Although there are countless words written about Ernest Hemingway — and even a book about his cats — Ken Burns and his collaborators have a way of digging deep to uncover little-known facts and presenting them with a fresh perspective.

“The documentary attempts to show how flawed our assumptions about Ernest Hemingway and his writing have been,” says Burns, who co-directed a comprehensive film on the American novelist. “At the same time, we are unsparing in our inquiry into less-well-known aspects of his character and writing.”

The three-part, six-hour film paints an intimate picture of Hemingway and, in doing so, penetrates the myths to reveal a remarkable yet deeply troubled and ultimately tragic figure.

“One of the great revelations of this project was asking renowned writers from around the world to share their insights into Hemingway’s work and why it’s still important today,” explained co-director Lynn Novick. The journalists, authors, biographers, and poets who comment include Mario Vargas Llosa, Edna O’Brien, Abraham Verghese, Leonardo Padura, Mary Karr, Mary Dearborn, Tobias Wolff, and others.

According to producer Sarah Botstein, “One of the great challenges of this project was finding ways — visually and cinematically — to show how Hemingway honed his craft to such extraordinary effect…. We deployed all the tools in our filmmaking toolbox — graphic effects, archival footage and photographs, live cinematography, sound effects — to make Hemingway’s work come fully alive on screen.”

The film is narrated by Peter Coyote and features an all-star cast of actors portraying Hemingway, his family, and friends. Jeff Daniels provides the voice of Hemingway. The dramatic renditions of the letters to and from his four wives are presented by Meryl Streep, Keri Russell, Mary Louise Parker, and Patricia Clarkson. They show Hemingway at his most romantic and most vulnerable, as he grappled at times with insecurity, anxiety, and existential loneliness.

The filmmakers were granted open access to a treasure trove of Hemingway’s manuscripts, correspondence, scrapbooks, and photographs — which bring to light the meteoric rise and tragic fall of a man who, in his final years, suffered from alcoholism, mental illness, and depression. In 1961, at the age of 61, he committed suicide, leaving a legacy of an unparalleled body of artistic work that is as important today as it was during his lifetime.

Airs Monday, April 5, through Wednesday, April 7, at 7 p.m.
Dear Friends,

Our world is filled with fascinating stories — stories that shaped life as we know it today. Over the next few months, we’ll explore individuals and events from the past and the present that contributed to the ever-growing story of our world. Join us as we debunk some of the most common myths and secrets about the royal family with Lucy Worsley and learn about the historic experiment that could shape the future of prosecution in America for decades to come in *Philly D.A.*

These captivating programs and so many more are only possible because of your support. Thank you for allowing KLRN to continue sharing the stories of our world with South Central Texas.

Happy viewing,

Arthur R. Emerson
President and CEO

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During her first semester at MIT, researcher Joy Buolamwini received computer vision software that was supposed to track her face. It didn’t work until she put on a white mask. At first she thought the issue might be the lighting or the angle from which she was looking at the camera — then she began to think the cause may be something entirely different. Her investigation led her to discoveries that a majority of facial recognition software does not accurately identify darker skinned faces and that there are widespread biases in software that affect our lives.

*Coded Bias* investigates the premise that ideas about technology that we think are normal come from a small and homogeneous group of people who embed their biases into artificial intelligence. And biases are not just in face classification; they’re built into any data-centric technology.

Technology becomes problematic or even dangerous when decisions are made based on faulty data and algorithms. What can we do about it? What is the solution? This thought-provoking program airs Monday, March 22, at 9 p.m.

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As part of the Women’s History Month celebration, *American Masters* is premiering two documentaries featuring women who are legends in their respective fields: Flannery O’Connor and Twyla Tharp.

*Flannery* explores the life and work of American novelist and short story writer Flannery O’Connor. Although she was diagnosed with lupus at 25 and died before she was 40, O’Connor had a prolific career — writing 32 short stories and two novels. Much of her work focuses on the timely and controversial themes of racism, religion, and socioeconomic disparity. Included in the film are newly discovered personal letters and conversations with those who knew or were inspired by her including Mary Karr, Tommy Lee Jones, and Hilton Als. *Airs Tuesday, March 23, at 7 p.m.*

*Twyla Moves* presents the storied career and creative process of Twyla Tharp. A pioneer of modern dance and ballet, Tharp shares the intimate details behind her trailblazing dances including “The Fugue” and “Baker’s Dozen,” her cinematic partnership with Miloš Forman, and her immensely successful time on Broadway. *Airs Friday, March 26, at 8 p.m.*

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Why is there an increasing rate of pandemic emergence? Who or what is responsible? In this fascinating but troubling new documentary, *Extinction: The Facts*, David Attenborough has a stark warning for us all that scientists believe humans are “behind every single pandemic.”

The program explains that animals carry many different viruses and that huge markets with wildlife trade are places where viruses spread. Another cause of people contracting these diseases is our use of fur in clothing; hundreds of thousands of animals are bred in fur farms for the fashion industry. We’re encroaching farther and farther into wildlife habitat, and when we enter these territories we get exposed to viruses that circulate in animal populations.

Researchers found the closest relative to the COVID-19 virus in bats in rural south China. The area has undergone enormous change for the past few decades with new high-speed railways and roads being built into remote areas. Researchers think the virus started there. What they didn’t know was that its spread could happen so quickly and devastatingly.

Their view is that humans’ relationship with nature and the way we interact with it brought on the COVID-19 pandemic and could cause more.

*Airs Wednesday, March 31, at 7 p.m.*

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**Great Performances at the Met Presents**

**Renée Fleming in Concert**

While many live concerts have been canceled because of the health crisis in this country, we are fortunate to be able to turn to PBS to watch programs such as *Great Performances at the Met,* which is presenting Renée Fleming in Concert.

Recorded at the Music Room of Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC, Fleming performs a range of work from arias by Puccini and Massenet to selections by Handel and Korsgold.

Fleming has a magnificent lyric soprano voice. In addition to singing in her native English, she has performed operatic roles in Italian, German, French, Czech, and Russian. Her signature roles include Countess Almaviva in Mozart’s *The Marriage of Figaro,* Desdemona in Verdi’s *Otello,* Violetta in Verdi’s *La traviata,* Tatyana in Tchaikovsky’s *Eugene Onegin,* and others.

Fleming was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 2013 and has won four Grammy Awards. Among her numerous positions, she is artistic director of SongStudio at Carnegie Hall, a program for young performers dedicated to the art of song recital. Her memoir, *The Inner Voice: The Making of a Singer,* is the story of her life and her career as an international performing artist.

*Airs Friday, March 19, at 8 p.m.*
In the backdrop of the most rancorous presidential campaign and election in modern history, political extremists are increasingly embracing violent action. In FRONTLINE’s Far-Right Violence, ProPublica reporter A.C. Thompson investigates the individuals and organizations responsible for the surge in shootings and lawlessness.

In recent months, six men were charged for conspiring to kidnap Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer. Investigators say it was a plot by anti-government extremists who were angry about the severe measures she was imposing as she tried to slow down the spread of the coronavirus. In addition, a right-wing Patriot Prayer protestor was killed by an Antifa supporter in Portland, Oregon, and law enforcement officers were gunned down in California.

There are fears about what is yet to come. Will the new Administration be able to stop extremist violence and curtail the killings?

Visit klrn.org for broadcast date and time.