



**Season 3 of AMERICA REFRAMED with Host Natasha Del Toro
continues with 9-MAN by Ursula Liang**

**Tuesday, May 5, 2015, on Public Television's
WORLD Channel at 8 p.m.**

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

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*"9-Man is a surprisingly funny, sharp and nuanced conversation
about contemporary Asian Americana. — Jenn Fang, Reappropriate*

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April 1, 2015 -- (New York, NY) – Ursula Liang's documentary 9-MAN will have its national television broadcast premiere on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, at 8 p.m. on WORLD Channel as part of the third season of the **AMERICA REFRAMED** series. ([Check local listings.](#)) Audiences across the nation can also view the film FREE starting May 6, 2015 on <http://worldchannel.org/>.

Much more than an urban pastime, 9-Man is a competitive Chinese-American sport with roots that trace back to the Toisan* region of Guangdong province. In North America, the game was a way for Chinese workers to escape the drudgery of menial labor during an era of extreme discrimination. The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 -- the first U.S. immigration law targeting a single ethnic group -- constrained the formation of Chinese families, effectively creating Chinatown "bachelor societies" where men outnumbered women by huge ratios. In the 1930's, a traveling 9-Man tournament emerged, and helped create fraternity within a community plagued by unjust stereotypes of Asian masculinity.

Today, 9-Man provides a lasting connection to culture and community pride for men that know a different, more integrated America. Following several teams over the course of one season, the documentary captures the spirit of 9-Man as teams prepare for battle on gritty asphalt streets and oil-spotted Chinatown parking lots throughout North America and fight for the championship in Boston. While the elders question how to pass the torch, the next generation struggles with maintaining tradition in gentrified urban centers while the community becomes increasingly multi-ethnic. What does the future hold for this streetball battle?

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(Note: Toisan is a region in the Guangdong Province of China. Other names are Hoisan and Taishan.)



“9-MAN is an exceptionally athletic Chinese-American sport that shines a light on how community ties are strengthened and reaffirmed,” says Simon Kilmurry, Executive Producer, America ReFramed.

“We are thrilled to collaborate with AmDoc on the third season of AMERICA REFRAMED presenting encores and television premieres of important films such as 9-MAN. As co-producers, we share a passion for storytellers committed to helping us gain a deeper and more nuanced understanding of America today,” says Christopher Hastings, Co-Executive Producer, America ReFramed.

Film Credits

Director, Producer and
Director of Photography: Ursula Liang
Editor: Michelle Chang

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 has won five 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Awards, three Telly Awards, a Gracie Award 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 L. 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> <https://www.facebook.com/AmericaReFramed>

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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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