



BaddDDD SONIA SANCHEZ premieres on AMERICA REFRAMED
A film by Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater and Sabrina Schmidt Gordon

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 on WORLD at 8 p.m.

[AMERICA REFRAMED](#)

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“I want to tell people how I became this woman with razor blades between her teeth.”
– Sonia Sanchez, poet, activist and seminal figure of the 1960s Black Arts Movement.

February 12, 2016 – (New York, NY) – Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater and Sabrina Schmidt Gordon’s documentary **BaddDDD SONIA SANCHEZ** will have its U.S. television premiere, **Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at 8 p.m.** on WORLD Channel ([check local listings](#)), as part of the fourth season of **AMERICA REFRAMED**, public media’s newest documentary series hosted by Natasha Del Toro. The film will be available for free streaming on www.worldchannel.org starting March 9, 2016.

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As WORLD Channel maintains its focus on Civil Rights issues, including the encore presentation of *Eyes on the Prize*, a critically acclaimed and in-depth documentary series on civil rights in America, AMERICA REFRAMED’s **BaddDDD SONIA SANCHEZ** continues the conversation.

For 81-year-old Sonia Sanchez, the personal is political.

BaddDDD SONIA SANCHEZ is a portrait of the artist, revealing Sanchez’s uncompromising life. Deemed "a lion in literature's forest" by poet Maya Angelou, Sanchez is a winner of major literary honors, including the American Book Award in 1985 and the Harper Lee Award in 2004, among others. A significant figure in the 1960s Black Arts Movement, often considered the artistic arm of the Black Power Movement, she raised her voice in the name of black culture, civil rights, women's liberation, and world peace.

The documentary features readings and jazz-accompanied performances of her work, including special appearances by **Questlove, Talib Kweli, Ursula Rucker, Amiri Baraka, Haki Madhubuti, Jessica Care Moore, Ruby Dee, Yasiin Bey, Ayana Mathis, Imani Uzuri and Bryonn Bain**, placing her squarely between the civil rights movement



and the hip-hop/spoken word generation. The film captures the artist's steadfast commitment to the need for cultural specificity while connecting history and the humanities to a mainstream audience.

As a poet, playwright, teacher and activist, Sonia Sanchez was an advance champion of hip-hop. Sanchez was among the earliest poets to have incorporated urban black English into her oeuvre. A hallmark of her legacy involves her seminal work advocating for and developing African American studies departments and curricula at the university level. The author is best known for 17 books of poetry that explore a wide range of global and humanist themes, particularly the struggles and triumphs of women and people of color. She takes special pride in "all of her children," the thousands of children of all colors and from all walks of life, that she has educated.

AMERICA REFRAMED's broadcast premiere of **BaddDDD SONIA SANCHEZ** on the WORLD Channel includes a moderated conversation with the documentary's Co-Director, Co-Producer and Editor, Sabrina Schmidt Gordon. The filmmaker will reflect upon her early impressions of Sonia Sanchez's writing and will reveal what drew her to the poet's life and story as the basis for making this documentary film. The conversation will also delve into what it means for people of color to tell their own stories, and ultimately, Sanchez's legacy for promoting the struggle of the civil rights movement and her connection to younger generations through her work as a poet, activist and educator.

Film Credits

Directors: Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater, Sabrina Schmidt Gordon
Producers: Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater, Sabrina Schmidt Gordon

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.

Season 4 of AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging and veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the exurbs 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. Several episodes feature a roundtable discussion moderated by host Natasha Del Toro with special guest commentators and filmmakers.



In 2015, AMERICA REFRAMED won a GRACIE Outstanding Series award, and was nominated for an EMMY award as well as an Independent Documentary Association award for best curated series. In its first season, AMERICA REFRAMED received five 2013 CINE Golden Eagle Awards, and one Imagen Awards nomination.

AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White
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 arts organization 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. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: www.amdoc.org

The WORLD Channel delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming, including original content by and about diverse communities, to U.S. audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at worldchannel.org. WORLD reached 35.8 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.

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the Ford Foundation, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Kendeda Fund. For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit www.worldchannel.org

Media Contact

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