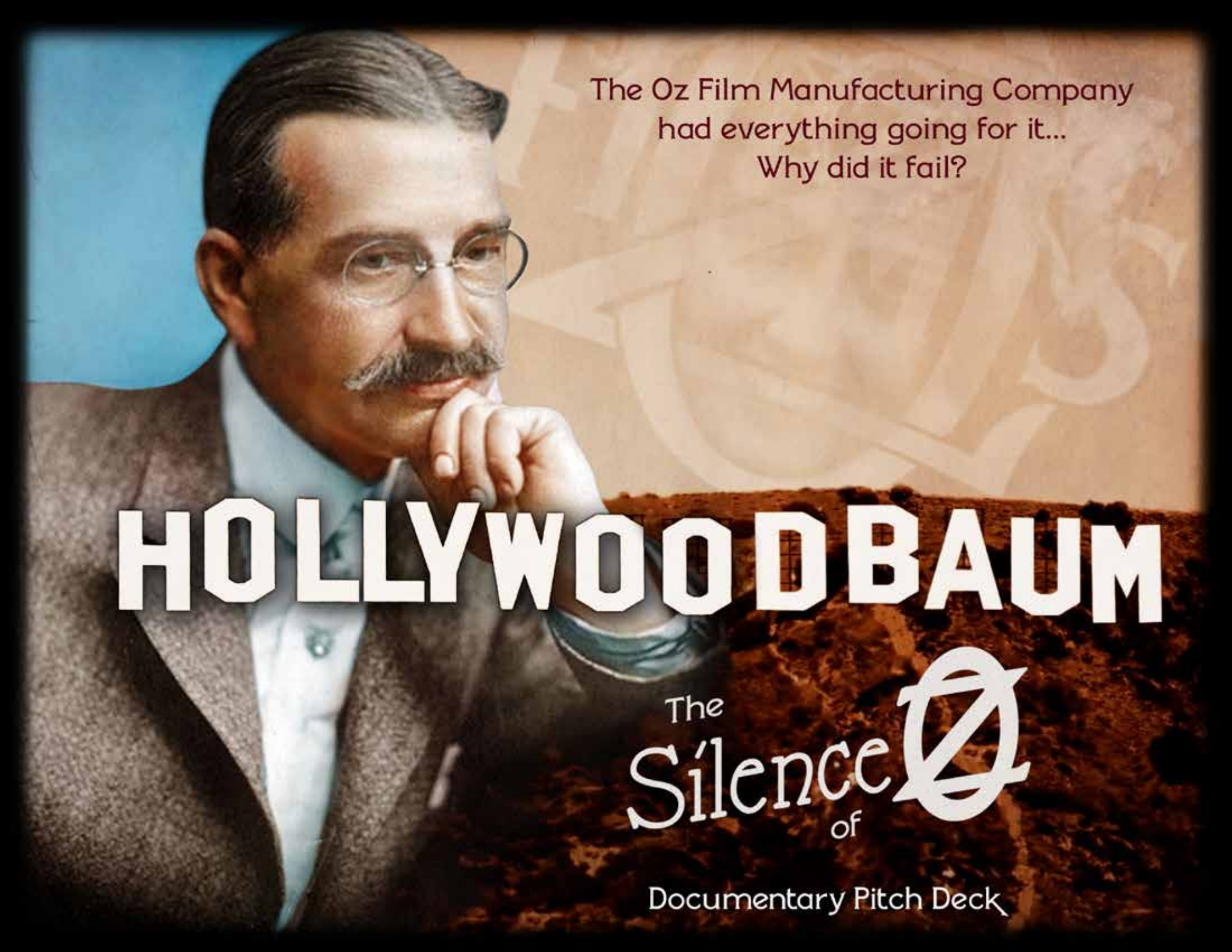




The Oz Film Manufacturing Company
had everything going for it...
Why did it fail?

HOLLYWOOD BAUM

The
Silence 
of

Documentary Pitch Deck



A silent film producer ahead of its time...

HOLLYWOOD



In 1910, L. Frank Baum, author of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, moved to Los Angeles in the up-and-coming neighborhood of Hollywood. That same year, the Biograph Company shot *In Old California*, the first film made in what would soon become the movie capitol of the world. A one-time thespian and a lifelong lover of the stage whose 1902 stage musical of *The Wizard of Oz* was wildly successful, Baum quickly became enamored of the nascent industry.

Four years later, Baum would partner with friends from his social club, The Uplifters, to form The Oz Film Manufacturing Company to produce films based upon his books. At a time when the silent film industry focused on shorts with musical cues culled from existing works, The Oz Film Manufacturing Company boldly proclaimed its intention to make only feature films, each with an original score composed specifically for that particular title.

