

# Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe

***Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe*** is a 2022 American adult animated science fiction comedy film directed by John Rice and Albert Calleros and written by Mike Judge, Lew Morton, Guy Maxtone-Graham and Ian Maxtone-Graham. It is the second film based on the animated television series *Beavis and Butt-Head* after *Beavis and Butt-Head Do America* (1996). The film follows teenage delinquents Beavis and Butt-Head, who are transported 24 years from 1998 to 2022, encounter parallel-universe versions of themselves and are hunted by the US government.

The film was announced in February 2021. The production was conducted remotely via Zoom conferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The film was released on the streaming service Paramount+ on June 23, 2022, to acclaim from critics.

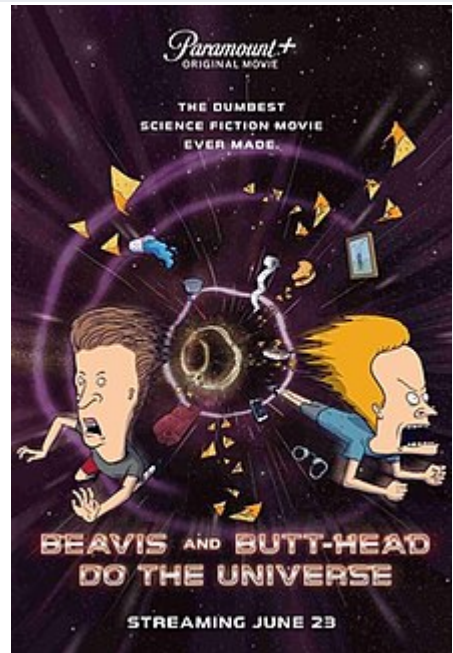
## Plot

In Highland, Texas, in 1998, Beavis and Butt-Head accidentally burn down their high school science fair. Believing they are at-risk youth, a judge sends them to space camp at the Johnson Space Center, where they become engrossed in a docking simulator. Impressed, the NASA astronaut Captain Serena Ryan invites them to train as astronauts, which they mistake as an offer for sex. They undergo training and board the Space Shuttle Endeavour to study a micro black hole.

In space, Beavis and Butt-Head create a catastrophe. When Serena volunteers to sacrifice herself, they mistake this for another offer of sex. They put on their spacesuits, and watch Serena through a window as she prepares to change. Enraged, Serena uses the shuttle controls to fling them into space, where they are sucked into the black hole.

The boys emerge in Galveston in 2022. The Pentagon detects their arrival and begins tracking them; Serena, now governor of Texas, vows to kill them to cover up her attempted murder. The boys meet intelligent versions of themselves from another universe, Smart Beavis and Smart Butt-Head, who explain that they have two days to enter a portal on top of Mount Everest to prevent the destruction of the multiverse.

## Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe



Release poster

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Directed by</b>   | John Rice<br>Albert Calleros  |
| <b>Screenplay by</b> | <u>Mike Judge</u><br><u>Lew Morton</u><br>Guy Maxtone-Graham<br><u>Ian Maxtone-Graham</u> |
| <b>Story by</b>      | Mike Judge<br>Guy Maxtone-Graham<br>Ian Maxtone-Graham                                    |
| <b>Based on</b>      | <i><u>Beavis and Butt-Head</u></i><br>by Mike Judge                                       |
| <b>Produced by</b>   | Matthew Mahoney   |
| <b>Starring</b>      | Mike Judge<br><u>Gary Cole</u>  |

Beavis and Butt-Head acquire an [iPhone](#) and accidentally activate [Siri](#), which they mistake for Serena; Beavis develops feelings for her. When Siri offers to set up their [smart home](#), they believe Serena is waiting for them in Highland. After Beavis becomes trapped in a [port-a-potty](#), he and Butt-Head are transported to a university. Smart Beavis and Smart Butt-Head urge them to enter the portal, which they have moved nearby, but instead they wander into a [gender studies](#) class, where the professor lectures them on [white privilege](#). Taking this to mean they have the right to do whatever they want, they steal a police car and are arrested. In jail, Beavis takes pills given to him by an inmate, transforms into his hyperactive alter ego [Cornholio](#), and incites an uprising. Discovering that [the boys seemingly died](#) in 1998, the warden decides that they are angels and [releases them](#).

