Since Wilder's retirement after 1981's Buddy Buddy, many aspiring filmmakers have made a pilgrimage to his office in Beverly Hills, but Cameron Crowe—whose impressive credits include Fast Times At Ridgemont High, Say Anything..., and Jerry Maguire—was intent on sticking around until the elusive 91-year-old answered all his questions.

Film-maker Cameron Crowe's account of his conversations with film legend Billy Wilder – which took place in 1997/8 when Wilder was 90 years old – is a mine of fascinating information, covering the master's reflections on his own life and work and his opinions on other (wider) aspects of cinema, past and (then) present.

Review: Conversations With Wilder - Books - The Austin...
Conversations with Wilder, an invaluable, photo-intensive volume, is a kind of remake of Truffaut's must-read interview book Hitchcock, with Cameron Crowe in the inquisitive Truffaut role and wily 93-year-old Billy Wilder as the crafty master director. Drawing on his experience interviewing the monsters of rock and his deep, shot-by-shot knowledge of Wilder's work, Crowe gently and cunningly...

The magnificent films of Billy Wilder still inspire his Hollywood heirs, not least Cameron Crowe, whose freewheeling director-to-director dialogue with the 93-year-old legend will be published as...

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