**REF: 182** 

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: Xanadu



Library Image



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# **Information**

Release Title: Xanadu 19th September 1980 (United Kingdom)

Origin: United States

From: AKA:

Release date: United States – 19th July 1980 (Hollywood, California)

Genres: Fantasy, Musical, Romance

Disc Nos. - 1 Certification: A Duration: 1h 36m Region Code: Region: 2 Product Code:

MPN: EAN: UPC:

Languages: English

Filming locations: Pan-Pacific Auditorium - 7600 W. Beverly Boulevard, Fairfax, Los Angeles, California,

USA (Destroyed by fire in 1989)

Sound mix: Dolby Digital, SDDS, DTS, Dolby Atmos

Colour: PAL

Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1



## 1 - Title: Xanadu

# **Storyline**

Sonny Malone is a struggling artist in Los Angeles attempting to make a living by freelancing. Having failed to find passion in his art, Sonny rips up one of his sketches and throws it into the wind; drifting at a mural of nine sisters that suddenly comes alive. The sisters fly across Earth, but one of them roller skates through town and collides with Sonny. She kisses him before skating away, leaving him confused.

Having returned to his old job of painting album cover reproductions at AirFlo Records, Sonny is tasked with painting an album cover reproduction for a group called the 9 Sisters. The cover shows the mysterious woman Sonny encountered earlier roller skating in front of an abandoned art deco auditorium. The photographer notes that the woman was not supposed to be on the cover, but suddenly appeared in a few of the shots. Sonny eventually traces her across town to the aforementioned auditorium, where she introduces herself as Kira. The two of them fall in love, though Kira refuses to tell Sonny anything about herself.

Sonny also meets and befriends Danny McGuire, a former big band orchestra leader turned construction mogul. Like Sonny, Danny was also romantically involved with a singer in the 1940s who resembled Kira; her subsequent departure resulted in his own loss of creative passion. Kira encourages Sonny and Danny to open a nightclub at the auditorium called Xanadu, and the two begin working together as partners. All the while, Sonny and Kira continued to develop their romantic feelings for each other, cumulating in a magically animated sequence. The night before the club's opening, however, Kira confesses to Sonny that she is actually Clio, one of the Nine Muses of Olympus. She was sent to inspire the creation of Xanadu, but she cannot stay despite their mutual feelings. Sonny gets upset at the revelation, and Kira departs Earth having fulfilled her duty.

Danny tells Sonny to keep pursuing Kira, encouraging Sonny not to give up on his ambitions like he did after his own muse left him. Sonny manages to enter Kira's home by roller skating into the Muses' mural. Inside the realm of the gods, Kira's father Zeus denies Sonny's plea to let Kira come back to Earth, and despite Kira's mother Mnemosyne interceding for Sonny and Kira, Zeus sends Sonny back to Earth. Kira professes her feelings for Sonny, and Zeus ultimately relents, allowing her to be with Sonny for "a moment, or maybe forever." Kira and the Muses perform at the Xanadu grand opening before returning to their realm. Sonny is initially saddened by their departure, but upon seeing a waitress who looks exactly like Kira, he stops her and asks to talk.

#### **Personal Review**

Not really sure what to make of it, choreography, songs and music are ok for the theme, however the acting of some of the characters mainly Michael beck as Sonny Malone is disappointing, comes across as a little 'wooden' and not convincing, is it the script, the editing? The pausing between lines could do with reworking or the storyline further developed as to make it more consistent without giving it a conception of jumping from one scene to another as if one was on stage...this gives the impression that the script is also a little on the weak side as to support the consistency. This could have worked well given the right casting, directing and correct editing.

### Cast

Olivia Newton-John as Kira (Terpsichore)
Michael Beck as Sonny Malone
Gene Kelly as Danny McGuire
Matt Lattanzi as young Danny McGuire
James Sloyan as Simpson
Dimitra Arliss as Helen
Katie Hanley as Sandra
Fred McCarren as Richie
Ren Woods as Jo
Melvin Jones as Big Al
Ira Newborn as 1940s Band Leader
Jo Ann Harris as 1940s Singer
Wilfrid Hyde-White as Heavenly Voice #1 (Zeus)

Coral Browne as Heavenly Voice #2 (Mnemosyne)

Darcel Wynne, Deborah Jennsen, Alexander Cole, Adolfo Quinones, Matt Lattanzi, and Miranda Garrison as dancers

#### The Muses

Sandahl Bergman

Lynn Latham

Melinda Phelps

Cherise Bate

Juliette Marshall

Marilyn Tokuda

Yvette Van Voorhees

Teri Beckerman

#### **Members of the Tubes**

John "Fee" Waybill

Rick Anderson

Michael Cotten

**Prairie Prince** 

Bill Spooner

Roger Steen

Vince Welnick

Re Styles

#### **Parents Guide**

Certification

Argentina:Atp Australia:G Austria:10 Brazil:Livre Canada:PG China:13 Colombia:12 Denmark:7 Finland:S France:Tous publics Ireland:PG Japan:PG-12 Mexico:A Netherlands:AL (DVD rating) New Zealand:PG Norway:7 (TV rating) Norway:7 (1980, cinema rating) Philippines:PG-13 Poland:7 (self-applied) Portugal:M/6 Russia:12+ Singapore:PG Sweden:7 United Kingdom:A (original rating) United Kingdom:PG (video rating) United States:PG (No. 26042) West Germany:6 (f)

Sex & Nudity -None Violence & Gore - None Profanity - Mild Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking - None Frightening & Intense Scenes - None

