

# Insider News

## HENRY DAVID THOREAU

"When I wrote the following pages, or rather the bulk of them, I lived alone, in the woods, a mile from any neighbor, in a house which I had built myself, on the shore of Walden Pond..." So begins Henry David Thoreau's seminal work, *Walden*.

Despite the author's influence on reformers including John Muir, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King, Jr., there has never been a full-length documentary exploring the life of Henry David Thoreau until now. PBS has remedied this by presenting a new three-part, three-hour film devoted to one of the country's greatest writers and among the most enduring thinkers of the 19th-century Transcendentalist movement in America.

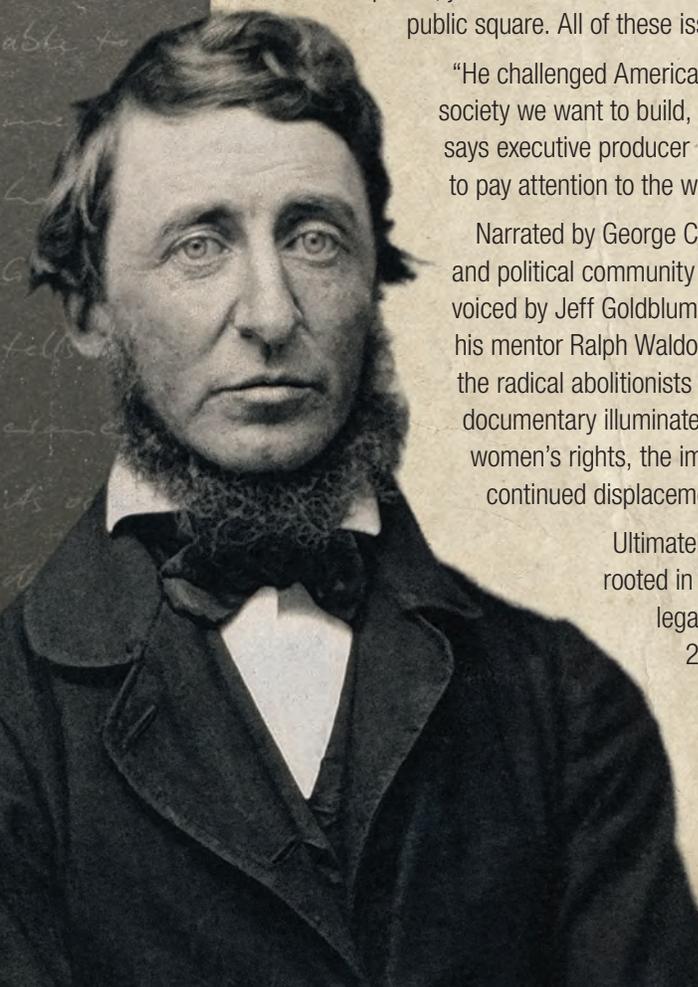
Viewers will gain a deeper understanding of the intellectual, social, and cultural currents of Thoreau's time and their lasting impact on American history and thought. Taking advantage of new historical findings, the filmmakers explore concepts at the core of Thoreau's work including the health of our planet, justice for all human beings, and the importance of standing up for one's beliefs in the public square. All of these issues have immense sociological significance today.

"He challenged Americans to ask hard questions about who we are and what kind of society we want to build, a challenge that remains as urgent today as it was in his day," says executive producer Ken Burns. "Perhaps most importantly he asked us to stop and to pay attention to the world around us."

Narrated by George Clooney, *Henry David Thoreau* illuminates the vibrant intellectual and political community of Concord, Massachusetts, in the mid-1800s. Thoreau, voiced by Jeff Goldblum, moved among towering figures of American thought such as his mentor Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Bronson Alcott, Frederick Douglass, the radical abolitionists of Boston, and the even-more-controversial John Brown. This documentary illuminates their ideas, set amid the fight against slavery, the rise of women's rights, the impact of industrialization on New England's landscape, and the continued displacement of Native peoples.

Ultimately, *Henry David Thoreau* presents a portrait of a man both rooted in his time and speaking far beyond it. "This film honors his legacy while asking what it means to live with purpose in the 21st century," says executive producer Don Henley, founding member and lead singer of the Eagles, a longtime advocate for environmental causes, and founder and chair of the Walden Woods Project, which preserves Thoreau's legacy.

**Begins Monday, March 30, at 8 p.m.**





# CALL THE MIDWIFE

SEASON 15

Did the 2025 *Call the Midwife Holiday Special* whet your appetite for a new season of happenings at Nonnatus House? Then you'll be happy to know that season 15 of the delightful and dramatic favorite returns to PBS with an eight-episode run beginning this month.

The new season kicks off in 1971 as several of the ladies embrace women's liberation and burn their bras outside Nonnatus House. Over the year, the team handles challenging cases including premature birth, placenta previa, kidney cancer, tuberculosis, and slavery. The cast includes favorites Jenny Agutter (Sister Julianne), Judy Parfitt (Sister Monica Joan), Helen George (Trixie Aylward), Laura Main (Shelagh Turner), Stephen McGann (Patrick Turner), Cliff Parisi (Fred Buckle), Linda Bassett (Phyllis Crane), Georgie Glen (Millicent Higgins), and Zephryn Taitte (Cyril Robinson).

