

**WNET  
ISSUES/PROGRAMS REPORT  
1st QUARTER 2024**

## **ARTS**

### **American Masters: Hopper: An American Love Story**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/2/24, 9pm; 1/4/24, 1:30am; 1/9/24, 3:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** Hopper's work is the most recognizable art in America - popular, praised, and mysterious. Countless painters, photographers, filmmakers and musicians have been influenced by his art - but who was he, and how did a struggling illustrator create such a bounty of notable work? This new film takes a deep look into Hopper's art, his life, and his relationships. From his early career as an illustrator; his wife giving up her own promising art career to be his manager; his critical and commercial acclaim; and in his own words - this film explores the enigmatic personality behind the brush. Combined with expert interviews, diaries and a startling visual reflection of American life, Hopper: An American love story brings to life America's arguably most influential artist.

### **Black Broadway: A Proud History, A Limitless Future**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/18/24, 8:30pm; 1/20/24, 12:30am & 4pm

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** Features an all-star cast performing songs from the hit musicals Dreamgirls, Ain't Misbehavin, The Color Purple, Porgy and Bess and so many more to celebrate the rich history and evolution of Black roles and voices on Broadway. Weaving the history, prominence and hopes for the future through music, the cast is led by Stephanie Mills, Norm Lewis, Corbin Bleu, Niki Renee Daniels, Peppermint, Tiffany Mann and Sydney James Harcourt. Special appearances include Clayton Cornelius, James Monroe Iglehart, Brittany Johnson and many more.

### **American Masters: Ailey**

**Airdate/Time:** 2/8/24

**Length:** 90-minutes

**Description:** Discover the legendary choreographer Alvin Ailey whose dances center on the Black American experience with grace, strength and beauty. Featuring previously unheard audio interviews with Ailey, interviews with those close to him and an intimate glimpse into the Ailey studios today.

### **Great Performances: Ann**

**Airdate/Time:** 3/8/24, 9pm; 3/12/24, 3:30am

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** Enjoy a powerful and revealing look at legendary, larger-than-life Texas governor Ann Richards, who enriched the lives of her followers, friends and family, in this critically acclaimed play written by and starring Emmy Award winner Holland Taylor.

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

### **The Cost of Inheritance: An America Reframed Special**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/8/24, 10pm; 1/11/24, 5am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** Explore the issue of reparations for African-Americans. Building on key issues of diversity and democracy; slavery and its aftermath; and socio-economic indicators, this documentary puts real people and their family histories into the reparations debate. Personal stories, expert interviews and rich archival materials underscored by evocative music weaves a narrative around the issue of reparations today so many years after the historical understanding of the end of slavery in America. Noted speakers address the cumulative impact that Reconstruction, Black Laws, Jim Crow, modern day violence, discrimination added to divergent wealth trajectories and opportunities firmly rooted in the system of enslavement. Individuals seeking to bridge our human divide share their reparations quests and we begin to understand the myriad of initiatives already happening across the country on local, state & national levels to make reparations a reality.

### **American Experience: Nazi Town, USA**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/23/24, 9pm; 1/25/24, 1:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** In February 1939, more than twenty thousand Americans filled Madison Square Garden for an event billed as a "Pro-American Rally." As images of George Washington hung next to swastikas, a series of speakers railed against the "Jewish controlled media" and called for a return to a racially "pure" America. The keynote speaker, a man named Fritz Kuhn, was the head of an organization known as the German American Bund. The rally was huge demanding the largest police presence to date for any event in New York City history but it was the culmination of a movement that had been brewing for years. Nazi Town USA will tell the largely unknown story of this organization that had chapters across the country and represented what experts believe was a "very real threat of fascist subversion in the United States." Organized into 70 different districts, the Bund held joint rallies with the Ku Klux Klan and ran dozens of summer camps for children centered around Nazi ideology and imagery. Life in some of the largest camps - including Camp Siegfried in Long Island, Camp Hindenburg in Wisconsin, and Camp Nordland in New Jersey - will be brought to life through extensive archival footage, photographs, and ruins that exist to this day. The Bund's embrace of "Americanism" raises thorny issues - from questions of free speech to declarations of "America First" - that we continue to wrestle with to this day.

### **Pullman and the Railroad Rebellion: American Stories**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/27/24, 10pm; 1/29/24, 2am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** In 1864, the powerful industrialist and engineer George Pullman brought luxury to overnight train travel with his revolutionary sleeping cars. Passengers aboard these rail cars were served by former slaves who became known as Pullman Porters and Maids. Pullman soon established a company town for employees on Chicago's South Side, giving him complete autonomy over every aspect of their lives. PULLMAN AND THE RAILROAD REBELLION: AMERICAN STORIES recounts the bloody rebellion that followed as Pullman's workers fought for their independence.