The company had everything going for it: money, brand recognition, innovation. Why, then, did it fail? *Hollywood Baum* unveils the full history of The Oz Film Manufacturing Company. This documentary is directed and produced by Nate Barlow, whose recent work includes directing the award-winning short *A Brief History of Hollywood* and co-producing the PBS documentary *The Water of Life*.

LOS ANGELES

BOULEVARD

SCENARIO

BACK STORY

Baum's musicals

Fairylogues & Selig Oz films

Baum's life in Hollywood

OZ FILM MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Formation

Production of *The Patchwork Girl*

Post & the search for distribution

Production of other films

Positive reviews

Paramount Pictures release flops

Pivot to adult-oriented films & shorts

The search for distribution, Part II

New deal with Alliance

Reorganization

Closure

DENOUEMENT

What about the films?

Oz Film Manufacturing Company Legacy



Motion Picture News

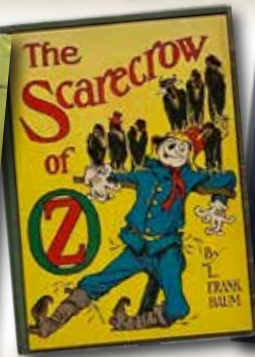
PLAIN TALK

Is easily understood, so we need not rob Mr. Webster's dictionary of its superlatives to tell you about this wonderful five-reel PHOTO EXTRAVAGANZA.

Released September 28th Through Paramount Pictures Corporation

Make Arrangement Now at Nearest Exchange

THE PATCHWORK GIRL OF OZ ... CLO...



The Oz Film Manufacturing Co.

Studio and Laboratories,
Santa Monica Boulevard,
Gower to Lodi St.,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Just Completed

Another marvelous Oz in motion pictures.

This PHOTO-EX...
entitled



The Reviews Are In!

- MGM's *The Wizard of Oz* is the most watched movie in cinema history.
- *The Wizard of Oz* novel sold over three million copies before entering the public domain in 1956.
- The book has been translated into over fifty languages; both the book and the MGM film enjoy global recognition.
- L. Frank Baum's world continues to thrill both new generations and diverse audiences, as evidenced by the success of the *Wicked* musical and the forthcoming revival of *The Wiz*.
- Despite the many books and documentaries on Baum's life, his time with The Oz Film Manufacturing Company remains largely unknown and is thus new territory.
- Hollywood history consistently sells well in both documentaries and narrative film adaptations.

The

Studio and Labo
Santa Monica B
Gower to Lo
Los Angele

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT - NATE BARLOW



I have always been a fan of both L. Frank Baum and Hollywood history. While Baum will always be remembered for his novel *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, few people realize he was also a Hollywood trailblazer. It is one thing for his Oz Film Manufacturing Company's movies to have flopped. It is another for their place in cinema history to be overlooked. The company's story deserves to be told.

Approximately 75% of American silent films are considered lost. Early studios considered their work disposable, doubly so after the advent of talkies, and the majority of films were shot on nitrate, a stock so flammable it could spontaneously combust. Sadly, the majority of those silent films that do survive today will someday be lost as the nitrate stock continues to decay. Most of these films are so little known that preservationists cannot generate the interest or money to save them.

The work of The Oz Film Manufacturing Company, however? That's a horse of a different color. Oz is a true cultural touchstone, with both the book and the 1939 MGM classic based upon it beloved the world over. What excites me about making this documentary is exploring an untold tale of early Hollywood, when the film industry was an anything-goes Wild West of ambitious entrepreneurs breaking new ground everyday - a story all the more fascinating because it "takes place" in the Land of Oz.

The Oz Co. ceased production last Saturday, turning over the studio to the Tiffany concern, which is now working with Herbert Brenon, Mrs. Leslie Carter, and J. Farrel MacDon-ald, who directed Oz films. He has the part opposite Mrs. Carter, that of the heavy. The Oz players have disbanded and are going with other concerns. The leading lady, Violet MacMillan is as yet uncertain where she will go, but a good place will be hers when she does decide. The other players have joined several companies, and are again at work.



Plant of the National Film Corporation at Los Angeles.

ONE of the newest concerns in the Los Angeles group of motion picture manufacturers is the old Oz studio at the corner of Gower street and Santa Monica Boulevard.

THE OZ FILM COMPANY
◆ PRESENTS ◆
L.FRANK BAUM'S WHIMSICAL FAIRY TALE

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