

WETA Focus



he holidays have arrived, and in December WETA radio and television broadcasts we present our annual celebratory programming, including inspiring music, uplifting concerts, entertaining dramas and much more. Among our notable television offerings this month is the vibrant annual special *WETA Arts: Songs of the Season*, created here at WETA, which features vocal ensembles from around the Washington, D.C. area performing holiday selections. In highlights adjacent to this column, find details about the choral production and many other holiday presentations, which we round up on our website at *weta.org/happyholidays*.

In other programming, with so much happening in the world at present, and Election 2024 coming into focus, stay informed of developments by watching WETA news and public affairs programs *PBS NewsHour*, *Washington Week with The Atlantic* and *PBS News Weekend*, all of which report on current events and issues. On December 19,

be sure to tune in to our special production *America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff* for the distinguished journalist's reporting from around the country on the rifts in America and ways we might bridge the divides. Best wishes for happy holidays — and thank you for your ongoing support of WETA.



Sharon Percy Rockefeller President and Chief Executive Officer, WETA



WETA Arts: Songs of the Season

WETA production airs
Monday, Dec. 11 at 9 p.m. on
WETA PBS; 8 p.m. on WETA Metro;
stream on the PBS App

he Emmy Award-winning local WETA series *WETA Arts* showcases the Washington, D.C.-area's talented and dedicated choral communities in a lively one-hour holiday episode. The national capital area is home to dozens of outstanding local choirs and choruses that present holiday concerts — and *WETA Arts* invites audiences to hear 19 of these

vocal groups perform in *Songs of the Season*. Now in its fourth year, the annual WETA production again features ensembles from D.C., Maryland and Virginia.

This special program was conceived in 2020 to celebrate local choirs during the pandemic and has become a WETA holiday tradition. *WETA Arts: Songs of the Season* premieres Dec. 11, is available to stream throughout the holiday season, and repeats Dec. 24 at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. on WETA PBS and WETA Metro.

Be a part of next year's *Songs of the Season*! Submit your vocal group's holiday video performances for consideration. Deadline for submission is July 1, 2024. **To learn more, visit** *weta.org/localchoirs*.

WETA - ON THE AIR & ONLINE

WETA PBS

26.1 via antenna Comcast 26, 219, 800, 1026 Cox 26, 1003, 1026 DirecTV 26, 26-1, Stream Dish 8076 Fios 26, 526 RCN 26, 613 YouTube.com/wetapbs

WETA UK

26.2 via antenna Comcast 265, 1146 Cox 800 Fios 474 RCN 39, 602

WETA Metro

26.5 via antenna weta.org/livestream PBS App YouTube TV Hulu + Live TV Comcast 270, 1148 Fios 470 RCN 599

WETA World

26.4 via antenna Cox 802 Fios 475 RCN 37

COVER: FROM TOP: GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON, DC; WPA CHILDREN OF THE GOSPEL CHOIR; THOMAS CIRCLE SINGERS; CHILDREN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON; THE HERITAGE SIGNATURE CHORALE.

Holiday Programming

Visit the WETA website weta.org/happyholidays to find holiday programming descriptions for seasonal WETA Classical specials and WETA television offerings. Among the site's features this year are Spotify music playlists related to WETA content.

Seasonal Music on WETA Classical

Injoy seasonal offerings on WETA Classical as Greater Washington's exclusive classical music radio service adds holiday music into its broadcasts in late November. Holiday offerings air throughout December, increasing on December 18 and culminating with special programming on December 24-25. This year's Christmas Eve specials include the traditional Christmas Eve Carolfest (6 a.m.-5 p.m.); Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge (5 p.m.); Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker (7 p.m.); and a special edition of Choral Showcase featuring A Christmas Carol by Benedict Sheehan, based on the story by Charles Dickens. On Christmas Day, December 25, WETA Classical presents Christmas Day Carolfest (6 a.m.-5 p.m.), including Christmas in Washington (11 a.m.), featuring performances of holiday music by D.C.-area choral and instrumental ensembles; Handel's Messiah (5 p.m.); and Bach's Christmas Oratorio (9 p.m.). For more seasonal music on WETA Classical, see pages 20-21 and visit weta.org/happybolidays.

Holiday Specials on WETA PBS

Visit weta.org/happyholidays for holiday programs on WETA TV channels

As per tradition, WETA PBS features a wide array of seasonal television specials in December, from music and performance programs to dramas, from cultural/travel experiences to cooking presentations, and more. WETA's own annual choral special *WETA Arts: Songs of the Season* is spotlighted opposite this page; and in other new music programming, enjoy *Season of Light: Christmas with the Tabernacle Choir* (airing Dec. 12, 8 p.m.), featuring Lea Salonga and Sir David Suchet; and an encore performance of *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* (Dec. 26, 9 p.m.) with Alan Cumming. In drama offerings, *Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2023* (Dec. 25, 8 p.m.) features a seasonal storyline; *A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong* (Dec 24, 7 p.m.), with Dame Diana Rigg and Sir Derek Jacobi, offers some dramatic holiday fun; and *All Creatures Great and Small: Christmas in the Dales* (Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.) celebrates holiday moments in the beloved *Masterpiece* series. Holiday classic *Rick Steves' European Christmas* (Dec. 4, 9:30 p.m.) spotlights traditions on the Continent; *The Savoy at Christmas* (Dec. 17, 7 p.m.), illuminates the season at London's luxury hotel; and new special *Mary Berry's Highland Christmas* (Dec. 18, 9 p.m.) features the iconic chef and baker in Scotland. Tune in to WETA PBS (and WETA Metro) on December 24-25 for holiday programming throughout the day.









Also watch for a Christmas Day WETA UK marathon of Mary Berry cooking series and specials, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

For program and membership inquiries, visit weta.org or call 703-998-2724.

WETA PBS Kids

26.3 via antenna Comcast 266, 1147 Cox 801 Fios 472 RCN 38

WETA Online

weta.org weta.org/passport weta.org/pbsapp weta.org/learningmedia

WETA Classical

WETA 90.9 FM Washington, D.C. WGMS 89.1 FM Hagerstown wetaclassical.org vivalavoce.org WETA Classical App



Lea Salonga and Sir David Suchet

Season of Light: Christmas with The Tabernacle Choir

Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App

he beloved annual *Christmas with The Tabernacle Choir* holiday special returns this month for its 20th televised year, featuring Tony Award-winning Disney

and Broadway star Lea Salonga (of *Mulan* and *Miss Saigon*) and world-renowned screen and stage actor Sir David Suchet (*Agatha Christie's Poirot*). In the 90-minute special, Salonga joins The Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square in singing inspirational favorite holiday tunes as well as performing a World War II-era song in Tagalog, "Payapang Daigdig," to honor her Filipina heritage. As the evening's narrator, Suchet powerfully recounts the story of Sir Nicholas Winton, an English stockbroker who worked tirelessly in the months before World War II to save endangered Jewish children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia, orchestrating the safe passage of 669 refugees, with a known posterity of 6,000. Combining timeless music with examples of sharing light, the program invites hope and welcomes the spirit of sharing goodness this holiday season.



Actor Adeoye, who attended the Academy for Classical Acting at The George Washington University, as the Cheshire Cat

Lookingglass Alice

Friday, Dec. 15 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App

Created and performed by Chicago's Tony Award-winning Lookingglass Theatre Company, this program presents a circus-infused special inspired by Lewis Carroll's beloved stories. Both faithful to the stories and innovative in its incorporation of dazzling circus arts and acrobatics, *Lookingglass Alice* offers up a fantastical, dizzyingly playful and gravity-defying spectacle, staged with bountiful wit, astonishing physicality, breathtaking aerial acrobatics and theatrical daring. The production, adapted and directed by ensemble member David Catlin, was produced in association with The Actors Gymnasium and has toured the country to perform for audiences of all ages. Founded in 1988 by eight graduates of Northwestern University (including future *Friends* star David Schwimmer), Lookingglass creates and presents new, cutting-edge theatrical works, guided by an artistic vision centered on core values of collaboration, transformation and invention. *Variety* praises the show as "surreal enchantment," *The Chicago Tribune* lauds it as "ingenious," and the *Chicago Sun-Times* calls it "spectacular ... pure, unadulterated magic."



Mary Berry's Highland Christmas

Monday, Dec. 18 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; stream on the PBS App

n an enchanting holiday special, beloved home cook Dame Mary Berry heads to the Scottish Highlands on a winter break, cooking up some truly indulgent dishes that can be enjoyed anytime over the festive season. But this isn't just any Christmas — it's deeply meaningful for Berry because she's spending it in her mother's homeland. Amid the abundance of rich cultural delights, Berry reflects on her heritage with fascinating anecdotes

about her Scottish roots. And she's not going alone — accompanying her on this magical adventure are special guests who make this a holiday to remember.

Also enjoy an encore broadcast of the 2022 program *Mary Berry's Ultimate Christmas*, Dec. 22 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; and a Mary Berry marathon on WETA UK, Monday, Dec. 25, that features these two Christmas specials, 7-9 a.m., in addition to episodes of cooking series *Mary Berry's Absolute Favorites* and *Mary Berry: Cook and Share*, 9 a.m., and an *Ultimate Christmas* encore at 4 p.m.

Barbra Streisand: Back to Brooklyn

Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS; repeats Dec. 8 at 11 p.m.

or two magical nights in October 2012, hometown legend Barbra Streisand made a triumphant and emotional return to her roots and the borough where she grew up. The shows marked the Academy Award-winning actress, singer, director and philanthropist's first public performances in her hometown of Brooklyn, New York, since she was in grade school. This encore presentation of Back to Brooklyn includes an array of songs that Streisand had never



performed on stage, and features special guests trumpeter Chris Botti; Italian singing group Il Volo; and Streisand's son, actor-director Jason Gould. Following the first of her Brooklyn shows, which helped inaugurate the then-brandnew Barclays Center, The New York Times praised Streisand's "spellbinding voice" and noted: "Like few singers of any age, she has the gift of conveying a primal human longing in a beautiful sound." Among the songs on the program are "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered," "Smile," "The Way We Were/Through the Eyes of Love," "You're the Top," "What'll I Do/My Funny Valentine," "People" and "Somewhere."

