



American
MASTERS



Press Contact:

Natasha Padilla, WNET

212.560.8824, padilla@wnet.org

Press Materials: <http://pbs.org/pressroom> or <http://thirteen.org/pressroom>

Websites: <http://pbs.org/americanmasters>, <http://facebook.com/americanmasters>, [@PBSAmerMasters](https://twitter.com/PBSAmerMasters),
<http://pbsamericanmasters.tumblr.com>, <http://youtube.com/AmericanMastersPBS>, #AmericanMasters

American Masters
Plimpton! Starring George Plimpton as Himself

Premieres nationally Friday, May 16, 9-10:30 p.m. on PBS (check local listings)

Production Bios

Tom Bean

Writer, Director and Producer

Tom Bean has worked in many capacities on documentary and feature films alike. He co-produced and wrote a feature-length documentary about the Iranian hostage crisis, featuring Jimmy Carter and Walter Cronkite.

Luke Poling

Writer, Director and Producer

Luke Poling has worked on many productions, including *The Departed* and *The Fog of War*. He was a writer/director for the omnibus film *Twelve*, which played to film festivals across the country. He also worked as a staff writer and director on the award-winning podcast *Hello Simon*.

Terry McDonell

Producer

Terry McDonell is currently the editor of the Sports Illustrated Group, and has previously edited *Esquire* and *Rolling Stone* magazines. He was a close friend of George Plimpton.

Adam Roffman*Producer*

Adam Roffman has served as the program director of the Independent Film Festival of Boston, New England's largest film festival, since its inception in 2003. He has produced the features *Woodpecker*, *Trust Us*, *This is All Made Up*, *Phillip the Fossil* and the forthcoming *Rubberneck*.

Kris Meyer*Executive Producer*

Kris Meyer has been a producer on Peter and Bobby Farrelly's last six movies, including *Me, Myself and Irene*, *Stuck on You* and *Fever Pitch*. He also produced *The Lost Son of Havana*, a documentary about Red Sox pitcher Luis Tiant that appeared on ESPN and was nominated for an Emmy.

Dennis Joyce*Executive Producer*

Dennis Joyce is an angel investor and real estate developer. He is the president of Joyce Development and co-founder of Joyce Entertainment along with Jerry Barca.

Antonio Weiss*Executive Producer*

Antonio Weiss is head of investment banking at Lazard and publisher of *The Paris Review*, where he got his start in the 1980s as George Plimpton's assistant.

Phyllis Alexander*Executive Producer*

Phyllis Alexander is a vice president at Alex Keating Productions, dedicated to producing entertaining and informative projects for television. She also is producing *Sadhvi's Lullaby*, which is currently in pre-production and will be shot in Nepal.

Bill Deacon*Executive Producer*

Bill Deacon is the founder/CEO of Muze Clothing, a lifestyle brand dedicated to the appreciation of classic movie quotes. Bill founded Muze to provide an identity for those who quote movies, a community in which countless A-list celebrities reside. Since launch, major celebrities including actors, musicians and professional athletes have enthusiastically adopted the brand as a unique and powerful vehicle with which to express themselves.

Toby Barlow*Executive Producer*

Toby Barlow is the chief creative officer of Team Detroit, author of the novel *Sharp Teeth* and creator of The Plimpton Project, an effort to get a statue of George Plimpton erected in New York City.

Susan Lacy

*Executive Producer and **American Masters** Series Creator*

Currently producing and directing films for HBO, Susan Lacy was an award-winning originator of primetime public television programs from 1979-2013, and created and launched the **American Masters** series in 1986.

As the executive producer of **American Masters**, she was responsible for the production and national broadcast of 200 documentary films about our country's artistic and cultural giants, those who have made an indelible impact on the American landscape. Now entering its 28th season on PBS, **American Masters** has garnered unprecedented awards and is recognized by television critics as "the best biographical series ever to appear on American television."

Under Lacy's leadership, **American Masters** received 67 Emmy Award nominations and 26 wins, including nine for Outstanding Primetime Nonfiction Series, five for Outstanding Non-Fiction Special and the other 12 in various craft categories. The series received the 2012 and 2013 Producers Guild of America (PGA) Award for Outstanding Producer of Non-Fiction Television, the 2012 IDA Award for Best Continuing Series, 12 Peabody Awards, three Grammy Awards and an Academy Award.

Lacy is also an award-winning filmmaker. She produced, directed and wrote **Inventing David Geffen**, which premiered on PBS in 2012 to great critical acclaim. She produced **LENNONYC**, a film exploring John Lennon's life in New York City; her **Judy Garland: By Myself** earned Lacy an Emmy Award for writing and an Emmy nomination for directing. She wrote, directed and produced **Joni Mitchell: Woman of Heart and Mind** (IDA nomination for Outstanding Documentary) and **Leonard Bernstein: Reaching for the Note** (Emmy Award and DGA nomination). She produced the Peabody Award-winning **Paul Simon: Born at the Right Time**, directed and produced **Rod Serling: Submitted for Your Approval**, and directed and produced **Lena Horne: In Her Own Voice**. All films were for **American Masters**.

Lacy was one of the select 2005 honorees at the Museum of Television & Radio's "She Made It" event, which recognized 50 exceptional women who have created and informed the genre, and a 2008 Washington, DC, Women of Vision Awards recipient, honoring those in film and video who inspire and mentor. She was honored again in Washington, DC, in 2010 as the recipient of the Cine Golden Eagle Lifetime Achievement Award. Lacy holds a B.A. in American Studies from the University of Virginia, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and an MA in American Studies from George Washington University. Lacy grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, and splits her time between Manhattan and Sag Harbor, New York.

Stephen Segaller

Executive-in-Charge

Stephen Segaller joined WNET in September, 2008. He has primary responsibility for the coordination of all national and local programming from WNET's producing subsidiaries – THIRTEEN, WLIW21 and Creative News Group. Among the acclaimed productions Segaller

coordinates are: *Nature*, *Great Performances*, ***American Masters***, *Secrets of the Dead*, *PBS NewsHourWeekend*, *Religion & Ethics Newsweekly*, *Cyberchase*, *NYC-ARTS*, *Reel 13*, *Women, War and Peace* and *Shakespeare Uncovered*.

Segaller has been a journalist, producer, director, writer and author whose work has been broadcast and published on both sides of the Atlantic and all over the world. In the U.K., he worked for London Weekend TV and Granada TV in current affairs, then spent six years as an independent producer making documentaries for Channel 4. In the U.S., he worked at WGBH and supervised national production for Oregon Public Broadcasting – producing for PBS, CNN, Discovery, TLC, Channel 4, and other networks.

From 1999-2008 Segaller was Director, News & Public Affairs Programming for Thirteen/WNET. He created *That Money Show* in 2000-01; the international documentary series *Wide Angle* in 2002, and *Exposé – America’s Investigative Reports* in 2006. After 9/11, he and Bill Moyers jointly produced the specials that led to the creation of *NOW with Bill Moyers*. He also supervised documentaries and series such as *The War of the World*; *Extreme Oil*; *Red Gold: The Epic Story of Blood*; *Local News*; the *Fred Friendly Seminars*; *Srebrenica – A Cry From The Grave*; *Kofi Annan: Center of the Storm*; *Maggie: Prime Minister Thatcher*; *Allies at War*; *The Blair Decade*; *City At War: London Calling* and *Legacy of War*, both with Walter Cronkite; and the films of Frederick Wiseman, and Roger Weisberg.

###