

**WNET
ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT
4th QUARTER 2023**

ARTS

Becoming Frida Kahlo #103

Airdate/Time: 10/3/23, 9pm; 10/5/23, 2am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: In a striking new three-part series, *Becoming Frida Kahlo* strips away the myths to reveal the real Frida - a passionate and brilliant artist living through extraordinary times. In this episode, dangerous politics and turbulent love shock Frida's world, while love and trauma shape her final years. Diego and she divorce, then remarry. As her body fails her, her painting thrives.

State of the Arts #4202

Airdate/Time: 10/29/23, 11:30am

Length: 30-minutes

Description: This episode featured the following: In the USSR, they rebelled against the regime through satire and parody. In New York, they were crowned Soviet Pop Artists. Now, decades after the collapse of both the USSR and their friendship, the dissident artists once known as the duo Komar and Melamid reflect on their unlikely life story, as Russian totalitarianism once again reaches a fever pitch and the Zimmerli Art Museum mounts a new exhibition: Komar and Melamid in America. The Trenton Circus Squad features jugglers, unicyclists, aerialists, and clowns—a mix of inner-city youth and kids from the surrounding suburbs and area private schools—all working together to put a smile on audience faces. Founder Tom von Oehsen, who once studied at the legendary Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Clown College, has been bringing his circus dreams to life for the past eight years under a big top in Trenton and beyond. Heather Palecek's solargraphs are taken with simple pinhole box cameras. She returns to them months or even years later to see what her collaboration with nature has produced. Her images made in the Pine Barrens are in the current exhibition *A Pinelands Portrait* at the Stockton University Art Gallery.

Great Performances at the Met: Champion

Airdate/Time: 11/12/23, 12pm

Length: 3-hours

Description: Grammy Award-winning composer Terence Blanchard's operatic retelling of the dramatic story of boxer Emile Griffith at the Met Opera. Bass-baritone Ryan Speedo Green stars as the closeted young hatmaker-turned-prizefighter, who rises from obscurity to become world champion and, in one of the great tragedies in sports history, kills his homophobic archrival in the ring. Yannick Nezet-Seguin leads a stellar cast that also features bass-baritone Eric Owens as Griffith's older self, haunted by the ghosts of his past. Soprano Latonia Moore is Emelda Griffith, the boxer's estranged mother, alongside mezzo-soprano Stephanie Blythe as bar owner Kathy Hagen. Director James Robinson -- whose productions of *Fire and Porgy* and *Bess* brought down the house -- oversees the staging, and Camille A. Brown, whose choreography electrified audiences in *Fire and Porgy*, also returns.

Great Performances: Making Shakespeare: The First Folio

Airdate/Time: 11/17/23, 9pm; 11/20/23, 1:30am

Length: 2-hours

Description: Celebrate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's First Folio, which saved 18 plays from being lost. Tracing the First Folio's story, the film also spotlights how New York City's Public Theater presents Shakespeare's work for today's audiences.

ENVIRONMENT

Nova: Ancient Earth: Birth of the Sky

Airdate/Time: 10/4/23, 9pm; 10/6/23, 2am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Early Earth was a hellscape of molten lava and barren rock, bombarded by meteors, with no atmosphere at all. This program covers how our familiar blue sky - the thin, life-giving band of gasses protecting our planet - came to be.

American River

Airdate/Time: 11/29/23, 8pm; 12/1/23, 1am

Length: 90-minutes

Description: Mary Bruno spent her childhood along a toxic stretch of one of the most neglected waterways in America. Decades later, she returns to kayak the river of her youth and tell its story. AMERICAN RIVER follows Bruno and river guide Carl Alderson on a four-day, 80-mile adventure down New Jersey's Passaic River, from its pristine source in a wildlife refuge to its polluted mouth in Newark Bay. With breathtaking cinematography, the river's extraordinary history, geology, and ecology are revealed as the kayakers navigate challenges, travel through urban landscapes, and head toward the industrial center that poisoned the Passaic for the past 60 years.

Nova: The Next Pompeii

Airdate/Time: 12/13/23, 9pm; 12/14/23, 2am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Discover Campi Flegrei, a lesser-known volcano in the shadow of Vesuvius. If it erupts, millions of lives could be at risk. Meet the scientists exploring its geography and developing a warning system to prevent Naples from becoming the next Pompeii.

HERITAGE

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Independent Lens: El Equipo

Airdate/Time: 10/9/23, 10pm; 10/12/23, 4am

Length: 90-minutes

Description: A U.S. anthropologist sets out to train Latin American students in the use of forensic anthropology. Their goal: to investigate disappearances in Argentina during the "dirty war."

Native America #201- #204

Airdate/Time: **#201:** 10/24/23, 9pm & 10/26/23, 2am; **#202:** 10/31/23, 9pm & 2am

#203: 11/7/23, 9pm & 2am; **#204:** 11/14/23, 9pm & 2am

Episode Length: 60-minutes

Description: Native America is a four-part PBS series that challenges everything we thought we knew about the Americas before and since contact with Europe. It travels through 15,000-years to showcase massive cities, unique systems of science, art, and writing, and 100 million people connected by social networks and spiritual beliefs spanning two continents. The series reveals some of the most advanced cultures in human history and the Native American people who created it and whose legacy continues, unbroken, to this day. The series explores this extraordinary world through an unprecedented combination of cutting edge science and traditional indigenous knowledge. It is Native America as never seen before-featuring sacred rituals filmed for the first time, history changing scientific discoveries, and rarely heard voices from the living legacy of Native American culture.

NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS

War in the Holy Land: A PBS Newshour Special

Airdate/Time: 10/13/23, 9pm

Length: 60-minutes

Description: Co-anchored by PBS NewsHour's Amna Nawaz from Israel and Geoff Bennett from our nation's capital, the one-hour primetime special wraps the historic, devastating initial week of violence in Israel and Gaza with reports from the region, interviews and analysis on the path forward for the Middle East and rest of the world.

Frontline: Shattered Dreams of Peace

Airdate/Time: 11/7/23, 9pm; 11/9/23, 3am

Length: 2-hours

Description: In the summer of 2000, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators were on the brink of reaching a peace agreement. After years of negotiation, both sides seemed ready to move forward. Within weeks, however, the window of opportunity had closed and the peace process had collapsed. What went wrong? As the Middle East continues to erupt in violence between Israelis and Palestinians, FRONTLINE examines the faltering, frustrating quest for peace in "Shattered Dreams of Peace: The Road From Oslo." Beginning with the 1995 assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the two-hour documentary traces the ongoing peace process through years of negotiations and up through the chaotic events now unfolding. With never-before-seen footage of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and interviews with key figures on both sides of the bargaining table, "Shattered Dreams of Peace: The Road From Oslo" gives viewers unprecedented access to the decision making process on which the fate of millions depends.

Frontline: 20 Days in Mariupol

Airdate/Time: 11/21/23, 10pm

Length: 100-minutes

Description: The award-winning film from the last international journalists inside the Russian siege of Mariupol. An extraordinary account, seen through the lens of the AP's Mstyslav Chernov and two colleagues documenting the atrocities and their own escape.

Frontline: Netanyahu, America & the Road to War in Gaza

Airdate/Time: 12/19/23, 10pm; 12/21/23, 3am

Length: 2-hours

Description: The struggle between the Israeli leader and multiple U.S. presidents over Middle East peace. Leading up to the Gaza war, Netanyahu's relations with the U.S. and Palestinians. Also, with The Washington Post, how Israel's security barrier was breached.

NEW JERSEY ISSUES & INTERESTS

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NJ Spotlight News with Brianna Vanozzi

Airdate/Time: 12/20/23, 5:30pm

Length: 30-minutes

Description: This episode covered the following: State lawmakers in two legislative committees advanced a bill that would set at 14 the minimum age for juvenile delinquency in New Jersey. That's the age set by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child set in 2019. New Jersey currently has no minimum age for juvenile delinquency. The bill that would establish 14 as the minimum age had bipartisan support in the Legislature. But some concerns were raised that it would be a gateway for gang members to use kids to get away with crimes.

WOMEN

Bring Her Home

Airdate/Time: 10/24/23, 10pm; 10/26/23, 3am

Length: 60-minutes

Description: *Bring Her Home* follows three Indigenous women - an artist, an activist and a politician - as they work to vindicate and honor their relatives who are victims in the growing epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. As they face the lasting effects of historical trauma, each woman searches for healing while navigating the oppressive systems that brought about this very crisis.

Groundbreakers

Airdate/Time: 11/21/23, 8pm; 11/23/23, 1am

Length: 2-hours

Description: Executive Produced by tennis champion and activist Billie Jean King, GROUNDBREAKERS features sports icons from different generations as they interview one another, sharing personal powerful stories of the perseverance, pain, and progress they've experienced in their remarkable careers. Athletes include Naomi Osaka and Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Chloe Kim and Nancy Lieberman, Suni Lee and Julie Foudy, and Diana Flores and Billie Jean King. GROUNDBREAKERS celebrates the advancements of women in sports and society, while also revealing the generational mentorship and community building that has fueled the progress that has been made and the ongoing pursuit of equality for women everywhere.

American Experience: Sandra Day O'Connor

Airdate/Time: 12/5/23, 8pm; 12/7/23, 2am

Length: 2-hours

Description: When Ronald Reagan nominated Sandra Day O'Connor as the Supreme Court's first female justice in 1981, the announcement dominated the news. Time Magazine's cover proclaimed "Justice At Last," and she received unanimous Senate approval. Born in 1930 in El Paso, Texas, O'Connor grew up on a cattle ranch in Arizona in an era when women were expected to become homemakers. After graduating near the top of her class at Stanford Law School, she could not convince a single law firm to interview her, so she turned to volunteer work and public service. A Republican, she served two terms in the Arizona state senate, then became a judge on the state court of appeals. During her 25 years on the Supreme Court, O'Connor was the critical swing vote on cases involving some of the 20th century's most controversial issues, including abortion, affirmative action - and she was the tiebreaker on *Bush v. Gore*. Forty years after her confirmation, this biography recounts the life of a pioneering woman who both reflected and shaped an era.