Neil Diamond: Thank You Australia Saturday, Dec. 2 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS

One of the most dynamic live showmen of his generation, and one of the most successful singer-songwriters of the last 40 years, Neil Diamond is an American legend. This concert "Down Under" by the multi-platinumselling recording artist — filmed at the Sydney Sports Stadium — was the culmination of his Australia and New Zealand tour in 1976, an event that marked his comeback to the live stage after a years-long sabbatical from live performance. The vast crowd was typical of this record-breaking tour, which is still one of the most memorable in Australian history, and Neil Diamond delivered an enthralling performance. Among the songs Diamond performs



are "Solitary Man," "Cherry, Cherry," "Sweet Caroline," "Song Sung Blue," "Cracklin' Rosie" and "I Am...I Said." Throughout the wide-ranging career of the Grammy-winning artist, and member of both the Rock & Roll and Songwriter Halls of Fame, he has sold more than 130 million albums worldwide.

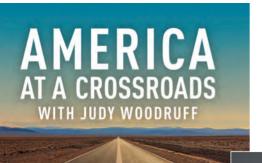
Celtic Woman 20th Anniversary Concert

Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; repeats Dec. 3 at 2:30 p.m.

fter the success of *Postcards from Ireland*, Celtic Woman returns with a 20th anniversary special celebrating a milestone with the Grammy-nominated ensemble. Filmed at The Helix in Dublin, this new concert includes new arrangements, Irish classics, contemporary songs and stirring originals, featuring the group's trademark harmonies and instrumental virtuosity. Among the performers are sopranos Mairéad Carlin and Muirgen O'Mahony; fiddle and Irish



harp maestro Tara McNeill; and newest ensemble member Emma Warren, who has participated in Riverdance, Heartbeat of Home and, in London, Les Misérables. The ensemble is accompanied onstage by a choir, an orchestra, and dancers, in addition to a band playing an array of traditional Celtic instruments. The show also includes original members Chloë Agnew, Lisa Kelly, Máiréad Nesbitt and Méav Ní Mhaolchatha. On the bill are familiar songs such as "When You Believe," "Caledonia" and "Dúlamán" — and the concert culminates with fan favorites "You Raise Me Up" and "The Parting Glass" by the lineup of eight Celtic women.



Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; stream on the PBS App At a time of heightened partisanship, declining trust in institutions, increased political violence, and rapid social change, distinguished journalist Judy Woodruff — senior correspondent and former anchor and managing editor of *PBS NewsHour* — explores the forces driving Americans apart and asks people from all walks of life and all political persuasions what might be done to reverse these worrying trends. The special *America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff* presents both new and recent reporting on this subject. The one-hour program also

examines solutions — engaging academics and civic leaders to talk about strategies that seem to be working and to find out what more can be done to reconnect Americans across partisan division and build stronger communities. Woodruff's reporting is part of her two-year national journalism project America at a Crossroads, which aims to understand better how the American people see their country. The reporting initiative explores how America arrived at this fractured political state and what can be done to bridge the divide.

Funding for America at a Crossroads with Judy Woodruff is provided by Jim and Nancy Bildner; Mary Graham; Jon Q. and Ann S. Reynolds Fund; Roger Sant; Alison Blair Taylor; Dr. Carl A. and Susan Hinko Batlin; Edith H. and C. Hastings Johnson Family Fund; Jay and Sharon Rockefeller; FJC – A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds; Ann and Thomas L. Friedman Charitable Fund; Anne Kelleher and Ray Boedecker; Donna and Mack McLarty; Sunrise Foundation; Kettering Foundation; Carnegie Corporation of New York; Rockefeller Brothers Fund; The Opportunity Fund; Pritzker Traubert Foundation; Omidyar Network; and PBS.

Preserving Presidential History with David Rubenstein

Saturday, Dec. 16, 10 p.m. on WETA PBS (Dec. 14, 8 p.m. on WETA Metro)

he White House Historical Association hosted a special program and reception as part of its biennial Presidential Sites Summit at the Library of Congress in late September 2023 in Washington, D.C. As part of the proceedings, businessman, philanthropist and author David M. Rubenstein moderated a very special conversation with a



(l-r:) Lonnie Bunch, Colleen Shogan, David Rubenstein, Carla Hayden and Chuck Sams at the Presidential Sites Summit 2023

panel of distinguished participants: Lonnie Bunch, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; Dr. Colleen Shogan, Archivist of the United States; Dr. Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress; and Chuck Sams, Director of the National Park Service. The discussion spotlighted their organizations' roles in preserving presidential history and sharing that history with the public. The live-streamed event was the first-ever gathering of the four federal agencies and cultural institutions that oversee the nation's presidential sites, records and history — and the lively, anecdote-filled discussion about American history was filmed for this one-hour White House Historical Association television program, *Preserving Presidential History with David Rubenstein*.

Also featuring David Rubenstein this month on WETA PBS:

Iconic America: Our Symbols and Stories with David Rubenstein • Encore presentation features two episodes each week, Saturdays, 8-10 p.m. starting Dec. 16 on WETA PBS (Thursdays, 9-11 p.m., Dec. 7-28 on WETA Metro). The documentary series, a WETA co-production, features David Rubenstein exploring America's history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Each episode tells the story of one symbol to reveal its origins and significance, and the arc of its resonance.

- Episodes 1 & 2: Fenway Park + The Hollywood Sign
- Episodes 3 & 4: The Gadsden Flag + The Cowboy
- Episodes 5 & 6: The Statue of Liberty + The American Bald Eagle
- Episodes 7 & 8: Stone Mountain + The Golden Gate Bridge

An Iconic Author in the Spotlight

WETA presents a new series illuminating the life of bestselling crime author Agatha Christie and features adaptations of her works and depictions of her in additional dramas.

Agatha Christie: Lucy Worsley on the Mystery Queen

Sundays, Dec. 3, 10 & 17 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro; Dec. 28, 8-11 p.m. on WETA UK; stream on the PBS App

ore than 100 years since the publication of her first novel, Agatha Christie remains the most successful novelist of all time, outsold only by Shakespeare and the Bible. In 75 novels, plays and countless short stories, she revolutionized and defined the detective fiction genre. But the real woman behind the literary persona has long remained an enigma. A new three-part series from BBC Studios' Documentary Unit follows popular British historian Lucy Worsley as she turns her powers of investigation



Historian Lucy Worsley

on the famed crime writer, traveling the world in the author's footsteps and unraveling the story of her life. Christie was one of the most famous, complex and misunderstood women of the 20th century. How did this seemingly conventional British matron write so convincingly about the dark art of murder? As in the best of Christie's novels, clues are hiding in plain sight, and Worsley uncovers new evidence and some carefully concealed secrets that illuminate Christie and her world.

Worsley, chief curator at Historic Royal Palaces in the U.K., and the author of numerous historical publications including an acclaimed recent Agatha Christie biography, explores how the arc of Christie's life followed the dynamic history of the 20th century. The author witnessed extraordinary upheaval; and she plowed all of it into her books. In each episode of the series, Worsley gets to the heart of Christie's personal experiences — her family, marriages, influences and inspirations, as well as her sorrows and struggles — and analyzes the many hints of the novelist's life that Christie planted in her works.

Additional Agatha Christie programming in December:

On WETA PBS:

Agatha Christie's Poirot:

Five Little Pigs Sun 12/3, 9:30pm • Poirot investigates an old murder case at the behest of the alleged perpetrator's, and victim's, daughter. Toby Stephens, Gemma Jones and Marc Warren co-star.

Death on the Nile Thur 12/7, 8pm • Poirot must sort out the alibis when a murder takes place on a cruise down the Nile in Egypt. Judy Parfitt, James Fox and Barbara Flynn co-star.

Hercule Poirot's Christmas Thur 12/21, 9pm • Poirot is an unexpected guest at the holiday gathering of a wealthy patriarch and his family when a murder occurs.

Agatha and the Truth of Murder Thur 12/14, 8:59pm • Ruth Bradley portrays Christie as she investigates a killing during her own famed 1926 disappearance.

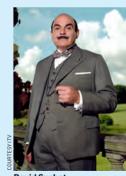
Agatha Christie's England Thur 12/28, 8pm • Retrace Christie's footsteps to see the places that inspired her literary universe and learn how Christie drew on her surroundings for her works. Agatha and the Midnight Murders Thur 12/28, 9pm • Helen Baxendale portrays Christie; facing a crisis, the author considers killing off one of her main characters.

On WETA UK:

Agatha Christie's Marple: (repeats 3 p.m. Thursdays)

Murder Is Easy Wed 12/6, 10pm • A woman confides in Miss Marple that she intends to report a murder. When the woman is slain, Marple seeks the killer. Benedict Cumberbatch co-stars. They Do It with Mirrors Wed 12/13, 10pm • Miss Marple must try to solve the killing of a friend's family member during a stage rehearsal. Penelope Wilton, Brian Cox and Joan Collins co-star.

Why Didn't They Ask Evans? 12/20, 10pm • Miss Marple probes the death of a man and tries to make sense of his last words. Richard Briers, Warren Clarke and Mark Williams co-star.



David Suchet as Poirot



Julia McKenzie as Miss Marple

Stream with WETA Passport



Stream your favorite shows with WETA Passport, a member benefit that offers access to a vast library of superb programs available for streaming on demand. To learn how to access programming with WETA Passport, visit weta.org/passporthelp.



The Brokenwood Mysteries, Series 1 & 2

In an early streaming opportunity, enjoy the first two seasons of the New Zealand-set detective drama before it comes to WETA PBS in January. Bingewatch eight episodes now with WETA Passport.



Ms. Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries

See the recent *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* spin-off that follows Phryne Fisher's niece as she investigates crimes in the 1960s. Binge-watch 12 episodes now with WETA Passport. Coming to WETA UK Dec. 18.



All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3

In anticipation of Series 4, premiering Jan. 7, catch up on Series 3 of the *Masterpiece* adaptation of James Herriot's stories about life in 1930s Yorkshire. Binge-watch three seasons now with WETA Passport.



L'Opera

In an early streaming opportunity, enjoy a drama that follows ambitious dancers at the Paris Opera Ballet as they aim for success. Binge-watch 8 episodes starting Dec. 1. The series airs on WETA UK starting Dec. 26.



Miss Scarlet and The Duke, Series 3

With Series 4 set to premiere on January 7, catch up on Series 3 of the *Masterpiece* detective drama that follows the adventures of a Victorian Era sleuth. Binge-watch three seasons now with WETA Passport.



Mary Berry Series and Specials

Spend your holiday season with the charming, iconic British chef, baker and cookbook author. Bingewatch an array of Berry's entertaining series and specials, available now with WETA Passport.

Also streaming on WETA Passport: Watch for new additions to the many curated offerings in the international drama collection Walter's Choice, including Danish series *Dicte, Series 3* (available now); French detective series *The Wagner Method, Series 2* (Dec. 1); Swedish drama *Miss Friman's War, Series 2* (Dec. 15); and popular French crime series *The Paris Murders, Series 7* (Dec. 22).