### **The Niagara Movement: The Early Battle for Civil Rights**

**Airdate/Time:** 2/15/24, 10pm; 2/19/24, 3:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** The Niagara Movement explores the Black elite and intellectual society at the turn of the 20th century, a class rarely presented. It examines the heated debate and conflict between W.E.B DuBois and William Monroe Trotter with Booker T. Washington on how to best uplift the race and secure equality for their community.

## **CULTURAL/HERITAGE**

### **The Jewish Journey: America**

**Airdate/Time:** 2/1/24, 10pm; 2/4/24, 6:30pm

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** A film that tells the three part story of I) Jewish life in the old country, II) the reasons behind leaving their respective homes and journeying to the US and III) both the establishment of communities and the great accomplishments made in the US.

### **Gospel: The Gospel Train**

**Airdate/Time:** 2/9/24, 9pm; 2/17/24, 1pm

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** The Gospel Train: Explore the dramatic explosion of gospel. Starting in the 40s, southern migrants fused blues and jazz sounds, taking Black religious music into the mainstream to create a genre enduring for generations. The Golden Age of Gospel: Starting in the 40s, GOSPEL's hour 2 explores the Golden Age of Gospel - the dramatic explosion of Black sacred music and the segregated highways of the American South - which took the Lord's music into the mainstream.

### **Gospel: Take the Message Everywhere/Gospel's Second Century**

**Airdate/Time:** 2/10/24, 9pm; 2/17/24, 3:30pm

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** Take the Message Everywhere: Gospel family dynasties dominate the charts while other children of the church use their musical prowess to influence soul music. Black pastors also distinguish their sound with prophetic voices and sermonettes. Gospel's Platinum Age reflected a new generation embracing secular rhythms to modernize the gospel sound. Gospel's Second Century explores the movement that brought songs about faith to millions at clubs, on cable TV and on urban radio.

### **Independent Lens: Beyond Utopia**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/9/24, 9pm; 1/11/24, 1:30pm

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** The gripping story of families attempting to escape oppression in North Korea, revealing a world many have never seen.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Nova: When Whales Could Walk**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/31/24, 9pm; 2/1/24, 1:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** A spectacular fossil graveyard reveals a 43-million-year-old whale that had four legs and could walk. Follow scientists as they search for new clues to how mammals moved from land into the sea to become the largest animals on Earth.

### **Nova: Arctic Sinkholes**

**Airdate/Time:** 3/13/24, 10pm; 3/15/24, 2:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** Scientists investigate colossal explosions in Siberia and other evidence that rapidly melting soil in the Arctic is releasing vast amounts of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. What are the implications for our climate future?

**Nova: Polar Extremes**

**Airdate/Time:** 3/20/24, 9pm; 3/2/24, 1:30am

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** Following a trail of fossils found in all the wrong places -- beech trees in Antarctica, redwoods and hippo-like mammals in the Arctic -- uncover the bizarre history of the poles, from miles-thick ice sheets to warm polar forests teeming with life.

**NATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS**

**A Citizen's Guide to Preserving Democracy**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/2/24, 10pm; 1/4/24, 2:30am

**Length:**

**Description:** Explore how Americans are working towards strengthening democracy and renewing the spirit of a more informed and engaged citizenry through interviews and real-life examples with Hari Sreenivasan and Dr. Richard Haass based on Dr. Haass' book.

**Frontline: Israel's Second Front**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/23/24, 10pm; 1/25/24, 2:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** Amid a widening conflict, the rising support for Hamas and other forces beyond Gaza. Correspondent Ramita Navai investigates militants in the West Bank, Israel's military campaign against them, and the implications for the ongoing conflict.

**Frontline: Democracy on Trial**

**Airdate/Time:** 1/30/24, 9pm; 2/1/24, 1:30am

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** The roots of the criminal cases against former President Trump stemming from his 2020 election loss. Amid the presidential race, examining the House Jan. 6 committee's evidence, the threat to democracy and the historic charges against Trump.

## **NEW JERSEY ISSUES & INTERESTS**

### **NJ Spotlight News #13165**

**Airdate:** 2/16/24, 5:30pm

**Length:** 30-minutes

**Description:** Coverage of the following: How Tenafly keeps focus on hostages held by Hamas: In a weekly walk, people remember Tenafly native Edan Alexander and others still held by Hamas. Then, Senate battle looms over casino smoking bills: A compromise bill would create enclosed smoking rooms. Then, physician shortage in NJ has reached a crisis point: NJ Healthcare Quality Institute released report outlining reimbursement improvements. Lastly, Newark joins lawsuit against automakers Kia and Hyundai: Lawsuit says failure to include anti-theft technology led to more stolen cars.

