



“A moving and powerful portrait of trauma and recovery, Cracked Up will likely prove as therapeutic for many viewers as it clearly is for Hammond himself.”

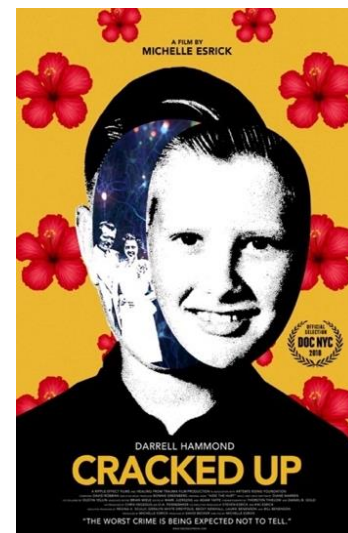
- Frank Scheck, **Hollywood Reporter**



In “**Cracked Up**,” director Michelle Esrick’s Award-winning documentary, we witness the impact that childhood trauma can have across a lifetime through the incredibly courageous and personal story of comedian, actor and *Saturday Night Live* legend Darrell Hammond. Renowned for his impressions of Bill Clinton, Sean Connery and more, Hammond wowed SNL audiences for a record-breaking 14 seasons. Although Hammond performed brilliantly on live TV, behind the scenes he suffered from debilitating flashbacks, self-injury and addictions, symptoms which were misdiagnosed by over 40 doctors as mental illnesses, including: multiple personality disorder, manic depression and schizophrenia. Not until a suicide attempt that brought Hammond together with Dr. Nabil Kotbi, was he properly diagnosed and treated, unleashing the memories his brain had locked away for over 50 years.

Esrick, gracefully weaves comedy and tragedy, helping us to understand the biological effects of childhood trauma in a new light. Breaking down barriers of stigma and replacing shame with compassion and hope, Esrick explores what is possible when science meets the human spirit.

“**Cracked Up**” also features *Saturday Night Live* creator and producer Lorne Michaels, SNL writer and producer Steve Higgins, Tony Award winning director Christopher Ashley and Dr. Nabil Kotbi, who helped Hammond finally understand that he was not mentally ill rather was suffering mental injury. Also appearing in “**Cracked Up**” is trauma expert Dr. Bessel van der Kolk, Academy Award-winning actress Whoopi Goldberg and Hammond’s childhood friend, Larry Laskowski.



NOTE:

- You can watch the Official **Trailer here** <http://bit.ly/CrackedUpMovieTrailer>
- **Visit our Website** and see it there crackedupmovie.com
- Director Michelle Esrick's **TEDTalk** <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KVnwC-taQXM>

Host A Screening In Your Community

“Cracked Up” is now available for screenings at schools, community venues, organizations, conferences, spiritual centers, treatment centers, hospitals, homes or any place people want to gather for an honest and transformative conversation leading to trauma informed communities. For more information contact TUGG, <https://www.tugg.com/titles/cracked-up>

Running Time 1:38

CRACKED UP (2019 USA, RT 98min) A RIPPLE EFFECT FILMS AND HEALING FROM TRAUMA FILM PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH ARTEMIS RISING FOUNDATION COMPOSER DAVID ROBBINS EXECUTIVE MUSIC PRODUCER BONNIE GREENBERG ORIGINAL SONG “HIDE THE HURT” MUSIC AND LYRICS WRITTEN BY DIANE WARREN 3-D COLLAGES BY DUSTIN YELLIN ASSOCIATE EDITOR BRIAN MIELE EDITED BY MARK JUERGENS AND ADAM YAFFE CINEMATOGRAPHY BY THORSTEN THIELOW AND DANIEL B. GOLD CO-PRODUCED BY CHRIS HEGEDUS AND D.A. PENNEBAKER CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY STEVEN ESRICK AND KIKI ESRICK EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY REGINA K. SCULLY, GERALYN WHITE DREYFOUS, BECKY NEWHALL, LAURIE BENENSON AND BILL BENENSON PRODUCED BY MICHELLE ESRICK PRODUCED BY DAVID BECKER DIRECTED BY MICHELLE ESRICK.

If you are interested in an interview with Director Michelle Esrick

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Teri Kane: terikane@gmail.com or call 917.692.1076