Primetime

WETA PBS in December



Visit weta.org/schedule for the most up-to-date schedule information.

Denotes WETA productions, co-productions and presentations

		8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	
1 F	-ri	Washington Week with The Atlantic	History with David Rubenstein, Season 2	Celtic Woman 20th A		10.00	10.00	
2 S		(from 7:30) The Jewis	,	Neil Diamond: Thank	You Australia		This Land Is Your Land (to 12m)	
3 S	Sun	Agatha Christie: Lucy (Pt 1 of 3. <i>Cat Among</i>	y Worsley on the Myst	ery Queen	Agatha Christie's Po	irot: Five Little Pigs		
4 M		Farewell Doc Martin		If You Lived Here:	Rick Steves' Europea	an Christmas		
		Barbra Streisand: Ba	ick to Brooklyn	Rockville, MD	(to 11:30pm)	Frontline: Inside the	rontline: Inside the Uvalde Response	
5 T		Nature: Pandas: Borr	n to Be Wild		The Jewish Journey	America		
6 V	Wed				The covier course,			
7 T	Γhu		rot: Death on the Nile			Agatha Christie: Lucy Worsley on the Mystery Queen (Pt 1 of 3 encore) (to 11:30pm)		
8 F	-ri	Washington Week with The Atlantic History with David Rubenstein, Season 2 Memory Makeover with Daniel Amen, MD						
9 S	Sat	WETA Viewer Favorit	tes					
10 S	Sun	Agatha Christie: Lucy tery Queen (Pt 2 of 3.	Worsley on the Mys- Destination Unknown)	All Creatures Great a Masterpiece (Pt 1 of 1	nd Small, Series 3 on 7. Second Time Lucky)	All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece (Pt 2 of 7. Honeymoon's Over)		
11 M	Mon	Antiques Roadshow:	Tearjerkers	WETA Arts: Songs of	the Season	POV: How to Have an American Baby (to 12m)		
12 T	Гие	Season of Light: Chri	stmas with the Tabern	acle Choir	Clown by Quentin Blake	Frontline: The Discord Leaks		
13 V	Ved	Nature: Canada: Sur	viving the Wild North	NOVA: The Next Pon	ıpeii	Great Yellowstone Thaw (Pt 1 of 3)		
14 T	Γhu	River (Pt 5 of 6)		(from 8:59pm:) Agath	a and the Truth of Mur	der British Antiques Roadshow		
15 F	-ri	Washington Week with The Atlantic Rubenstein, Season 3 Lookingglass Alice					I	
16 S	Sat	Iconic America: Our Sym Rubenstein (Ep 1 of 8. <i>Fer</i>	bols and Stories w/ David nway Park)	Iconic America: Our Sym Rubenstein (Ep 2 of 8. <i>Th</i>	bols and Stories w/ David e Hollywood Sign)	Preserving Presidential History with David Rubenstein		
17 S	Sun	Agatha Christie: Lucy tery Queen (Pt 3 of 3.	Worsley on the Mys- Unfinished Portrait)		nd Small, Series 3 on 7. Surviving Siegfried)	All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece (Pt 4 of 7. What a Balls Up!)		
18 M	Mon	25 Years with Lidia: A	Culinary Jubilee	Mary Berry's Highlar	nd Christmas	WETA Arts: Songs of the Season		
19 T	Гие	Finding Your Roots w/ Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Encore: Country Roots		America at a Crossro Judy Woodruff	oads with	Frontline: Netanyahu, America and The Road to War in Gaza		
20 V	Ved	Nature: Santa's Wild Home		NOVA: Decoding the	Great Pyramid	Great Yellowstone Thaw (Pt 2 of 3)		
21 T	Γhu	River (Pt 6 of 6)		Agatha Christie's Poi	irot: Hercule Poirot's C	nristmas		
22 F	-ri	Washington Week with <i>The Atlantic</i>	History with David Rubenstein, Season 3	Mary Berry's Ultimat	Mary Berry's Ultimate Christmas		Christmas at Belmont	
23 S	Sat	Iconic America: Our Symbols and Stories w/ David Rubenstein (Ep 3 of 8. <i>The Gadsden Flag</i>)		Iconic America: Our Sym Rubenstein (Ep 4 of 8. <i>Th</i>	bols and Stories w/ David e Cowboy)	Dreaming of a Jewish Christmas		
24 S	Sun	All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece (Pt 5 of 7. Edward)		All Creatures Great and Masterpiece (Pt 6 of 7. I		All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece (Pt 7 of 7. Merry Bloody Christmas)		
25 M	Mon	Call the Midwife Holi	day Special 2023	ı	Call the Midwife Hol	day Special 2023 (encore)		
26 T	Tue	Mary Berry's Highland Christmas		The Nutcracker and the Mouse King		<i>Clown</i> by Quentin Blake		
27 V	Wed	Nature: Penguins: Meet the Family		NOVA: Alaskan Dinosaurs		Great Yellowstone Thaw (Pt 3 of 3)		
28 T	Γhu	Agatha Christie's England		Agatha and the Midnight Murders		British Antiques Roadshow		
29 F	-ri	Washington Week with The Atlantic History with David Rubenstein, Season 3		Craft in America (<i>Play</i>)		Craft in America (<i>Miniatures</i>)		
30 S	Sat	Iconic America: Our Symbols and Stories w/ David Rubenstein (Ep 5 of 8. <i>The Statue of Liberty</i>)		Iconic America: Our Sym Rubenstein (Ep 6 of 8. <i>Th</i>	bols and Stories w/ David e American Bald Eagle)	American Masters: Groucho & Cavett (to 11:30pm)		
31 S	Sun	Next at the Kennedy Center: A New Year's Eve Celebration		Next at the Kennedy A New Year's Eve Ce		Lionel Richie: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song		
		8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	

TV Listings

WETA PBS in December



Listings are accurate as of press time. For latest schedules, visit weta.org/schedule or call 703-998-2724.

WETA PBS is devoted to children's educational programming 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday-Friday. For 24 hours of children's programming each day, tune in to the WETA PBS Kids channel. See page 15 for information.

Program Key

Blue type – WETA productions, co-productions and presentations.

R – Repeat of recent programming.



Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. on WETA PBS

The Jewish Journey: America chronicles Jewish immigration to the U.S. through the centuries, featuring personal stories and history.

Friday

WEEKDAYS IN DECEMBER:

6AM NHK NEWSLINE 6:30AM BBC NEWS

(Mondays:) PBS NEWS WEEKEND **7AM** 7AM

(Tuesdays-Saturdays:) PBS NEWSHOUR – R (Mon:) WASHINGTON WEEKWITH THE ATLANTIC – R

7:30

8AM-3PM WETA KIDS PROGRAMMING

AMANPOUR AND COMPANY - Rpt of previous night 5PM

6PM **BBC NEWS: THE CONTEXT**

6:30 **BBC NEWS AMERICA**

7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR - Each weeknight, the WETA production provides in-depth analysis of current events with a news summary, live studio interviews and discussions of domestic and international issues. Amna Nawaz and Geoff Bennett anchor. Visit pbs.org/newshour. Rpts next day, 7am

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - In WETA's weekly production, journalist and The Atlantic editor in-chief Jeffrey Goldberg moderates a roundtable discussion with award-winning journalists who provide reporting and analysis of the major news stories from the nation's capital. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/2, 6am, 6:30pm; Mon 12/4, 7:30am

8:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 2 - In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based author/ interviewer, financier and philanthropist David Rubenstein talks with some of America's top scholars and writers, illuminating how history is made. Episode 9. Entrepreneur Bhu Šrinivasan.

9:00 CELTIC WOMAN 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT - Celebrate 20 years of Irish music with a new Dublin concert featuring eight members of the Irish ensemble past and present. This special showcases Celtic Woman's angelic voices and instrumental virtuosity, presenting fan favorites, originals and more. Repeats 2:30pm: Thur 12/7

11:00 SUZE ORMAN'S ULTIMATE RETIREMENT GUIDE - Join the acclaimed personal finance expert for essential advice on planning for and thriving in retirement. With empathy, straight talk and humor, Orman provides information about key actions. Topics include when

to retire, how to save and invest for retirement, Social Security strategy, long-term care insurance, and more.

1AM AMANPOUR AND COMPANY - Capping primetime programming each weekinght, Christiane Amanpour leads conversations with global thought leaders on contemporary issues. Repeats next weekday, 5pm

Saturday

6AM WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - R

6:30 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER - R

PBS NEWSHOUR - R

8AM YOUNG FOREVER WITH MARK HYMAN, MD - Learn science-based strategies and tips from functional medicine practitioner Dr. Mark Hyman, who offers a practical guide to creating and sustaining health - for

life. Repeats Tue 12/5, 11pm

10AM IT'S ACADEMIC – See 7 p.m. listing.

10:30 MARY BERRY'S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS – See the December 22, 9 p.m. listing. Repeats Mon 12/25, 3p

12N GREAT PERFORMANCES: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

OF BROADWAY'S BEST - Enjoy a revue of milestone Broadway shows and songs from 1973 to 2023 hosted by two-time Tony Award-winner Sutton Foster. The special program features performances by André De Shields, Chita Rivera, Vanessa Williams and others from Lincoln Center's David H. Koch Theater.

2:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL: CHRISTMAS IN

THE DALES — See the December 3, 6:30 p.m. listing.
3:30 RICK STEVES: WHY WE TRAVEL — European travel expert Rick Steves offers up a love note to exploration, celebrating the value of experiencing our world

– whether as a tourist, a traveler or a pilgrim. **4:00 MIDSOMER MURDERS, SERIES 22** – Neil Dudgeon and Nick Hendrix star. The Witches of Angel's Rise, Parts 1 & 2. When a body is found surrounded by ritual symbols on the eve of a Psychic Fair, Barnaby must step into the spiritual world of mediums, psychics, and occult followers to find the killer. Repeats tonight, midnight

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND — John Yang anchors. 6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC — R

7:00 IT'S ACADEMIC - The long-running high school TV quiz show showcases the academic achievements of local D.C.-area students. Emmy Award-winning journalist Hillary Howard hosts. Competing this week are Churchill,



Monday, December 4 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS

Behind-the-scenes special Farewell Doc Martin celebrates 10 seasons of the popular British drama starring Martin Clunes, from the show's inception to its final days of filming. Season 10 airs in January.



YOU LIVED HERE A WETA PRODUCTION

Monday, Dec. 4 at 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; 8 p.m. on WETA Metro If You Lived Here, WETA's house-hunting series, features an episode spotlighting Rockville, Maryland. Above: Hosts Christine Louise and the late John Begeny visit a home with realtor Rowena De Leon.