### **State of the Arts #4205**

**Airdate:** 2/25/24, 11:30am

**Length:** 30-minutes

**Description:** *State of the Arts* meets the celebrated choreographer Mark Morris as he returns to the McCarter Theatre with work from four decades. The Princeton University Art Museum's Art@Bainbridge gallery presents the work of two Trenton-based, Muslim women artists, one from New Jersey, the other raised in Tunisia before coming to America. And a newly discovered collection of glass-plate negatives, circa 1890-1910, reveals a world in rapid transition. At the New Jersey State Museum, Grant Castner's early documentary photography is shown in stunning new prints for the first time, revealing everyday life in and around Trenton as it was then—people shopping, working, relaxing, building new modes of transportation, and more.

### **State of the Arts: Anne Morrow Lindbergh: You'll Have the Sky**

**Airdate:** 3/10/24, 11:30am

**Length:** 30-minutes

**Description:** Anne Morrow Lindbergh was a pioneering aviator, best-selling author, mother of six, an ambassador's daughter, and the wife of the brilliant but controversial figure Charles Lindbergh. Her life was filled with great adventure and with great tragedy, as her first child was kidnapped and killed in one of the most notorious crimes of the 20th century. In 1955, Anne published *Gift from the Sea*, a search for meaning that still resonates with readers today, selling millions worldwide. *Anne Morrow Lindbergh: You'll Have the Sky* is narrated by award-winning actors Judith Light and Lily Rabe.

## **NJ Spotlight News #13194**

**Airdate:** 3/28/24, 5:30pm

**Length:** 30-minutes

**Description:** Coverage of the following: Mental health needs are focus of reentry conference: Jim McGreevey says there's more understanding but not enough action. Then, warning to steer clear of 'gas station heroin': Tianeptine has been linked to overdoses, emergency room visits. Then, Watchdog: Baraka slate failed to report \$700K in donations and spending: Newark mayor says reporting problems were the fault of an outside firm. Then, as turmoil continues in Haiti, community in NJ watches in anguish: New Jersey is home to one of the largest Haitian American communities. Lastly, new clinics launched to boost medical marijuana: Enrollment in NJ has declined as recreational market opened up.

## **WOMEN'S ISSUES & CONCERNS**

### **American Experience: Fly with Me**

**Airdate/Time:** 2/20/24, 9pm; 2/22/24, 1:30am

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** Fly with Me is a story about new frontiers for working women and the constraints of traditional notions of femininity. It's about both exploitation and activism, and pitched battles within the courtrooms of the United States. Maligned as feminist sellouts and sluts, stewardesses, as they were called, knew different: They were on the frontlines of a battle to assert gender equality and transform the workplace. Fly With Me will rely on firsthand witness accounts, personal stories, and a rich and extensive archive to tell a lively, fun and important but neglected history of the women who, while flying the world, changed it.

### **Great Performances: Ann**

**Airdate/Time:** 3/8/24, 9pm; 3/12/24, 3:30am

**Length:** 120-minutes

**Description:** Enjoy a powerful and revealing look at legendary, larger-than-life Texas governor Ann Richards, who enriched the lives of her followers, friends and family, in this critically acclaimed play written by and starring Emmy Award winner Holland Taylor.

### **Where I Became**

**Airdate/Time:** 3/11/24, 10pm; 3/14/24, 3:30am

**Length:** 90-minutes

**Description:** WHERE I BECAME traces the story of 14 women who left apartheid in South Africa to attend Smith College in the U.S. The film, narrated in their own voices and filmed between South Africa



and the U.S., follows their stories from childhood to discovering themselves through the power of higher education.

### **American Experience: The Sun Queen**

**Airdate/Time:** 3/12/24, 9pm; 3/14/24, 1:30am

**Length:** 60-minutes

**Description:** For nearly 50 years, chemical engineer and inventor Maria Telkes applied her prodigious intellect to harnessing the power of the sun. She designed and built the world's first successfully solar-heated modern residence and identified a promising new chemical that, for the first time, could store solar heat like a battery. And yet, along the way, she was undercut and thwarted by her boss and colleagues - all men - at MIT. Despite these obstacles, Telkes persevered and, upon her death in 1995, held more than 20 patents. She is now recognized as a visionary pioneer in the field of sustainable energy. An unexpected and largely forgotten heroine, Telkes was remarkable in her vision and tenacity - a scientist and a woman in every way ahead of her time. Her research and innovations from the 1930s through the '70s continue to shape how we power our lives today.