

Warriors

Names that endure, heroes that will never die



Lavish, all-action dramatic spectacles based on the lives of six men who shaped the world around them, either by sheer force of will, genius, courage or even greed.

Powerful, magnetic personalities that have earned their place in the world's imagination, all prepared to die for what they believed in – whether it was God or gold, the pursuit of power and glory or a magnificent ideal.

From Spartacus, the gladiator who brought Rome to its knees, to the audacious military genius Napoleon, this series combines absorbing drama with CGI to ask what were the motives, the strengths and even the weaknesses that drove these men to achieve what no one else had dared.

Spartacus

Spartacus knew he faced impossible odds but he choose to ignore them. As the leader of the greatest rebellion the Roman Empire ever knew, his vision and bravery led his band of renegades to an incredibly victory over the supposedly invincible Roman legions, pushed the Empire to the brink of revolution and won immortal fame as an icon of the oppressed.

Hernan Cortés and Montezuma

As one for the great conquistadors, Cortés' ambition and greed were only matched by his cunning. But before he arrived in the New World, he had never fought, let alone won, a battle. How did such a novice, with just 500 men at his disposal, bring the mighty Aztec Empire to its knees?

Attila the Hun

Attila's name has passed into history of one of the most feared warriors of all time, synonymous with burning ambition and vengeful savagery. His decision – a decision that few would make after a humiliating defeat – to attack Rome itself would be something the Roman Empire would never recover from.

Tokugawa Ieyasu

As cunning as he was brave, Tokugawa Ieyasu brought unity and peace to feudal Japan after 150 years of civil war. On 21st October 1600, he fought and won the most decisive battle in Japanese history. The crushing victory that would mould the future of his country was the result of an audacious gamble to attack the armies of his ally.

Napoleon

Napoleon created an empire greater than any seen in Europe since the days of Rome. But little more than ten years before, Napoleon Bonaparte had been a penniless captain in the French army. What had led to his dramatic rise to absolute power? Napoleon himself wrote that the answer lay at the siege of Toulon in 1793. It was this battle that gave Napoleon the self-belief which drove him to the top.

Richard the Lionheart and Saladin

1192, Jaffa, a vital strategic port on the coast of Palestine. The Christians are on the brink of defeat in their crusade against Saladin for control of the Holy Land. Richard the Lionheart staked his reputation on this final battle at Jaffa. With just a handful of knights and a few hundred infantrymen, he led an assault and gained a victory which cemented his position at the personification of the noble warrior king.

Producer

Mark Hedgcock *How Art Made the World*
Ancient Rome – The Rise and Fall of an Empire

Executive Producer

Matthew Barrett *Hiroshima, Horizon*,
Ancient Rome – The Rise and Fall of an Empire

A BBC/Discovery Channel/ProSieben/ERT co-production

HISTORY

HD

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M & E available

FACTS & FIGURES

After defeat at the Battle at Siler River, 6,000 of Spartacus' men were crucified on the Apian Way. Spartacus' body was never found.

Tokugawa Ieyasu founded Tokyo.

The Aztecs believed that one of their gods, Quetzalcoatl, would one day return to Earth. Statues depicted him as white, bearded and wearing a helmet remarkable similar to the one the Spaniards wore.

Saladin chivalrously sent Richard the Lionheart two fresh horse so he could fight on during the battle at the port of Jaffa.