



**Season 3 of AMERICA REFRAMED with host  
Natasha Del Toro continues with GAUCHO DEL NORTE  
by Sofian Khan and Andrés Caballero**

**Tuesday, January 27, 2105, on WORLD at 8 pm**

<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>

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**Since the 1970's, sheep herders from South America have been brought to work in the American West. GAUCHO DEL NORTE follows migrants Eraldo Pacheco on his journey from Chile to Idaho and Peruvian Jhonny Quispe to fulfill a three-year work contract.**

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December 15, 2014 (New York, NY) – Sofian Khan and Andrés Caballero’s documentary **GAUCHO DEL NORTE** has its national broadcast premiere on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 8 p.m. on WORLD as part of the third season of the **AMERICA REFRAMED** series. (Check local listings.) Audiences across the nation can also view the film FREE from January 28th to February 26th on <http://worldchannel.org/>.

In the quiet, bucolic Patagonian countryside in the town of Bahia Murta with 587 inhabitants we meet Eraldo Pacheco, a thoughtful man who has recently arrived at a momentous decision. “Things are worse here than ever,” Eraldo tells his father and family as he announces his plan to move to the United States. In this observational documentary of impressive beauty and painterly cinematic images the imbalance of economic forces is seen in high relief.

Determined to be fully present in those precious few days he has left in Chile, Eraldo enjoys the simplest of things -- the company of his sons and loved ones. Consuming his thoughts, however, is his desire to provide an education for his two sons and hope that the sacrifice is worth it. He’s also deeply worried about making this decision now, when his parents are so old and becoming frail. Too soon, Eraldo leaves his wife and children behind in the provincial capital of Coyhaique to carry out his plan to fulfill his three-year contract tending sheep almost 6,000 miles away in rural Idaho.

With poetic subtlety the film speaks to the economic fragility of these remote and rural communities in South America as well as the precarious and fickle agricultural economy up north. Once in Salt Lake City, Utah, we meet Jhonny Quispe, from Peru, who also made the trek up north and who also left a wife and two children behind.

Peaceful, meditative scenes envelop the viewer – vast desert, steep mountains, winter’s terrain and thousands of sheep belie the angst of the economic woes that cause a separation between a man and his beloved, his elders, his children, and the spiritual majesty of his homeland. Jhonny is also deeply invested in being a provider for his family.



But what might seem like a pastoral, nomadic life is a lonely and tough existence. In a later scene, Eraldo explains that one needs to have a hermetic nature to do this work, and acknowledges that it can indeed be extremely boring. The salary is a meager \$750 a month for first shepherds.

While Eraldo is up north, he continues to fret about not being in Chile tending to his family, especially his elderly parents. Did he make the right choice?

**GAUCHO DEL NORTE** airs Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 8pm on WORLD (check local listings) and will stream for free online at [worldchannel.org/americanreframed](http://worldchannel.org/americanreframed).

### **Short Synopsis**

**GAUCHO DEL NORTE** tells the story of South American sheep herders recruited to work in Idaho. The nomadic journey follows Chilean Eraldo Pacheco, Peruvian Jhonny Quispe, and a herd of more than a thousand sheep across a lonely, rugged landscape --- from the harsh beauty of wintry high desert, to the lush summer mountains. Living in isolation, Eraldo and Jhonny face the ups and downs of a psychologically and physically demanding job far away from home and family, often questioning whether or not it's all worth it.

### **Film Credits**

Director/Producer: Sofian Khan and Andrés Caballero  
Composer: Joshua Green

### **About AMERICA REFRAMED**

**AMERICA REFRAMED** is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc. and is hosted by journalist Natasha Del Toro.

Through the lens of independent documentaries, AMERICA REFRAMED brings to national audiences compelling stories that illuminate the changing contours of an ever-evolving America. The 26-week, social-issue documentary series presents an array of personal voices and experiences through which we learn from our past, understand our present and are challenged to seek new frameworks for America's future.

Season three of AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging to veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the ex-burbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, healthcare, politics, gun violence, religion and more. Hosted by journalist Natasha Del Toro, several episodes will feature a roundtable discussion with special guest commentators, and filmmakers including.

AMERICA REFRAMED in its first season won five 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Awards, and recently was nominated for its second national Imagen Award, which honors films featuring Latinos and their culture in television and film.



### **Series Credits**

Executive Producers: Chris Hastings, Simon Kilmurry  
Series Producer: Carmen Vicencio  
Host: Natasha Del Toro

### **Web and Social Media**

AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via  
<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>  
and,  
<https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel>  
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### **AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers**

**American Documentary, Inc.** (AmDoc) is a multimedia company dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and community participation.

**The WORLD Channel** delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming to US audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at [worldchannel.org](http://worldchannel.org). WORLD reached 35 million unique viewers 18+ last year (55% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics.\* Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction. (*Source: Nielsen Local Buyer Reach Scorecard 01/13-12/13*)

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with the American Public Television and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Ford Foundation. Additional funding for AMERICA REFRAMED is provided by the MacArthur Foundation.

### **Media Contact**

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