

Dennis Quaid on New Film: 'Reagan Was a Hero'

Actor Dennis Quaid brings the story of Ronald Reagan to the big screen in the new biopic "Reagan". Quaid has portrayed real characters in numerous movies, including an astronaut in the film "The Right Stuff", rock 'n' roll icon Jerry Lewis in "Great Balls of Fire" and more. Now he has the role of America's 40th President in the film "Reagan"—one he calls his favorite.

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"It's become my favorite role I have ever had actually. Reagan was a hero of mine. I voted for him twice and he was like, everybody's dad. He was a real heavyweight, and he won the Cold War. It really meant a lot to me in my life for all of us of that generation and for the generations today. And playing him was the challenge of my life. The biggest challenge of playing Reagan was getting down to him as a person, not the hero that he was to me and so many people, and that's kind of warts and all because that's who we are," he told CBN News.

"There was a place in Reagan, in talking to people who really knew him and were close to him, that was very private, that was impenetrable. This is the great communicator we're talking about. That's what makes people tick down at their core. And that was where I wanted to get to. Like I said, I didn't want to do an impersonation, and fear went up my spine because Reagan was like Muhammad Ali," he continued.

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Quaid did point out the similarities the Reagan family had

with his family.

“We were similar in many ways. I didn’t see myself as Reagan. I didn’t think I looked like him and sounded like him. But we both have positive dispositions, I think, down at the bottom of things. And he was an actor,” he said.

Finding Reagan’s distinctive voice for the role was also important for Quaid.

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