

ALEX GIBNEY ELON MUSK DOCUMENTARY

Musk is a 2026 [documentary film](#) directed by [Alex Gibney](#). It follows the billionaire businessman [Elon Musk](#), and his enormous influence in [right-wing](#) contemporary politics.

The film had its world premiere out of competition at the [83rd Venice International Film Festival](#) on September 8, 2026.^[2] It is scheduled to be released theatrically in the United States by [Bleecker Street](#) on October 9.

Synopsis

The documentary is reported to be a "definitive and unvarnished examination" of businessman [Elon Musk](#).^{[3][4][5]}

Listed as appearing in the film are ex-wife [Justine Musk](#), child custody rival [Ashley St. Clair](#), journalists [Kara Swisher](#) and [Zoë Schiffer](#), and engineers [Martin Eberhard](#) and [Geoffrey Hinton](#).^[2]

Production

[Alex Gibney](#) revealed in March 2023 that he had started work on the documentary and was "many months" into the production. Joining Gibney in producing the documentary are Jessie Deeter for Jigsaw Productions, Dana O'Keefe for Double Agent, Joey Marra and [Zhang Xin](#) for [Closer Media](#), with [Anonymous Content](#)'s Nick Shumaker and Jessica Grimshaw.^{[6][7]}

[Elon Musk](#) responded to the report of the documentary in production by using his [Twitter](#) account to express that it would probably be "a hit-piece".^[8] Gibney responded by asking "how would you know?" via his Twitter account.^[9]

[David Byrne](#) wrote and performed the song "Let Me Sell You a Dream", co-written with the documentary's composer [Daniel Pemberton](#), for the documentary. The song contains quotes from Musk, which Byrne described as, "All his own words. No editorializing. Straight from the man's mouth to mine".^[10]

Release

In May 2023, [HBO Documentary Films](#) acquired North American television and streaming rights to the film, with [Black Bear International](#), whose joint venture with [New Regency](#) called Double Agent co-produced the film, acquiring international sales rights, planning to sell the documentary at the [Marché du Film](#).^[11] In October 2023, [Universal Pictures Content Group](#) acquired international distribution rights from Black Bear.^[12]

In August 2025, [Bleecker Street](#) acquired U.S. distribution rights to the documentary; the deal excludes television and streaming rights, which were pre-bought by HBO.^[13] It is scheduled to be released theatrically in the United States on October 9, 2026, by Bleecker Street.^[14] It was previously scheduled to be released on October 16.^[10]

Reception

The film received positive reviews on the debut at the Venice Film Festival. On the [review aggregator](#) website [Rotten Tomatoes](#), 100% of 14 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 7.6/10.^[15] On [Metacritic](#), the film has a [weighted average score](#) of 77 out of 100, based on 14 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".^[16]

Writing for *Variety*, Owen Gleiberman reviewed it positively and said, "A lacerating and important watch, grounded in Alex Gibney's supremely insightful but user-friendly mastery of the documentary form... The film says that what should scare us about him is how he coddles his own interests by passing them off as the world's."^[17]

Musk described the film as "a hit piece that misses" and claimed that "It's a psy op" (a [psychological operation](#)).^[18] [NPR](#) reported that one of Musk's lawyers threatened to sue Gibney for defamation over a claim about lasers in the film.^[19]

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