Jefferson and Springbrook high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm; and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at YouTube.com/wetapbs.

- 7:30 THE JEWISH JOURNEY: AMERICA Follow Jewish immigration to the U.S. through the centuries. Top scholars, notable writers and immigrants themselves share stories of those who made a leap of faith to escape persecution or pursue opportunity. Repeats Ved 12/6, 9:30pm
- 9:00 NEIL DIAMOND: THANK YOU AUSTRALIA Celebrate the American music legend's enthralling 1976 performance at the Sydney Sports Stadium. The culmination of Diamond's Australia and Alexandra Australia and Alexandra Australia and Alexandra Australia and Alexandra Australia of Diamond's Australia and New Zealand tour, the concert marked his comeback to the stage after a sabbatical from live performance.
- 10:30 THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND The Smothers Brothers (Tom and Dick) and musical artist Judy Collins host a musical journey through the evolution of modern American folk music. Featured acts include the Brothers Four, Glenn Yarborough, the Highwaymen, Roger McGuinn and John Sebastian. Repeats Sun 12/3, 1:30pm; Thur 12/7, 11:30pm
- 12M MIDSOMER MURDERS, SERIES 22 The Witches of Angel's Rise, Parts 1 & 2. R

3 Sunday

- 6AM 5 MINUTE YOGA FIX WITH PEGGY CAPPY Learn how to combat the effects of aging with stretching, breathwork and strength-building to maintain the four pillars that support the structure of our bodies: strength, flexibility, balance and mobility.
- 7AM MISS SCARLET AND THE DUKE ON MASTERPIECE, SERIES 3 MARATHON - WETA reprises Series 3 of the mystery drama in its entirety. In this season, Victorian Era private eye Eliza Scarlet (Kate Phillips) finds herself immersed in new mysteries as she struggles to build her detective agency and contends with professional and romantic rivals. Parts 1-2 air at 7 a.m.; Parts 3-4 air at 9:30 a.m.; and Parts 5-6 air at noon
- 2:30 CELTIC WOMAN 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT R 4:30 NATURE: PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD – See the December 6, 8 p.m. listing. Repeats Mon 12/4, 11:30pm

 6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors. Repeats
- 6:30 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL: CHRISTMAS IN **THE DALES** — Celebrate holiday moments from the three previous season finales (*The Night Before Christ*mas, The Perfect Christmas and Merry Bloody Christmas) of popular Masterpiece adaptation All Creatures Great and Small, set in the Yorkshire Dales of the 1930s. Accompanying clips are behind-the-scenes visits with the drama's cast and creators
- 8:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN — Historian Lucy Worsley investigates author Agatha Christie and the experiences that shaped her fiction. Part 1 of 3. Cat Among the Pigeons. Worsley explores Christie's unconventional early life to discover the origins of her talent for writing about murder – and uncovers some carefully concealed secrets. Repeats
- 9:30 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S POIROT: FIVE LITTLE PIGS -Poirot (David Suchet) must probe anew a notorious

14-year-old murder case. Caroline Crane (Rachael Stirling) was hanged for the murder of her flamboyant artist husband in an apparent crime of passion after he flaunted yet another extramarital affair. Their daughter persuades Poirot to re-examine the case. Toby Stephens, Gemma Jones and Marc Warren co-star. Repeats Tue

11:30 THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND - R

4 Monday

- 7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour.
- 8:00 FAREWELL DOC MARTIN Caroline Catz narrates a celebration of the popular series Doc Martin's 10 seasons. (Stream Season 10 episodes now with WETA Passport!) The special goes behind the scenes of the beloved British dramedy, from the show's inception to its final days of filming. Learn details about Doc and Louisa's love story, the inspirations for the medical cases, and more, through on-set footage and inter-
- views with the cast and crew. Repeats Sun 12/17, 5pm 9:00 IF YOU LIVED HERE: ROCKVILLE, MD NEW! WETA'S local house-hunting and neighborhood exploration series presents another new episode. Christine Louise and the late John Begeny host. Rockville, MD. Together with Rockville realtor Rowena De Leon, Christine and John visit three homes in the Maryland neighborhood, from a starter condo to a dream bungalow. Along the way, the hosts explore the history of Rockville Pike and Offutt's General Store (later Hank Dietle's Tavern) and stop by Gwennie's Bakery
- 9:30 RICK STEVES' EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS Join the travel expert for a colorful celebration of Christmas across Europe - in England, Wales, France, Norway, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy. Enjoy Christmas markets, hear local choirs, share holiday traditions with families, and more. Repeats Sun 12
- 11:30 NATURE: PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD R

5 Tuesday

- 8:00 BARBRA STREISAND: BACK TO BROOKLYN In a 2012 concert, Streisand makes a homecoming to Brooklyn at the Barclays Center arena, marking the superstar's first Brooklyn performance since her childhood years. Joined by special guests Il Volo and Chris Botti, Streisand delivers an extensive selection of songs from throughout her five-decade career, including a duet with her son, Jason Gould, Repeats Wed 12/6.
- 10:00 FRONTLINE: INSIDE THE UVALDE RESPONSE Frontline reports on the real-time accounts of the response, missteps and trauma in the Uvalde school shooting. Using official body cam and audio, with ProPublica and The Texas Tribune, the report reconstructs the chaotic response at Robb Elementary and explores lessons learned.
- 11:00 YOUNG FOREVER WITH MARK HYMAN, MD R

Wednesday

8:00 NATURE: PANDAS: BORN TO BE WILD - Unlock the mysteries of wild pandas whose counterparts in captivity



Wednesday, December 6 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS Nature: Pandas: Born to Be Wild treks through China's steep Qinling mountains, documenting pandas' startling behavior in the wild.



Sun. Dec. 10 & 17, 9 p.m.; Dec. 24, 8 p.m.; WETA PBS & WETA Metro WETA features an encore airing of All Creatures Great and Small, Series 3 on Masterpiece over three Sunday nights in December. Catch up on episodes and stay tuned for Series 4, premiering January 7.

are known for their gentle image. Journey through China's steep Qinling Mountains with filmmakers, scientists and rangers to witness pandas' startling courtship and aggression behaviors

9:30 THE JEWISH JOURNEY: AMERICA - Follow Jewish immigration to the U.S. through the centuries. Top scholars, notable writers and immigrants themselves share stories of those who made a leap of faith to escape persecution or pursue opportunity. R

11:00 SUZE ORMAN'S ULTIMATE RETIREMENT GUIDE - R

Thursday

8:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S POIROT: DEATH ON THE NILE - A mystery adapted from Agatha Christie's crime thriller is set on board a Nile cruise on which a heartbroken woman is stalking her former fiancé and his new heiress wife. When someone is murdered, Poirot (David Suchet) must sort out alibis; and tensions rise as the body count increases. Judy Parfitt, James Fox and Barbara Flynn co-star. Repeats Fri 12/

10:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN — Part 1 of 3. Cat Among the Pigeons. R

11:30 THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND - R

Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - Jeffrey Goldberg moderates the roundtable discussion of the news with award-winning journalists. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/9, 6am,

8:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 2 – In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based author/ interviewer, financier and philanthropist David Rubenstein talks with some of America's top scholars and writers, illuminating how history is made. Episode 10. Historian Lillian Faderman

9:00 MEMORY MAKEOVER WITH DANIEL AMEN, MD - Psychiatrist, neuroscientist and New York Times bestselling author Dr. Daniel Amen explains how to supercharge memory and remember what matters most to you. The process of strengthening memory is based on overcoming risk factors that destroy the brain's capacities

11:00 GREAT PERFORMANCES: BARBRA STREISAND: BACK TO BROOKLYN - R

Saturday

6AM-8AM See the Saturday, December 2 listings. 8AM-10AM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

10AM IT'S ACADEMIC - See 7 p.m. listing

10:30AM-6PM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES
6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors.

6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - R

7:00 IT'S ACADEMIC - The local student quiz show this week features Maret, Poolesville and St. Anselm's high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm; and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at YouTube.com/wetapbs

7:30PM-6AM WETA VIEWÉR FAVORITES

10 Sunday

6AM-6PM WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND - John Yang anchors. Repeats

6:30-8:00 WETA VIEWER FAVORITES

8:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY QUEEN - Lucy Worsley investigates author Agatha Christie and the experiences that shaped her fiction. Part 2 of 3. Destination Unknown. Christie's disappearance in 1926 gripped England. Worsley unravels the mystery and reveals the profound influence this epi-

sode had on the author's writing.
9:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE - In anticipation of Series 4 in January. WETA presents an encore airing of Series 3 of the drama that follows the life of veterinarian James Herriot in 1930s Yorkshire. Part 1 of 7. Second Time Lucky. A missing ring is just one of several snags as James and Helen's wedding date approaches; and a farmer's cow may have TB. Re

10:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE – Part 2 of 7. Honeymoon's Over. James and Helen enter married life, while James settles in uneasily as Siegfried's partner at the clinic. Tristan too must make new adjustments. Repeats tonight,

11:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE - Parts 1 & 2 of 7. Second Time Lucky/ Honeymoon's Over. R

1AM-6AM WÉTA VIEWER FAVORITES

11 Monday

7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR - Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour.

8:00 ANTIQUES ROADSHOW: TEARJERKERS - Grab your tissues for an emotional special episode full of guests who wear their hearts on their sleeves. One item is now worth \$1.5 million-\$2 million. Repeats Mon 12/18, 4pm

9:00 WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON - WETA production WETA Arts presents the fourth year of Songs of the Season, a spirited holiday music special featuring choral groups from throughout the D.C. area. Conceived in 2020 to celebrate local choirs during the pandemic, Songs of the Season has become a WETA holiday tradition. This year's program showcases 19 talented choral groups from D.C., Maryland and Virginia. Repeats Mon 12/18 10nm: Sun 12/24. 9am. 5pm; Mon 12/25, 10am

10:00 POV: HOW TO HAVE AN AMERICAN BABY - Voyage into the shadow economy catering to Chinese tourists traveling to the U.S. to give birth for citizenship; and follow the fortunes and tragedies that befall the ordinary people caught in its web. (2 hrs.)

12 Tuesday

8:00 SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABER-NACLE CHOIR - Tony Award-winning Disney and Broadway star Lea Salonga and renowned actor Sir David Suchet shine in this holiday special that weaves together inspirational music with a hope-filled story



WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON A WETA PRODUCTION

Monday, December 11, 9 p.m. on WETA PBS; 8 p.m. on WETA Metro WETA Arts presents the annual Songs of the Season holiday choral special, which showcases area vocal ensembles in concert. Above: The Washington Revels Chorus is among 19 groups in the 2023 show.



