To celebrate the 85th anniversary of the publication of *Little House on the Prairie*, American Masters is presenting Laura Ingalls Wilder, an in-depth film portrait of a complex author whose autobiographical fiction helped shape our ideas of the American frontier and self-reliance.

Wilder was born in 1867 in Pepin, Wisconsin; grew up in the Midwest; and started teaching when she was only 15. She married Almanzo “Manly” Wilder in 1885, and stopped teaching to raise children and help her husband work the farm. In 1886, Wilder gave birth to a daughter, Rose, who was later instrumental in helping her mother further her writing career. In 1889, Wilder had a son, but, tragically, he died within a month of his birth.

Wilder was already in her early 60s when she began writing her autobiography entitled *Pioneer Girl*. It was rejected by publishers, but she refused to give up and rewrote most of the stories as fiction for children. The books became the *Little House on the Prairie* series. Although the main theme of each volume centered around a specific place and time in Wilder’s life as a child and young woman, the focus shifted to the story of an entire family’s legendary pioneer experience.

The first of the eight books, *Little House in the Big Woods*, which told the story of her early childhood years in Wisconsin, was a great success. *Farmer Boy*, an account of Manly’s childhood in Upstate New York, followed in 1933, and *Little House on the Prairie* was published two years later. Five more books followed, taking readers through Wilder’s courtship and marriage to Manly: *On the Banks of Plum Creek* (1937), *By the Shores of Silver Lake* (1939), *The Long Winter* (1940), *Little Town on the Prairie* (1941), and *These Happy Golden Years* (1943).

The film explores the true nature of Wilder’s personality and the context in which she lived and wrote. It features never-before-published letters, photographs, family artifacts, and original interviews with Wilder biographers, scholars, and historians including Caroline Fraser, who won a Pulitzer Prize for her Wilder biography, *Prairie Fires*; Pamela Smith Hill, author of *Laura Ingalls Wilder: A Writer’s Life*; Wilder historian William Anderson; and Ojibwe writer and poet Louise Erdrich. Actors from the TV series *Little House on the Prairie* also contributed. They include Melissa Gilbert who starred in the role of Laura Ingalls Wilder and Dean Butler who played Almanzo Wilder.

*American Masters: Laura Ingalls Wilder* reveals the truth behind the bestsellers and explores a rags-to-riches story that has been embraced by millions of people worldwide.

*Airs Tuesday, December 29, at 7 p.m.*
RISE OF THE NAZIS

*Rise of the Nazis* is a powerful three-part examination of Adolf Hitler’s rise to power and how Germany, which was a liberal democracy, became a brutal murderous dictatorship.

Using archival footage, dramatic reconstruction, and expert interviews, the series explores actions of the key players and focuses on pivotal events that enabled the Nazis to seize power.

**Episode 1: Politics** describes the chain of events that propelled Hitler from the fringes to the heart of the government, and how he turned the Nazi party into a mainstream political force.

**Episode 2: The First Six Months in Power** outlines the measures Hitler took to dismantle the German state. The Nazis banned free speech, burned books, and murdered Jewish people, gay people, and those holding anti-Nazi beliefs. Hitler transformed himself from Chancellor to all-powerful Führer of the Third Reich.

**Episode 3: Night of the Long Knives** delves into the actions Hitler took when he found himself caught between Germany’s president and the Nazis’ power base. He was persuaded by his advisers to destroy the Nazi stormtroopers and their leader and to make the SS Germany’s only paramilitary force.

Each episode also presents one of the many resistance stories, which acts as a reminder of those who were aware of the dangers and were preparing their own retaliation.

*Airs Tuesday, November 3, at 7 p.m.*

PBS NewsHour, which has been providing comprehensive coverage of the 2020 election since its beginning, will be airing election-night results plus analysis and in-depth coverage of the major issues.

All major aspects of the results, ranging from the election for president to the House, Senate, and gubernatorial races, will be featured. Coverage will extend to PBS NewsHour’s digital and social platforms including Instagram, YouTube, and Facebook, and its original podcast series America Interrupted.

*Airs Tuesday, November 3, at 7 p.m.*
Renowned for showcasing performing arts specials from around the world, *Great Performances* brings you two diverse offerings — *Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles* and *Lea Salonga in Concert*.

The origins of *Fiddler* is a story unto itself, and this in-depth documentary, *A Miracle of Miracles*, chronicles the creation of the musical, the richness of its themes, and the reasons for its appeal across time and cultures.

As episode 1 begins, he has just won a libel suit against reporter Charmian Pepper (Sarah Greene), who accused him of accepting payments to help privatize the National Health Service. Saved by his legal team from being “roadkill,” Peter stays in the good graces of the devious prime minister, Dawn Ellison (Helen McCrory), who is aware of the skeletons, both public and private, in his closet.

Peter tries desperately to outrun his own secrets while everyone seems to be conspiring against him including his wife, Helen (Saskia Reeves), who is aware of his mistress and is starting to have second thoughts about their marriage; Madeleine (Sidse Babett Knudsen), his mistress, who is fed up with their secret life; and his two grown daughters, Susan (Ophelia Lovibond) and Lily (Millie Brady), who are no less angry with him.

Untroubled by guilt or remorse, Peter seeks to further his own agenda while others plot to bring him down; however, events show just how difficult it is to leave the past behind. He lives by the motto, “You can get away with anything if you just brazen it out,” but with enemies so close to home, can Peter ever outrun his own secrets?

**Airs Sundays at 8 p.m. beginning on November 1.**

On April 15, 2019, Notre Dame de Paris cathedral sustained serious damage from a fire that broke out beneath the roof. By the time the fire was extinguished, the building’s spire had collapsed, most of its roof was destroyed, and the upper walls were severely damaged.

Now, after more than a year of research and planning, the cathedral is being rebuilt. *Saving Notre Dame*, a one-hour special presented by *NOVA*, will give you a firsthand look at the amazing efforts being taken to restore this world-renowned structure.

There were some initial plans to rebuild an updated spire; however, the French government decided that the restoration would bring it back to its original look.

The work is a remarkable collaboration among architects, scientists, engineers, and craftspeople. Although there is hope that the cathedral can be rebuilt in time for the 2024 Paris Summer Olympics, some architects estimate that complete reconstruction could take 20 years or more.

By investigating archaeological mysteries and clues from the past, researchers are learning more about the fabric of one of the world’s most treasured architectural icons. With this knowledge, the restoration crew is applying pioneering technology and traditional artisanship to revive Notre Dame de Paris.

**Airs Wednesday, November 25, at 8 p.m.**

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*Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles*

*Lea Salonga in Concert*
"Thank you PBS and KLRN for making my childhood and learning about the larger world around me so enjoyable. It’s because of your organization that I found my love to cook, travel, and constantly keep learning."
— Robert, KLRN Member

"Thank you for the quality programming: from local news, to theatre and culture, to finance and health, to science and nature, to worldwide events and more."
— Carmen, KLRN Member

"Please know that I can recognize real quality and KLRN and PBS offer the best that TV has to offer. Thank you for giving it to anyone who wishes to avail themselves. May you continue to grow and blossom."
— Jerry, KLRN Member

KLRN’s mission is to open a world of lifelong learning through trustworthy and enriching programs on-air, online, and in our community.