



Season 3 of AMERICA REFRAMED with Host Natasha Del Toro continues with LEARNING TO SWALLOW by Danielle Beverly

Tuesday, March 24, 2015, on WORLD at 8 p.m.

<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>
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March 2, 2015, (New York, NY) – Danielle Beverly’s documentary, **LEARNING TO SWALLOW** has its national broadcast television premiere on Tuesday, March 24, 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 March 25th to April 26th on <http://worldchannel.org/>.

LEARNING TO SWALLOW is an intimate portrait of a resilient young woman, Patsy Desmond. A charismatic, emerging artist, the “it girl” seemingly had it all: admiring friends and lovers, a prestigious work assignment with an internationally renowned artist in New York City and the potential to successfully realize her dreams. And in spite of this, Patsy struggled with bipolar disorder too. A failed suicide attempt leaves Patsy unable to swallow and for the remainder of her life must receive sustenance through a food tube.

Over four rocky years, Patsy struggles to accept her physical condition and learns to deal with the life she now faces: recovery and healing. Her inability to eat and her emotional state transform her artistic voice in the process. Filmmaker Danielle Beverly captures Patsy’s raw honesty and wit even as she becomes increasingly frail. However, by the end of the film, hope and an undying spirit prevail. Patsy renews her pact with art and life.

“**LEARNING TO SWALLOW** is a bold film that captures the complicated depths of one woman’s soul: from wanting to give up and ending it all to finding joy and purpose through creative expression,” says Simon Kilmurry, Co- Executive Producer, America ReFramed.

“WORLD Channel and WGBH are thrilled to collaborate with American Documentary on the third season of AMERICA REFRAMED presenting the television premieres and encores of important films such as **LEARNING TO SWALLOW**. As co-producers, we share a passion for storytellers committed to helping us gain a deeper and more nuanced understanding of America today,” says Chris Hastings, Co- Executive Producer.



Film Credits

Producer, Director
Cinematographer: Danielle Beverly

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.

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.

AMERICA REFRAMED 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. 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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