Critical Acclaim For
‘Only the Young’
By Jason Tippet and Elizabeth Mims

“The kids in Only the Young are all right, and so is this likable movie. . . . Mr. Tippet . . . has a terrific eye and a steady hand.”

“Sweet, heartbreaking and highly accomplished. . . . artful without being arty, composed yet not imposed; rich with immanence, with an apprehension of unfolding, mysterious life, [the images] make you feel without telling you what to feel.”
—Robert Lloyd, Los Angeles Times

“If you think one summer in the lives of three skate punks in a sunny Southern California Podunk wouldn’t make a fresh, engaging documentary, Only the Young is here to prove you wrong.”
—Colin Covert, Minneapolis Star Tribune

“Charming. . . . it’s clear that filmmakers . . . like their three main characters . . . and you will, too. . . . Tippet’s compositions, whether landscapes or people, are beautiful and give this film its much-needed sense of intimacy and delicacy.”
—David Lewis, San Francisco Chronicle

“Human and affecting. . . . [The film] will rouse fans. . . . [the] likable and interesting teen characters feel less like documentary subjects than like figures J.D. Salinger might have crafted in a genial mood. . . . The helmers find consistently invigorating camera angles and a smooth editing scheme.”
—Robert Koehler, Variety

“An elegiac portrait of teen America.”
—Farran Smith Nehme, New York Post

“An original and handsome work that belies the age of the two young filmmakers behind it.”
—Matthew Odam, Austin-American Statesman

“[This] fast-moving documentary zeros in on three ultra-likable Southern California high-schoolers, following them through a succession of hairstyles and turning points.”
—Sheri Linden, The Hollywood Reporter

“[The film] heart-tethers us to these teenagers, paying tribute to their unique and private selves while allowing the audience to see its own reflection in them.”
—Kimberley Jones, Austin Chronicle

“A lush beauty of a documentary. . . . Only the Young captures the lyricism of late childhood and the bewilderment of the road ahead.”
—Sarah Fisch, The Village Voice
“Beautifully composed. . . Only the Young appreciates what it means to be young, to be naïve and also skeptical, to have expectations and to resist them. . . . It’s good to be young, of course. It’s even better to share being young.” 9 Stars (out of 10).
—Cynthia Fuchs, PopMatters

“Starkly compelling. . . In its quiet way, Only the Young is deeply involving.”
—Mike Hughes, Salinas Californian

“Finely wrought visualizations. . . filmed with an artist’s eye. . . Tippet and Mims’s achievement is to reveal [the subjects’] culture, subtly, achingly, by allowing those who grew up under its influence to live and narrate their lives in the only terms they know.”
—Andrew Schenker, Slant Magazine

“Sunny visuals and often-intoxicating adolescent energy.”
—Kevin McDonough, United Feature Syndicate

“An intimate coming-of-age film. . . Mims and Tippet achieve an astonishing level of naturalistic intimacy, conveying their subjects as fully-realized characters that seem universally familiar yet distinct. Viewers will feel wonderfully lost in [subjects] Garrison, Kevin and Skye’s world.”
—Basil Tsiokos, What (Not) to Doc