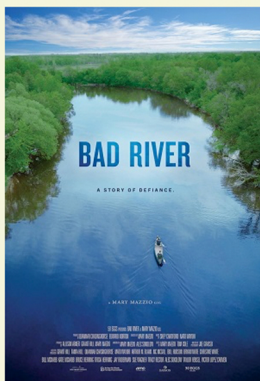


Reviews for March 15th, 2024

Documentary Round- Up

BY AVI OFFER



Bad River is an eye-opening, provocative and enraging documentary about the struggles of Bad River Band, a Chippewa reservation in Wisconsin, to protect and preserve their native land. They're worried about Line 5, an old pipeline running through their land that's at risk of bursting and contaminating Lake Superior with toxins. Enbridge, a pipeline and energy corporation, owns the pipeline. Director Mary Mazzio interviews many members of the Bad River Band Reservation each of whom provides insights and shares their candid feelings about their battles to protect their sacred land. Their voices matter, so kudos to Mazzio for showing compassion and empathy by allowing them to speak their mind and to share their side of the story in a way that feels genuinely heartfelt. *Bad River* manages to be both informative and engaging without becoming dry or academic. You'll learn about the history of Bad River Band and their legal battles with Enbridge who aren't willing to take responsibility for the consequences of Line 5's threat to the Bad River Band Reservation.

Narrated by Quannah Chasinghorse and Edward Norton, this empowering documentary is a powerful call for truth, justice and, above all, democracy, in a country with a dysfunctional democracy. It also features stunning cinematography that captures the majesty of the Bad River Band's land. *Bad River* will probably make most audiences feeling indignant, as they have every right to feel, but also empowered. After all, knowledge is power. Decency is a major strength. As Pablo Neruda once wisely wrote in a poem, "They can cut all of the flowers, but they can't stop the spring from coming." *Bad River* is a potent reminder that there is, indeed, a sliver hope for truth, justice and democracy. At a running time of 1 hour and 27 minutes, it opens in select theaters in NYC, LA, Boston, Chicago, Washington, DC, Seattle, Milwaukee, Detroit, Atlanta, Madison, WI, Ashland, WI, and Minneapolis.