Wednesday, December 13 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro Nature: Canada: Surviving the Wild North journeys from the high arctic and tundra to the boreal forests to discover how life manages to survive in the wild North. Above: Arctic fox kits.

from World War II to welcome the spirit of the season. Repeats Sat 12/16, 11pm; Sun 12/24, 11:30am; Mon 12/25 7:30am

9:30 CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE - In a story of resilience and hope, a half-hour animation brings to life the adventures of a small toy clown that has been thrown away. On Christmas Eve he goes on a journey to find a new place for himself. Repeats Sat 12/16, 12:30am; 12/26, 10:30pm

10:00 FRONTLINE: THE DISCORD LEAKS - Frontline investigates how a young National Guardsman allegedly leaked classified documents onto the Discord chat platform. With The Washington Post, Frontline explores Jack Teixeira's alleged leak of national security secrets, why he wasn't stopped, and the role of platforms like Discord.

13 Wednesday

8:00 NATURE: CANADA: SURVIVING THE WILD NORTH -Journey from Canada's high arctic to boreal forest and discover how polar bears, coastal wolves, lynx and more survive in the North. Timing, and seizing opportunity, can mean the difference between life and death in this wild and rugged landscape. Repeats Wed 12/20, 4pm

9:00 NOVA: THE NEXT POMPEII - Discover Campi Flegrei, a lesser-known volcano in the shadow of Italy's Mt. Vesuvius. If it erupts, millions of lives could be at risk. Meet the scientists exploring its geography and developing a warning system to prevent Naples from becoming the next Pompeii.

10:00 GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW - Journey to Yellowstone with Kirk Johnson of Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History to see how wild animals cope with one of the greatest seasonal changes on the planet. Part 1 of 3. Learn whether the brutal winter weather will favor predator or prey. Can the grizzlies that emerge early survive? Can wolves and great gray owls survive? And how does Yellowstone's unique geology affect the mighty bison? Repeats Sat 12/16, 1am

14 Thursday

8:00 RIVER - Part 5 of 6. River and Ira investigate the murder of kebab shop worker Haider Jamal Abdi in a public library. They focus on both a cleaner, who was captured on CCTV, as well as on the lawyer who represented Haider at an immigration tribunal. Their findings illuminate what Stevie may have been investigating at the time of her death

8:59 AGATHA AND THE TRUTH OF MURDER - In this 2018 drama, join crime writer Agatha Christie as she investigates the murder of Florence Nightingale's goddaughter during her own 11-day disappearance in 1926. Christie's involvement in the case influenced her later work. Ruth Bradley portrays Christie.

10:32 BRITISH ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

15 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - Jeffrey Goldberg moderates the roundtable discussion of the news with award-winning journalists. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/16, 6am, 6:30pm; Mon 12/18, 7:30am

8:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 3 - In this WETA presentation, Washington, D.C.-based author/ interviewer David Rubenstein interviews scholars and authors to spotlight the American story. Episode 1 of 10. Brenda Child. In a discussion ranging from President Jackson's Indian Removal Act to aggressive assimilation efforts in boarding schools and beyond, scholar Brenda Child sheds light on how Native Americans were affected by the arrival of colonial settlers

9:00 LOOKINGGLASS ALICE - Created and performed by Chicago's Tony Award-winning Lookingglass Theatre Company, a live adaptation of "Alice In Wonderland" presents a marvel for all ages, going down the rabbit hole to a circus-infused playground for an exhilarating adventure inspired by Lewis Carroll's beloved stories. (2 hrs.)

16 Saturday

6AM WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - R

6:30 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER - R

PBS NEWSHOUR - R

8AM JOURNEYS IN JAPAN 8:30 RICK STEVES' EUROPE

9AM THIS OLD HOUSE

9:30 ASK THIS OLD HOUSE

10AM IT'S ACADEMIC - See 7 p.m. listing.

10:30 DINING WITH THE CHEF

11AM TACO MAFIA

11:30 NEW ORLEANS COOKING WITH KEVIN BELTON

12N THE KEY INGREDIENT WITH SHERI CASTLE

12:30 CHRISTOPHER KIMBALL'S MILK STREET TELEVISION

1:00 MARIA'S PORTUGUESE TABLE

1:30 LIDIA'S KITCHEN

2:00 IN JULIA'S KITCHEN WITH MASTER CHEFS

2:30 SARA'S WEEKNIGHT MEALS

3:00 FRENCH MAGNOLIA COOKS

3:30 PEOPLE OF THE NORTH - Concludes December 16.

3:30 DREAM OF ITALY - New to WETA PBS; starts Dec. 23. 4:00 COOK'S COUNTRY FROM AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

4:30 AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN FROM COOK'S ILLUSTRATED

5:00 PATI'S MEXICAN TABLE

5:30 SAMANTHA BROWN'S PLACES TO LOVE

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND - John Yang anchors.

6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - R 7:00 IT'S ACADEMIC - The local student guiz show this week features Alexandria City, Herndon and McLean high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm; and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at

YouTube.com/wetapbs. 7:30 VARIETY STUDIO: ACTORS ON ACTORS, SERIES 18 – A series features candid conversations between contemporary star actors. Episode 3. Jennifer Garner and Sheryl Lee Ralph; Theo James and Brett Goldstein;

Katherine Heigl and Ellen Pompeo. 8:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN - In this documentary series, a WETA co-production, David Rubenstein explores America's history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Episode 1 of 8. Fenway Park. Baseball is



ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN
A WETA CO-PRODUCTION

8 p.m. Sat., starting Dec. 16, WETA PBS; 9 p.m. Thurs., WETA Metro Iconic America, hosted by David Rubenstein, explores American history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Two episodes air back-to-back each week. Above: Rubenstein visits the vault in the Library of Congress.

a favorite American pastime and obsession, and no ballpark is more iconic than Fenway Park, home of the Boston Red Sox. Repeats Sun 12/17, 11pm

9:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – Episode 2 of 8. The Hollywood Sign. Learn how a real estate advertisement erected in 1923 became an international symbol of fame, fortune and the American Dream. Repeats Sun 12/17. 12m

and the American Dream. Repeats Sun 12/17, 12m

10:00 PRESERVING PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY WITH DAVID
RUBENSTEIN — The White House Historical Association hosted a special program as part of its biennial Presidential Sites Summit at the Library of Congress. At the event, author/interviewer David M. Rubenstein moderated an anecdote-filled conversation with the leaders of the Smithsonian Institution, Library of Congress, National Park Service, and National Archives and Records Administration — spotlighting the organizations' roles in preserving and sharing presidential history.

roles in preserving and sharing presidential history.

11:00 SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNA-CLE CHOIR – R

12:30AM CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE – R
1AM GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW – Part 1 of 3. R

17 Sunday

6AM-9AM WETA KIDS PROGRAMMING

9AM-5PM DOC MARTIN, SERIES 9 MARATHON — WETA presents an encore airing of the ninth season of the popular drama starring Martin Clunes as Dr. Martin Ellingham, whose career in the coastal Cornwall village of Portwenn hangs in the balance as he faces scrutiny from a medical board. Series 10 airs in January.

5:00 FAREWELL DOC MARTIN – See the December 4, 8 p.m. listing. **R**

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am

6:30 TELL MÉ MORE WITH KELLY CORRIGAN, SERIES 6 – In this WETA co-production, New York Times bestselling author Kelly Corrigan interviews notable guests. Episode 8. Rachel Zoffness, Pain Psychologist.
 7:00 THE SAVOY AT CHRISTMAS – Follow the holiday season

7:00 THE SAVOY AT CHRISTMAS – Follow the holiday season at The Savoy, Britain's top luxury hotel, as staff welcome residential guests and diners across Christmas Day and New Year's Eve. Go behind the scenes during the holiday festivities as the hotel delivers the glamour, elegance, history and character its guests seek. Celia Imrie narrates.

8:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE: LUCY WORSLEY ON THE MYSTERY
QUEEN – Lucy Worsley investigates Agatha Christie
and the experiences that shaped her fiction. Part 3 of
3. Unfinished Portrait. Lucy Worsley examines Agatha
Christie's later life, and discovers how the author
became the Queen of Crime – and despite being famous
and successful was an enigma hiding in plain sight

and successful was an enigma hiding in plain sight.

9:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE – Part 3 of 7. Surviving Siegfried.

Siegfried's World War I experiences resurface as he struggles to save a racehorse. Helen faces a decision over James's TB testing plan.

10:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON

10:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE – Part 4 of 7. What a Balls Up! TB testing mistakenly puts a prize cow in danger. Helen struggles



Monday, December 18 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro 25 Years with Lidia: A Culinary Jubilee celebrates Lidia Bastianich, the chef who hosts one of the longest-running cooking shows on public television. Above: Preparing a meal with Chef Billy Gallagher.



Wednesday, December 20 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro Nature: Santa's Wild Home spotlights the wildlife of Finland's Lapland region, the northernmost area of mainland Europe, exploring life through the changing seasons. Above: A reindeer in winter.

with her lifelong vocation. Mrs. Hall and Tristan each have brushes with love.

11:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN — Episodes 1 & 2 of 8. Fenway Park/The Hollywood Sign. R

18 Monday

7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR – Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour.
Repeats next day. 7am

8:00 25 YEARS WITH LIDIA: A CULINARY JUBILEE – Iconic chef Lidia Bastianich celebrates 25 years on public television in this special. Join Lidia's family and celebrity friends for an intimate look at the memorable moments of her life on and off the screen.

9:00 MARY BERRY'S HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS – Culinary arts icon Mary Berry spends Christmas in her mother's homeland of Scotland to enjoy a winter break soaking up her heritage and enjoying traditional festive delights, as well as cooking up some of her own dishes. Repeats Tue 12/19, 4pm; 12/24, 7am; Mon 12/25, 4pm; Tue 12/26, 8pm

10:00 WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON – See the December 11, 9 p.m. listing. R

19 Tuesday

8:00 FINDING YOUR ROOTS WITH HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR. —
In this WETA co-production, join Harvard scholar Henry
Louis Gates, Jr., as he delves into the genealogy of
famous Americans. Season 7 encore: Country Roots.
Gates uncovers the remarkably diverse backgrounds
of country music icons Clint Black and Rosanne Cash.
Repeats Tue 12/26 Apm

9:00 AMERICA AT A CROSSROADS WITH JUDY WOODRUFF—
PBS NewsHour's Judy Woodruff set out this year on a
reporting project to explore the forces driving Americans apart, and to ask people from all walks of life and
all political persuasions what might be done to reverse
these divisions. This hour-long special features reporting from the project's first year.