The boys arrive home, expecting to find Serena, but find it has been placed for sale. They blame each other and separate, but are quickly abducted by government officials. Serena's downtrodden lieutenant, Jim Hartson, covertly frees the boys, saying he knows what Serena did to them. Smart Beavis and Butt-Head urge them to enter the portal, but the boys ignore them.

All parties arrive at Beavis and Butt-Head's house. As Serena is about to shoot them, she realizes they are not her enemies, only foolish teenagers. Smart Beavis and Smart Butt-Head urge Beavis and Butt-Head to enter the portal, but Hartson is accidentally sucked in instead, closing the rift and saving the multiverse. As Beavis attempts to express his love to Serena, Smart Beavis interrupts and offers to show her the cosmos; she leaves with him and Smart Butt-Head. In exchange for their silence, the government gives Beavis and Butt-Head their home back in its original condition. In another universe, the assembled alternative Beavises and Butt-Heads applaud Smart Beavis for becoming the first Beavis to have sex.

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
|                             | <a href="#">Nat Faxon</a><br><a href="#">Chi McBride</a><br><a href="#">Andrea Savage</a>   |
| <b>Edited by</b>            | <a href="#">Phil Davis</a><br><a href="#">Robert James Ashe</a>   |
| <b>Music by</b>             | <a href="#">John Frizzell</a>   |
| <b>Production companies</b> | <a href="#">MTV</a><br><a href="#">Entertainment Studios</a><br><a href="#">Titmouse, Inc.</a><br><a href="#">3 Arts</a><br><a href="#">Entertainment Judgemental Films</a> |
| <b>Distributed by</b>       | <a href="#">Paramount+</a>  |
| <b>Release date</b>         | June 23, 2022   |
| <b>Running time</b>         | 87 minutes  |
| <b>Country</b>              | United States   |
| <b>Language</b>             | English   |

## Voice cast

- [Mike Judge](#) as [Beavis and Butt-Head](#), David Van Driessen, Principal McVicker, Smart Beavis, Smart Butt-Head, Old Beavis, Old Butt-Head, Empress Beavis, Emperor Butt-Head
- [Gary Cole](#) as Mattison
- [Nat Faxon](#) as Jim Hartson
- [Chi McBride](#) as Judge, Metcalf
- [Andrea Savage](#) as Serena Ryan
- [Carlos Alazraqui](#) as Flight Specialist Valdivia
- [Susan Bennett](#) as Siri
- [Mary Birdsong](#) as Reporter
- [Greg Chun](#) as Bus Driver
- Phil Davis as Federal Whistleblower Hotline Operator
- [Chris Diamantopoulos](#) as Police Officer, Prisoners, Corrections Officers
- [Zehra Fazal](#) as Butt-Head Fantasy Woman #1
- [Ashley Gardner](#) as Anita Ross

- [David Herman](#) as German Tourist, Gage, Jail Warden
- [Brian Huskey](#) as Richard Wack
- [Toby Huss](#) as Todd Ianuzzi
- [Phil LaMarr](#) as Flight Specialist Jackson, NSA Agents, Police Officer
- Whitney Martin as Disrespect Prisoner
- [Mike Massimino](#) as Launch Control Voice
- [Jim Meskimen](#) as NASA Director Ogilvie, Extraction Team Leader, Prisoners
- [Tig Notaro](#) as Professor
- [Toks Olagundoye](#) as Campaign Aide, Butt-Head Fantasy Women #2 & 3, & Female Students
- [Jimmy O. Yang](#) as Flight Specialist Jung, Jeff
- [Stephen Root](#) as Jail Tattoo Artist
- [Martin Starr](#) as Corrections Officer, Ball-kicking Biker
- Tru Valentino as McCabe, Head Corrections Officer

[Daria Morgendorffer](#), Principal [McVicker](#), Tom Anderson, Stewart Stevenson, Mrs Stevenson, Coach Buzzcut and Todd Ianuzzi make cameo appearances, most of them silent.