**Premieres Sunday, March 22, at 7 p.m.**

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**Questions?**  
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## Words from the President...

Dear Friends,

Thank you! — two words that contain a world of gratitude for your friendship and generosity.

As we face another challenging year, it's you who ensures we can continue to provide information about significant events in our region and across the globe, from the past and into the future. Just as important, you help create a commercial-free oasis where you can always find something to lift your spirits. I think the new documentary *Henry David Thoreau* offers both. As hard as it is to believe, this is the first full-length film devoted to the naturalist and writer's life and times.

If drama is your happy place, then settle in for two long-awaited *MASTERPIECE* dramas: *The Count of Monte Cristo* and *The Forsytes*.

I've seen previews of both. The acting, locations, and costumes are all breathtaking. You can also meet up with your old Nonnatus House friends in the latest season of *Call the Midwife*. And these are just a few of the programs available to watch for free on KLRN.

Each time you tune in, remember that viewer support makes access to your old favorites and new discoveries possible. You are the viewer in viewer-supported public broadcasting. Thank you!

Sincerely,

**Arthur R. Emerson**  
President and CEO



Desire! Ambition! Betrayal! With a sweeping, romantic storyline based on a Victorian stockbroking family, *The Forsytes* has it all and more. This newest *MASTERPIECE* drama is both a bold reimagining and a prequel to John Galsworthy's celebrated Forsyte Saga novels.

Planned as a returning series, the first season follows the lives of the well-to-do Forsyte family in 1880s London where money and society dictate the rules. The narrative follows four generations of the wealthy Forsytes as they navigate high-risk investments and the even higher expectations of making the right marital matches. Leading the stellar cast is Francesca Annis as the formidable Forsyte matriarch, Ann. She's

joined by Stephen Moyer as her eldest son Jolyon and Jack Davenport who plays her younger son James.

Among the many intriguing characters you'll meet throughout the six-episode series are Danny Griffin as Jolyon's bohemian son Jo, Tuppence Middleton (*Downton Abbey: A New Era*) as Jo's status-driven wife Frances, and Eleanor Tomlinson (*Poldark*) playing Louisa Byrne, a Soho dressmaker and Jo's first love. Susan Hampshire, CBE, plays Lady Carteret. Fun fact: Hampshire starred as Fleur in the 1967 Forstye Saga, one of the first *MASTERPIECE* offerings, for which Hampshire won the first of her three Emmys.

**Premieres Sunday, March 22, at 8 p.m.**

MASTERPIECE

# THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

If you've wished that *MASTERPIECE* would present a faithful adaptation of the Alexandre Dumas epic, your wait is nearly over. Starting on March 1, you'll follow the tale of young sailor Edmond Dantès as he's betrayed and thrown into prison in the nightmarish Château d'If.

When fortune favors the patient Dantès, he escapes and claims a hidden treasure that makes him one of the richest men in the world. Under the guise of the enigmatic count, he begins his campaign of revenge.

Can Dantès reclaim justice — or love? You'll have to tune in to find out. If the plot seems over

the top, you'll be surprised to know Dumas' novel was based on two true stories. One centers around Francois "Pierre" Picaud, who was wrongly imprisoned after accusations of treason. The other is based on the imprisonment of Dumas' own father, a French general.

This lush eight-part series was filmed in Italy, Malta, and France, starring Sam Claflin as Dantès — the enigmatic Count of Monte Cristo. Claflin is joined by Jeremy Irons as fellow prisoner Abbé Faria, Ana Girardot as Mercedes, and Blake Ritson as Danglars.

**Premieres Sunday, March 22, at 9 p.m.**

# MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

WE ARE OUR TIME



April 18, 2026, marks the centenary of the first performance by the Martha Graham Dance Company — the oldest and the longest running dance company in America. Coming to PBS in April, this two-part, three-hour documentary tells the story of Martha Graham, the visionary artist and choreographer who forged the path for the future of modern dance.

Recognized as one of America's primal artistic forces of the 20th century — alongside such iconic innovators as Ernest Hemingway, Maya Angelou, Frank Lloyd Wright, Duke Ellington, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Bob Dylan — Graham is known for freeing the art of dance by providing a new dance language and new concepts. She revolutionized dance, lighting, stage designing, costuming, and music with her creative perfectionism.

Viewers will see her genius in action throughout the film. Directors Peter Schnall and Cyndee Readdean use extended dance segments from rehearsals and performances, as well as interviews with many generations of Graham dancers, to reveal how the fire, drive, and passion of this towering figure continue to inspire today.

**Airs Friday, March 27, at 8 p.m.**

# THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

WHOSE VOICE IS IT?

Did you find yourself thinking, "I know that voice" while watching *The American Revolution*? Ken Burns is famous for using star-studded voiceovers in his films. Now you can test your skills and learn more about the connection between Hollywood's royalty and the landmark documentary. If you haven't seen *The American Revolution* yet or want to watch it again, it's streaming on PBS Passport.