10:00 FRONTLINE: NETANYAHU, AMERICA AND THE ROAD TO

10:00 FRONTLINE: NETANYAHU, AMERICA AND THE ROAD TO WAR IN GAZA – Frontline spotlights the long struggle between the Israeli leader and multiple U.S. presidents over Middle East peace, exploring the story of Benjamin Netanyahu's turbulent relationships with the U.S. and the Palestinians, and the road to war in Gaza.

20 Wednesday

8:00 NATURE: SANTA'S WILD HOME – Get an intimate look into life in Lapland, fabled land of Santa Claus and actual home of tenacious wildlife such as reindeer, wolverines, brown bears and more. Repeats Thur 12/21, 4pm; Sat 12/23, 11pm; Wed 12/27, 4pm

9:00 NOVA: DECODING THE GREAT PYRAMID – Stunning archaeological evidence provides clues about the Egyptians who built the Great Pyramid of Giza – and how they did it. Join researchers as they delve into the logbook of a work crew and discover how the massive project transformed Egypt. 10:00 GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW - Part 2 of 3. See how spring brings new life and a break from the brutal winter temperatures. But the dangers aren't over. Wildlife families face a torrent of water cascading down the mountains as the great thaw gets underway. Beavers are in particular danger. Repeats Sat 12/23, 1am

21 Thursday

8:00 RIVER - Part 6 of 6. River and Ira pursue Stevie's leads: She had been examining how undocumented immigrants were able to easily obtain official immigration status and how they were then exploited by businesses. They find a connection between these companies, and River uncovers secrets in Stevie's private life.

9:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S POIROT: HERCULE POIROT'S CHRISTMAS - In this drama adaptation, the great Belgian detective Poirot (David Suchet) is asked to spend Christmas with Simeon Lee at his Gorston Hall home after Lee receives six diamonds from his museum in South Africa and believes that his life may be in danger. As an unexpected guest, Poirot is on hand when a killer strikes. (2 hrs.)

22 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - Jeffrey Goldberg moderates the roundtable discussion of the news with award-winning journalists. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/23, 6am, 6:30pm

8:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 3 - Episode 2 of 10. Walter Isaacson. Bestselling author Walter Isaacson discusses the life and work of Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna who, with her collaborators, created a DNA-editing tool with the power to revolutionize human health

9:00 MARY BERRY'S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS - Join the beloved British home cook and special friends as they prepare her ultimate Christmas feast with all the trimmings. From the traditional turkey to her classic Christmas pudding, it's a recipe for a festive holiday. Repeats

10:00 CHRISTMAS AT BELMONT - A special filmed at Belmont University features students performing holiday favorites and other classic songs in the Fisher Center for the Performing Arts in Nashville. Repeats Sun 12/24, 1pm; Mon 12/25, 11am

23 Saturday

6AM-6PM See the Saturday, December 16 listings. 6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND — John Yang anchors.

6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - R

7:00 TO DINE FOR WITH KATE SULLIVAN, SERIES 5

7:30 VARIETY STUDIO: ACTORS ON ACTORS, SERIES 18 - A series features candid conversations between contemporary star actors. Episode 4. Jennifer Coolidge and . Jeremy Allen White; Jason Segel and Ali Wong; Hayden Christensen and Diego Luna.



Sunday, December 24 at 7 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro In holiday comedy-drama A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong, a banned drama troupe hijacks the jewel of the BBC holiday schedule, a "live" production of "A Christmas Carol." Sir Derek Jacobi guest stars.



Monday, December 25 at 8 p.m. on WETA PBS & WETA Metro In Call the Midwife Holiday Special 2023, it is 1968 and Apollo 8 is poised to orbit the moon. Sister Monica Joan believes her end is near; Nancy commits to staying on; Trixie and Matthew receive a surprise visitor; and Nurse Crane tries to get home through a heavy storm.

8:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN – In this documentary series, a WETA co-production, David Rubenstein explores America's history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. *Episode* 3 of 8. The Gadsden Flag. Discover how the "Don't Tread on Me" flag, such a potent symbol of independence, has been co-opted by a wide variety of Americans over its long history. Repeats Sun 12/2

9:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN - Episode 4 of 8. The Cowboy. The cowboy is the quintessential American - fiercely independent, brave and laconic. Examine the myths and realities of this archetype, which remains as potent as ever in this century. R

10:00 DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS - Featuring archival footage, musical performances and interviews, this film shares the experience of Jewish immigrants who penned some of America's best-loved music - Christmas songs. Repeats Sun 12/24, 2pm; Mon 12/25, 9am

11:00 NATURE: SANTA'S WILD HOME - R 12AM MUSHER - Follow the lives of four sled dog racers (mushers) and their dogs over the course of a year to see what it means to be a musher.

1AM GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW - Part 2 of 3. R

24 Sunday

6AM RICK STEVES' EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS - R

7AM MARY BERRY'S HIGHLAND CHRISMAS - R

8AM A CHEF'S LIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL

WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON - R

10AM CHRISTMAS AT WESTMINSTER: AN EVENING OF READINGS AND CAROLS - Westminster Choir College presents a holiday music concert featuring five differ ent choirs, recorded in the Princeton University Chapel.

11AM ALL IS BRIGHT! A CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS

11:30 SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNA-CLE CHOIR - R

1:00 CHRISTMAS AT BELMONT - R

2:00 DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS - R

3:00 SARAH BRIGHTMAN: A CHRISTMAS SYMPHONY -

4:00 ELLA WISHES YOU A SWINGING CHRISTMAS, WITH VANESSA WILLIAMS - Repeats Mon 12/25, 2pm

5:00 WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON - R

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND - John Yang anchors

6:30 TELL ME MORE WITH KELLY CORRIGAN, SERIES 6 - In this WETA co-production, New York Times bestselling author Kelly Corrigan interviews notable guests. Episode 9. Arianna Huffington, CEO of THRIVE Global.

7:00 A CHRISTMAS CAROL GOES WRONG - In this 2017 comedy-drama, the Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society, blacklisted by the BBC, gets back on the air by hijacking the jewel of the Christmas schedule, a live production of "A Christmas Carol." With help, the ensemble tries to make the show work but falters, and guest star Sir Derek Jacobi endeavors to keep up. Dame Diana Rigg narrates.

8:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE - Part 5 of 7. Edward. Mrs. Hall conquers demons from her past. While she is away, Tristan discovers the challenges of housekeeping.

9:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE - Part 6 of 7. For Whom the Bell Tolls As war comes in September 1939, everyone faces decisions. Romance beckons for Tristan and for Mrs. Hall. TB plaques Helen's farm

10:00 ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL, SERIES 3 ON MASTERPIECE – Part 7 of 7. Merry Bloody Christmas. It's Christmas at Skeldale House and Siegfried must decide whether to protect Tristan at the cost of River's welfare. Mrs. Hall must face her feelings for her friend Gerald

11:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN - Episodes 3 & 4 of 8. The Gadsden Flag/The Cowboy. R

25 Monday

6AM CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE - R

6:30 THE LIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS: LUMINOUS LONDON - Enjoy unhurried tours of Britain's most delightful seasonal displays. Bask in the sights, sounds and wonder of Britain at Christmastime

7:30 SEASON OF LIGHT: CHRISTMAS WITH THE TABERNA-CLE CHOIR - R

9AM DREAMING OF A JEWISH CHRISTMAS - R **10AM** WETA ARTS: SONGS OF THE SEASON - R

11AM CHRISTMAS AT BELMONT - R

12N CHRISTMAS AT WESTMINSTER: AN EVENING OF READ-INGS AND CAROLS - R

1:00 SARAH BRIGHTMAN: A CHRISTMAS SYMPHONY - R

2:00 ELLA WISHES YOU A SWINGING CHRISTMAS, WITH VANESSA WILLIAMS – R

3:00 MARY BERRY'S ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS - R

4:00 MARY BERRY'S HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS - R

5:00 AMANPOUR AND COMPANY

6:00 BBC: THE CONTEXT + BBC NEWS AMERICA
7:00 PBS NEWSHOUR - Weeknights. Visit pbs.org/newshour.

8:00 CALL THE MIDWIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2023 - It's Christmas, 1968, and all eyes are heavenwards as astronauts embark on their latest space exploration. At Nonnatus House, Sister Monica Joan believes this will be her last Christmas; Nancy recommits to staying on and Sister Julienne offers her and Colette a room. Trixie and Matthew prepare their first Christmas as husband and wife. And Nurse Crane tries to return for the holiday from a refresher course but faces treacherously heavy snowfall. Repeats tonigh

9:30 CALL THE MIDWIFE HOLIDAY SPECIAL 2023 - (encore)

26 Tuesday

8:00 MARY BERRY'S HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS – See the December 18, 9 p.m. listing. R

9:00 THE NUTCRACKER AND THE MOUSE KING - Join Alan Cumming for this delightful re-imagining of Tchaikovsky's holiday favorite, The Nutcracker, featuring the Royal Scottish National Orchestra under the direction of John Mauceri

10:30 CLOWN BY QUENTIN BLAKE - See the December 12, 9:30 p.m. listing. **R**

27 Wednesday

8:00 NATURE: PENGUINS: MEET THE FAMILY - Learn about one of Earth's most iconic birds in this film spotlighting all 18 species of penguins - from New Zealand and Cape Town to the Galapagos Islands and Antarctica.

9:00 NOVA: ALASKAN DINOSAURS - Wielding chainsaws to extract fossils frozen into the permafrost and flying drones to map thousands of footprints, intrepid paleontologists discover that dinosaurs thrived in the unlikeliest of places – the cold and dark of the Arctic Circle. Repeats Sun 12/31, noon



Sat, Dec. 30, 10 p.m. WETA PBS; Tues, Dec. 26, 9 p.m. WETA Metro American Masters: Groucho & Cavett explores the enduring friendship between Emmy Award-winning television personality Dick Cavett and iconic comedian Groucho Marx, who mentored Cavett during the 1960s.

10:00 GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW - Part 3 of 3. See how the soaring summer temperatures affect the Yellowstone ecosystem. When a major fire breaks out in the Beartooths, a team scrambles to see if the great gray owl family has survived. And how is one particular wolf pack feeding its 11 pups? Repeats Sat 12/30, 1am; Sun

28 Thursday

8:00 AGATHA CHRISTIE'S ENGLAND - Retrace the beloved author's footsteps to see the real places that inspired her literary universe. Learn how Christie drew on her surroundings throughout her life, immortalizing in her extraordinary work the people and locations she encountered

9:00 AGATHA AND THE MIDNIGHT MURDERS - In this 2020 drama, discover famed crime writer Agatha Christie's plan to sell a manuscript that kills off her famous detective Hercule Poirot. Struggling with money and under investigation by tax authorities in America and the U.K., Christie (Helen Baxendale) must come up with an enormous sum.

