# Cannes Premieres 'The Apprentice' Depicting Trump-Cohn Relationship Amid Controversy



On May 20, 2024, the Cannes Film Festival premiered "The Apprentice," a film directed by Ali Abbasi that explores Donald Trump's rise in the 1980s through his relationship with lawyer Roy Cohn. Starring Sebastian Stan as Trump and Jeremy Strong as Cohn, the film examines how Cohn mentored Trump in the world of New York politics and business.

Set against the backdrop of Trump's ongoing legal issues in New York, "The Apprentice" delves into significant aspects of Trump's early career, including Cohn's legal assistance in a discrimination lawsuit against the Trump Organization. Abbasi emphasizes that the film is not a comprehensive biopic but focuses specifically on the dynamic between Trump and Cohn.

The film includes controversial scenes, notably a depiction of a rape involving Trump's first wife, Ivana, which generates considerable discussion. Financier Dan Snyder reportedly objected to the film's portrayal of Trump, complicating its release prospects.

"The Apprentice" is competing for the festival's top prize, the Palme d'Or. Despite the controversy, the film is positioned as a significant contender in the awards circuit, resonating strongly within the artistic community.