## Production

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### Development

In 2008, [Mike Judge](#) stated, "I like to keep the door open on *Beavis and Butt-Head*, because it's my favorite thing that I've ever done. It's the thing I'm most proud of." However, he stated his reservations regarding the "year and a half [to] two and a half years" that it would take "to do that right," saying that a revival project "comes up every three years." In 2009, while promoting his film *Extract*, Judge said he would like to see the characters on the big screen again, and that "I kind of think of them as being either 15 or in their 60s. ... I wouldn't mind doing something with them as these two dirty old men sitting on the couch."<sup>[1]</sup>

In March 2018, Judge told [Rotten Tomatoes](#) that the idea of doing a second *Beavis and Butt-Head* movie had been brought up two months prior, saying "It's just a matter of coming up with an idea that feels like it's worth doing."<sup>[2]</sup> In July 2019, Judge again reiterated interest in a potential movie, stating, "I've got some ideas. I think it would have to be something that makes it relevant today. I think I might've figured out a way to do that." He further stated that he would probably direct it.<sup>[3][4]</sup>

In February 2021, it was announced that a new *Beavis and Butt-Head* movie was in production for [Paramount+](#), with Judge on board. The news came following the announcement of a revival series the year prior, which was originally set to air on [Comedy Central](#).<sup>[5]</sup> Originally, Paramount executives wanted a live-action *Beavis and Butt-Head* movie, with Judge holding auditions over Zoom for the project before eventually talking the company into doing an animated movie instead to reestablish the characters first, with a live-action movie still a possibility.<sup>[6]</sup> In January 2022, Judge tweeted drawings of older versions of *Beavis* and *Butt-Head*.<sup>[7]</sup> A month later, the film's title was revealed as *Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe*.<sup>[8]</sup> [John Frizzell](#), who composed *Do America*, returned to compose the score.<sup>[9]</sup> The entire production was conducted remotely via [Zoom](#) conferencing due to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#).<sup>[10]</sup>

### Animation

While the series and the first film *Do America* were hand-drawn animated by Rough Draft Studios, animation services for *Do the Universe* were provided by Titmouse, Inc in Los Angeles, Snipple Animation Studios in the Philippines, and Inspidea in Malaysia using Adobe Animate, making it the first official *Beavis and Butt-Head* animation to be done digitally. While some layouts were handled by Studio Moshi in Melbourne and Ink Animation in Singapore.<sup>[11]</sup>

## Release

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The film's trailer was released on June 2, 2022.<sup>[12]</sup> A sneak peek debuted three days later, at the MTV Movie and TV Awards.<sup>[13]</sup> *Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe* was released on Paramount+ on June 23, 2022,<sup>[14]</sup> and a day later on the UK version of the service.<sup>[15]</sup>

The soundtrack was released digitally on July 8, 2022, from Paramount Music.<sup>[16][17]</sup>

A DVD of the movie along with season 9 of the show was planned for release in 2023, but later canceled due to unknown reasons.

## Reception

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On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 97% of 64 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 7.2/10. The website's consensus reads: "Fart-knockers beware: Beavis and Butt-head are back, and they're just as stupidly hilarious (or hilariously stupid?) as ever."<sup>[18]</sup> On Metacritic, the film has a weighted average score of 70 out of 100, based on 19 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".<sup>[19]</sup> Andy Kelly of *The Gamer* complimented the movie as one of the best movies of the year and a revival done well of which he also noted "*Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe* is a fine return to form for these characters—and for Mike Judge, whose distinctive approach to comedy I've dearly missed".<sup>[20]</sup> Sol Harris of *Starburst Magazine* gave the movie 4 out of 5 stars of which he wrote "*Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe* is a completely worthy follow-up to *Do America* and, frankly, a frontrunner for the title of funniest movie of 2022."<sup>[21]</sup>

## References

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## External links

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- *Beavis and Butt-Head Do the Universe* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt14145426/>) at *IMDb*
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