10:30 BRITISH ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

29 Friday

8:00 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC - Jeffrey Goldberg moderates the roundtable discussion of the news with award-winning journalists. Visit pbs.org/washingtonweek. Repeats Sat 12/30, 6am, 6:30pm

8:30 HISTORY WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN, SEASON 3-Episode 3 of 10. Jeffrey Rosen. National Constitution Center President and CEO Jeffrey Rosen looks back on more than 30 years of conversation with the late Justice

Ruth Bader Ginsburg.
9:00 CRAFT IN AMERICA — Unearth the splendor of American culture crafts and the people behind the artistry. Play. Explore the intersection between play and art. From puppets to piñatas to unicorns, craft artists draw upon the tools of childhood to inspire imagination, celebration and wonder

10:00 CRAFT IN AMERICA - Miniatures. From folkart and marionettes to tiny furniture and more, examine the world of tiny objects and the artists who create them.

30 Saturday

6AM-6PM See the Saturday, December 16 listings.
6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND – John Yang anchors.
6:30 WASHINGTON WEEK WITH THE ATLANTIC – R

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Publisher Mary Stewart Editor Jeff Giese Design MANIFEST LLC **Editorial and Advertising Offices** 3939 Campbell Ave. Arlington, VA 22206

- 7:00 IT'S ACADEMIC The local student quiz show this week features Jackson-Reed, Kipps DC College Prep and Wakefield high schools. Airs 10am Saturdays, repeating 7pm; and Mondays, 3pm. Stream on the PBS App and now at YouTube.com/wetapbs.
- 7:30 PBS ARTS TALK Artists and cultural icons break down their craft and careers in this series through thoughtprovoking conversations. Episode 1. Emmy-winning actor Henry Winkler talks with Grammy-winning musician Seal about the artist's musical inspiration, his personal upbringing, and the way he approaches songwriting.

8:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN - In this documentary series, a WETA co-production, David Rubenstein explores America's history through examinations of iconic national symbols: indelible artifacts, places and archetypes. Episode 5 of 8. The Statue of Liberty. Learn about the evolving meaning of this symbol for a "nation of immigrants," and how it embodies our values and our conflicts, from abolition and women's suffrage to the treatment of refugees. Repeats Sun 12/31

9:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN - Episode 6 of 8. The American Bald Eagle. Explore the story of how the American Bald Eagle soared to its vaunted perch in American iconography. Learn how it became a symbol of patriotism but also of environmental activism and Native American traditions. Repeats Sun 12/31, midnight

10:00 AMERICAN MASTERS: GROUCHO & CAVETT - Discover the enduring friendship between television personality Dick Cavett and his mentor, iconic comedian Groucho Marx. Their relationship is chronicled through interviews with Cavett, archival footage and more. Repeats

11:30 AMERICAN MASTERS: THE DOC SEVERINSEN STORY: IT'S NEVER TOO LATE – Learn about the career of master trumpeter Doc Severinsen, from his three decades as bandleader of The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson to his relentless schedule of touring and performing into his nineties. Repeats Sun 12/3

1AM GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW - Part 3 of 3. R

31 Sunday

6AM-9AM WETA KIDS PROGRAMMING

9AM WHITE HOUSE CHRONICLE

9:30 TO THE CONTRARY WITH BONNIE ERBE

10AM THIS IS AMERICA AND THE WORLD WITH DENNIS WHOLEY

10:30 DW EUROMAXX - LIFESTYLE EUROPE

11:00 FIRING LINE WITH MARGARET HOOVER - Repeats Sat-

11:30 TO DINE FOR WITH KATE SULLIVAN

12N NOVA: ALASKAN DINOSAURS – R

1:00 NATURE: PENGUINS: MEET THE FAMILY - R

2:00 GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW - Part 3 of 3. R 3:00 AMERICAN MASTERS: GROUCHO & CAVETT - R

4:30 AMERICAN MASTERS: THE DOC SEVERINSEN STORY

6:00 PBS NEWS WEEKEND - John Yang anchors. Repeats Monday, 7am

6:30 TELL ME MORE WITH KELLY CORRIGAN, SERIES 6-In this WETA co-production, New York Times bestselling author Kelly Corrigan interviews notable guests. Episode 10. David Brooks, Founder of Weave

7:00 NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: THE ROOTS RESI-**DENCY** – Hip Hop legends The Roots perform during their residency at the Kennedy Center. Beyond the stage, the band endeavors to inspire others and explore creative potential.

8:00 NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: A NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION - Ring in the New Year with a starstudded musical celebration on stage at the Kennedy Center. Repeats tonigh

9:00 NEXT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: A NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION - R

10:00 LIONEL RICHIE: THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GERSH-WIN PRIZE FOR POPULAR SONG - In this reprised WETA co-production, the Library of Congress bestows its Gershwin Prize for Popular Song on iconic singersongwriter Lionel Richie during a concert featuring contemporary artists performing his top hits. The program was recorded at DAR Constitution Hall in March 2022.

11:00 ICONIC AMERICA: OUR SYMBOLS AND STORIES WITH DAVID RUBENSTEIN - Episodes 5 & 6 of 8. The Statue of Liberty/The American Bald Eagle. R

Via Antenna 26.3 Comcast 266/1147 Cov 801 Fios 472 **BCN 38**



The WETA PBS Kids channel offers a safe haven for young viewers, presenting educational programming 24 hours each day, seven days a week.

WEEKDAYS ON WETA PBS KIDS

- Clifford the Big Red Dog, 6am
- Elinor Wonders Why, 6:30am
- Dinosaur Train, 7am
- Pinkalicious & Peterrific, 7:30am, 8am
- Sesame Street, 8:30am, 9am
- Work It Out Wombats!, 9:30am
- Rosie's Rules, 10am
- Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood, 10:30am, 11am
- Curious George, 11:30am, 12n
- Donkey Hodie, 12:30pm, 1pm
- Work It Out Wombats!, 1:30pm
- · Rosie's Rules, 2pm
- Alma's Way, 2:30pm, 3pm
- Nature Cat, 3:30pm, 4pm
- Arthur, 4:30pm, 5pm
- Odd Squad, 5:30pm
- Wild Kratts, 6pm, 6:30pm
- Molly of Denali, 7pm, 7:30pm
- Cyberchase, 8pm
- Hero Elementary, 8:30pm
- Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum, 9pm
- Let's Go Luna! 9:30pm

On Fridays:

- The Not-Too-Late Show with Elmo + Shorts, 6:30-7pm
- WETA PBS Kids Family Night, 7-10pm

Visit weta.org/schedule for complete WETA PBS Kids listings.

WEEKDAYS ON WETA PBS, 8 AM - 3 PM

- Wild Kratts, 8am
- Curious George, 8:30am
- Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood, 9am
- Rosie's Rules, 9:30am
- Sesame Street, 10am
- Work It Out Wombats!, 10:30am
- · Donkey Hodie, 11am
- Pinkalicious & Peterrific, 11:30am
- Elinor Wonders Why, 12n
- Nature Cat, 12:30pm
- Hero Elementary, 1pm
- Xavier Riddle & the Secret Museum, 1:30pm
- Molly of Denali, 2pm
- Alma's Way, 2:30pm

SUNDAYS ON WETA PBS, 6 AM - 9 AM

- Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, 6am
- Arthur. 6:30am
- Molly of Denali, 7am
- Alma's Way, 7:30am

Alma's Way

- Albie's Elevator, 8am
- Curious George, 8:30am



Via Antenna 26.2 Comcast 265, 1146 Cox 800 Fios 474 RCN 39, 602

British Television at Its Best

The WETA UK channel is devoted to the best in British television programming, presenting beloved classics and contemporary series around the clock, seven days a week. WETA UK offers a full schedule of fine entertainment programming – featuring drama, mystery and comedy – in addition to documentary series and news reports.