1. This American actor voiced George Washington. He also starred in *No Country for Old Men* and *Men in Black 3*. Who is he?
2. Did the words of master sailmaker, entrepreneur, and veteran James Forten have a familiar ring? Guess the name of this Hollywood icon who was also on PBS's *The Electric Company*.
3. This actor did not play King George III in the film, but he did on Broadway. Who was the voice of Princeton mayor Erkuries Beatty?
4. Once part of the *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* stage crew, this actor portrayed notorious traitor Benedict Arnold.
5. This woman was the youngest inaugural poet in U.S. history. She voiced Phyllis Wheatley, one of the best-known poets of her time. Who is she?

6. This actor has played John Adams twice. He also appeared in *Downton Abbey*. Guess his name.
7. Having taken a key role in other Ken Burns documentaries and having starred in a host of beloved films, this renowned actor embodied the words of Andrew Eliot, Josiah Bartlett, Isaac Bangs, David Griffith, Thomas Jones, Ezra Tilden, Albigeance Waldo, and Ebenezer Denny.
8. Triple Oscar winner, she's another Ken Burns regular. Known for her skill in accents, she interprets the words of activist poet and pamphleteer Mercy Otis Warren.
9. Former longtime host of *Masterpiece Classic*, she voiced five different women in the film — Sarah Fisher, Sarah Mifflin, Ann Hulton, Eliza Wilkinson, and Eliza Lucas Pinckney.
10. He voices King George III, while he's also played an equally mercurial king, Henry VIII, on *MASTERPIECE*'s *Wolf Hall*. Further, he speaks the words of Nicholas Cresswell, John André, and Bartholomew James.

- Answers
1. Josh Brolin
  2. Morgan Freeman
  3. Jonathan Groff
  4. Michael Keaton
  5. Amanda Gorman
  6. Paul Giamatti
  7. Tom Hanks
  8. Meryl Streep
  9. Laura Linney
  10. Damian Lewis

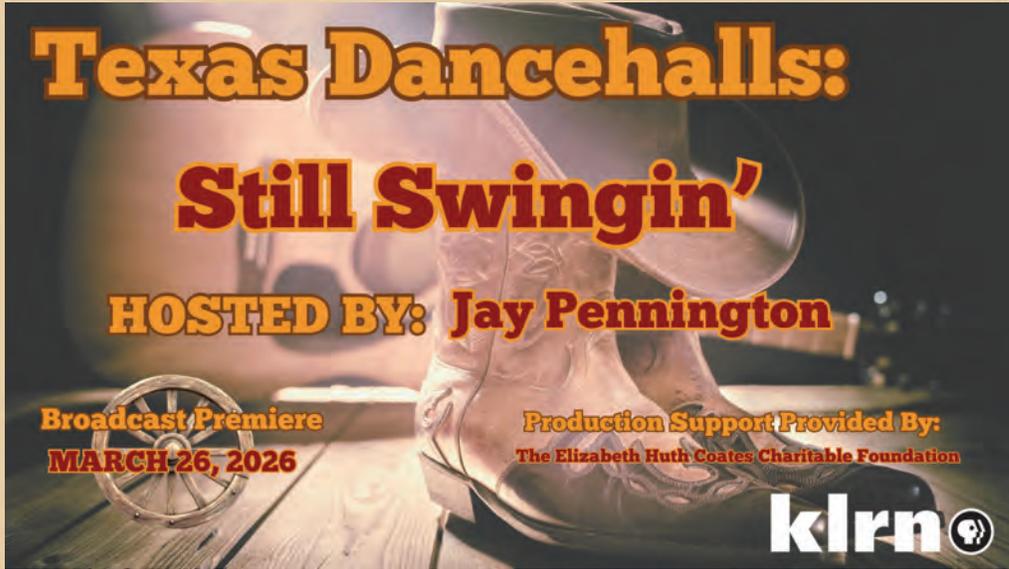


# Texas Dancehalls: Still Swingin'

**HOSTED BY: Jay Pennington**

**Broadcast Premiere  
MARCH 26, 2026**

**Production Support Provided By:  
The Elizabeth Huth Coates Charitable Foundation**



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**\*\*See you on the green!**

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TRINITY UNIVERSITY'S **KRTU 50TH** ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

# JAZZmeIA HORN

**Premieres April 30  
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SOUTH TEXAS JAZZ PROJECT  
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### Viewer Comments

“Thanks again for consistently providing outstanding broadcasting to us, especially in light of the congressional decision to dismantle the Corporation For Public Broadcasting. May you continue to thrive!”

— Peter B., Bulverde

“Precious. Irreplaceable. Necessary. I cannot imagine an America without. It’s enriched my life incalculably. Thank you for all that you do.”

— Kenneth F., San Antonio

“Love PBS. It’s all that’s worth watching on TV. Thank you so much for your programming.”

— Vicki F., San Antonio

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**2026 Education Events  
for Kids & Families**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Be My  
Neighbor Day**

**March 14  
10AM - 1PM**



**Kids Day in  
the Park**



**April 11  
10AM - 1PM**

**Scan for details  
& RSVP**

