

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By Buzz McClain -- *Video Business*, 10/6/2008

CINEVOLVE

Street: Oct. 21

Prebook: now

> **Fiction-doc hybrid of 2004 Republican National Convention is engaging, not enraging.**

Timing is everything, and timing may be the only thing going for this likeable but dated fiction-documentary hybrid. Josh Hamilton plays a disenchanted DJ who takes his microphone to the real-life demonstrations surrounding the 2004 Republican National Convention in New York City, where heated opinions and police batons fly. The film is modeled on Haskell Wexler's quasi-doc *Medium Cool*, which gave the same treatment to the violence-prone 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. Shot for \$5,000 and strikingly rendered in high-definition on a Macintosh, *The F Word* exhibits much passion for its politics—mostly left-wing—but lacks the urgent persuasiveness of Wexler's classic.

**Shelf Talk:** Take a tip from supplier Cinevolve and strike while the electoral iron is hot. Push this one to politically motivated college students and young adults, the only demographics likely to relate to the protestors interviewed in the film. Indie fans will know Hamilton from his well-received turn in DVD premiere *Outsourced*. Though Sam Rockwell, whose latest film *Choke* is in theaters now, is the best-known name in *F Word*, his cameo appearance is obscured in psychedelic animation. The DVD is a reissue from two years ago, but the Blu-ray is a debut.

*Drama, color, NR (mature themes, language, violence), 90 min., DVD \$14.95, BD \$22.95*

*Extras: director's commentary, deleted scenes*

*Director: Jed Weintrob*

*First Run: DVD premiere, Oct. 2006*