DECEMBER P.M. PROGRAMMING ON WETA UK

VISIT WETA.ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A PROGRAM LINEUP

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12pm	• 12/3-12/17, 12n: My Grandparents' War • 12/3, 1-5pm: Bleak House (Pts 1-4)	Call the Midwife Mary Berry Marathon (12/25,	Call the Midwife	Call the Midwife	Call the Midwife	Call the Midwife	Travelling Auctioneers
12:30pm	• 12/10, 1-5pm: Bleak House (Pts 5-8) • 12/17, 1pm: Marv	7am-5pm)					
1pm	Berry's Ultimate Xmas; 2pm: Celeb. Antiq. Road Trip; 3pm: Lucy Worsley's	A Place to Call Home	A Place to Call Home	A Place to Call Home	A Place to Call Home	A Place to Call Home	Summer of Rockets
1:30pm	Photo Album; 4pm: A Christmas Carol	My Grandparents'	C	Foods's Wes	Mideana	• 12/1 & 12/8, 2-5pm:	• 12/2-12/9: Ridley
2pm	Goes Wrong • 12/24, 7am-3pm: Death in Paradise,	War, Series 1	Summer of Rockets	Foyle's War, Series 2 & 3	Midsomer Murders, Series 3	Escape to the Chateau, Series 4 & 5	Road on Masterpiece (2 hrs)
2:30pm	Series 11 Marathon; 3-5pm: Death in Paradise Xmas Special	Lights Before Christ- mas: Estate Aglow (12/18, 90 min)		Hotel Portofino, Series 2		12/15, 2pm: Escape to the Chateau, Series 5; 3pm: The Savoy at Christmas; 4pm: Mary Berry's Absolute Favorites 12/22, 2-5pm: Escape to the Chateau, Series 5 12/29, 2-5pm: Agatha Christie/Lucy Worsley	12/16, 2pm: Lights Before Christmas: Estate Aglow (90 min); 3:30pm: Clown by Quentin Blake Starting 12/23, 2-3:30pm: Ms. Fisher (90 min); 3:30pm: British Antiq. Roadshow
3pm	• 12/31, 12:30pm: Secrets of Under-	Once Upon a Time in Northern Ireland	 Hamish Macbeth, Series 3 		Agatha Christie's Marple (see Wed, 10pm list)		
3:30pm	ground London; 1:30pm: Secrets of Westminster; 2:30pm: Tales from	Lights Before Christ- mas: Luminous Lon- don (3:30pm, 12/18)	Ms. Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries (90 min, starts 12/19)		Agatha Christie's Poirot (starts 12/28)		
4pm	the Royal Wardrobe; 3:30pm: British Antig. Roadshow;	Secrets of the Six Wives Clown by Quentin Blake (4:30pm, 12/18)	 Flesh & Blood on Masterpiece 	Baptiste on Masterpiece	Sanditon, Series 1 on Masterpiece (starts 12/28) (1 hr)		Blitz Spirit with Lucy Worsley Magpie Murders on Masterpiece (starts 12/16)
4:30pm	4pm: Lucy Wors- ley's Royal Palace Secrets		British Antiques Roadshow (4:30pm, starts 12/19)		BBC Antiques Road- show (12/7-12/21)		
5pm	Foyles War, Series 2	BBC News: The Context	BBC News: The Context	BBC News: The Context	BBC News: The Context	BBC News: The Context	Foyle's War, Series 2 (Series 3 starts
5:30pm	(Series 3 starts 12/17)	BBC News America	BBC News America	BBC News America	BBC News America	BBC News America	12/16)
6pm	Victoria, Series 2 on Masterpiece (90 min on 12/10);	Still Open All Hours	Still Open All Hours	Still Open All Hours	Still Open All Hours	Still Open All Hours	Victoria on Mas- terpiece, Series 2 (90 min on 12/9)
6:30pm	Series 3 starts 12/17	As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	(Series 3 starts 12/16)
7pm	Secrets of the Six Wives (7:30pm, 12/10) A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong (12/17)	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	Celebrity Antiques Road Trip	 Tom Jones on Masterpiece (12/2)
7:30pm	Goes Wrong (12/17) • Ms. Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries (starts 12/24)						• Marie Antoinette (starts 12/16)
8pm	Celeb. Antiq. Road Trip, Series 4 British Antiq.	Summer of Rockets	• 8pm: Baptiste on Masterpiece	Magpie Murders on Masterpiece (starts 12/6)	• 12/7, 8-11pm: Escape to the Chateau, Series 5	Masterworks Showcase • 8pm: Foyle's War, Series 2 (Series 3 starts 12/15)	Baptiste on Masterpiece
8:30pm	Roadshow (8:30pm, 12/24)				• 12/14, 8pm: Escape to the Chateau, Series 5		
9pm	Once Upon a Time in Northern Ireland	Hamish Macbeth, Series 3	Blood, Series 3 • 9pm: L'Opera (starts 12/26) • 10pm: Seaside Hotel, Series 6 (Series 7 starts 12/12)	Midsomer Murders, Series 3	12/14, 9pm: The Savoy at Christmas 12/14, 10pm: Mary Berry's Absolute Favorites 12/21, 8-11pm:	• 9pm: Victoria on Masterpiece, Series 2 (90 min on 12/8) (Series 3 starts 12/15)	Unseen Alistair Cooke (12/2); Lucy Worsley Investigates (12/9-12/23); L'Opera (starts 12/30)
9:30pm	The Boleyns: A Scandalous Family (starts 12/17)	Ms. Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries (90 min, starts 12/18)					
10pm	My Grandparents' War, Series 1	Flesh & Blood on Masterpiece British Antiques Roadshow (10:30pm, starts 12/18)		Agatha Christie's Marple: 12/6: Murder Is Easy; 12/13: They Do It with Mirrors; 12/20: Why Didn't They Ask Evans? Agatha Christie's	Escape to the Chateau, Series 5 • 12/28, 8-11pm: Agatha Christie: Lucy Worsley on the Mystery Queen	on Masterpiece	Cobra, Series 2 Professor T
10:30pm	(10:30pm, 12/10) (Series 2 starts 12/17)						• Professor T, Series 2 (UK) (starts 12/9)
11pm	Still Open All Hours (11:30pm on 12/10)	BBC News	BBC News	Poirot: 12/27: Adven- ture of the Clapham Cook (1 hr.)	BBC News	BBC News	Baptiste on Masterpiece
11:30pm	, τ.τ.συμπι στι 12/10)	Summer of Rockets	Baptiste on Masterpiece	BBC News (11pm 12/27) Magpie Murders (12/27)	Escape to the Chateau Agatha/Lucy Worsley (12/28)	Foyle's War, Series 2 & 3	
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

WETA UK Highlights

Ms. Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries Mondays at 9 p.m. starting Dec. 18 on WETA UK

n this 12-episode spin-off to the popular Australian series Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries, Phryne Fisher's long-lost niece Peregrine (portrayed by Geraldine Hakewill) decides to follow in her aunt's stylish footsteps as a lady investigator for a new era. With the help of straitlaced Detective James Steed (Joel Jackson) and a group of accomplished women, Peregrine investigates murders in 1960s Melbourne. As the series opens, Phryne Fisher goes missing in 1964, and Peregrine inherits her estate. When a model is found murdered at a bridal show held by a friend of Phryne's and fellow member of the Adventuresses' Club of the Antipodes, Ms. Fisher takes up the mantle of private detective. The drama repeats Sundays at 7 p.m., starting December 24.



L'Opera

Tuesdays at 9 p.m. starting Dec. 26 on WETA UK

n eight-episode drama explores the complex world of ballet — both on and off the stage. The French-language, English-subtitled series, set in the modern-day Garnier Opera in Paris, follows three characters in the French dance world whose dreams clash with reality, whose ambitions collide with expectations, and whose purity faces corruption. The career of aging prima ballerina Zoé has recently faltered; in danger of being laid off, she must battle her own demons to earn another chance.

Meanwhile, ambitious young Black dancer Flora has just joined the company. And new director of dance Sébastien is under pressure to revive the Ballet and maintain its reputation. L'Opera repeats Saturdays at 9 p.m., starting Dec. 30.

Bleak House

Sundays, Dec. 3 & 10, 1-5 p.m. on WETA UK

harles Dickens' complex tale of love, murder, and the quest for a mystery man's identity unfolds in an adaptation by screenwriter Andrew Davies that stars Gillian Anderson, Charles Dance, Nathaniel Parker and a superb supporting cast. The eight-episode BAFTA-, Emmy- and Peabody Award-winning drama presents the epic novel of Victorian London that features a feast of characters and storylines, including an inheritance dispute that is tied up in dysfunctional courts while lawyers consume the assets of the estate. At its heart, the Dickens classic is the story of the icily beautiful Lady Dedlock (Anderson), who harbors a dark secret, and the merciless lawyer Mr. Tulkington (Dance), who seeks to uncover it.



Marie Antoinette

Fridays at 10 p.m. starting Dec. 15 on WETA UK

lavish drama — created and written by Deborah Davis (*The Favourite*) spotlights one of history's most iconic figures, chronicling how young Dauphine Marie Antoinette became the last queen of France. Portrayed by Emilia Schüle, the princess is just a teenager when she leaves Austria to marry the Dauphin of France. When she arrives at Versailles, Marie Antoinette is expected to conform to the



complex rules of the French court there. Meanwhile, her mother, the Empress of Austria, pressures her to further the Bourbon line and thus secure the alliance between the two countries. But faced with Louis' avoidant and solitary character, the mission turns out to be complicated, and Marie Antoinette's enemies are circling.

Also on WETA UK, enjoy Masterpiece series Magpie Murders, Wednesdays, 8 p.m. starting Dec. 6; Escape to the Chateau, Thursdays, 8 p.m. on Dec. 7, 14 & 21; Seaside Hotel, Series 7, Tuesdays, 10 p.m. starting Dec. 12; and a Mary Berry cooking program marathon, Dec. 25, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.



Via Antenna 26.5 weta.org/livestream PBS App YouTube TV Hulu + Live TV Comcast 270, 1148 Figs 470 BCN 599

WETA Metro is the streaming and broadcast television channel that features popular PBS programming and engaging content curated for our local audience, including offerings spotlighting the Metro D.C. community. The channel is simulcast with WETA PBS most evenings. Each day on WETA Metro, enjoy local programs, news and public affairs offerings (such as PBS NewsHour, weekdays at 6 p.m./11 p.m.), and lifestyle and cultural shows.

VISIT WETA. ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A COMPLETE PROGRAM LINEUP

Stream at weta.org/livestream or via the PBS App

2023 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals

Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 p.m. on WETA Metro

he televised awards ceremony *Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals*, produced by the nonpartisan, nonprofit Partnership for Public Service and this year hosted by CNN's Kate Bolduan at the John F. Kennedy Center



2023 Finalists

for the Performing Arts, recognizes outstanding career federal employees whose work makes our nation safer, stronger, healthier and more prosperous. The Sammies, known as the "Oscars" of federal government service, are a highly respected honor with a rigorous selection process. Named for the Partnership for Public Service's late founder, the awards align with his vision of a dynamic and innovative federal workforce that meets the needs of the American people. The Partnership this year

also presented its annual Spirit of Service Award, which honors individuals outside the federal workforce who have made significant contributions to public service. This year's recipient is *PBS NewsHour* senior correspondent **Judy Woodruff**, who is recognized for reporting that has illuminated the contributions of public servants.



American Masters: Little Richard: The King and Queen of Rock and Roll

Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro

American Masters film spotlights musical artist Little Richard, chronicling the meteoric rise and enduring legacy of the rock star — and exploring his far-reaching influence, his defiance of societal expectations, and his advocacy for the rights of Black

artists. A fearless pioneer of rock 'n' roll who broke the color barrier in the 1950s with hits like "Tutti Frutti" and "Long Tall Sally," Little Richard defined a genre and inspired generations. Richard Wayne Penniman, born in Macon, Georgia, transformed himself from a prodigy with deep gospel roots to a virtuosic, world-touring icon. The documentary features interviews with fellow musicians including Keith Richards, Ringo Starr, Nile Rodgers, Bobby Rush and Deacon John, and a host of other luminaries. The program repeats Saturday, December 9 at 8 p.m.



The Story of: Marilyn Monroe, Liz Taylor & Jackie O. Thursday Dec 7 21 8 28 et 8 m on WETA Motro

Thursdays, Dec. 7, 21 & 28 at 8 p.m. on WETA Metro

ehind the razzle dazzle of fame and fortune, celebrities' lives are marked by dizzying highs and devastating lows, personal triumphs and tragedies, all played out in the spotlight of global fame. Biography series *The Story of...* spotlights six 20th-century icons, revisiting their fame and revealing their off-camera lives through extraordinary access to their friends, family, and others who knew them best. Episodes this month profile **Marilyn Monroe** (Dec. 7), Elizabeth Taylor (Dec. 21) and Jackie Onassis (Dec. 28). Additional programs in the series explore the lives of John Travolta, Clint Eastwood and Patrick Swayze.



Via Antenna 26.4 Cox 802 Fios 475 **RCN 37**

The WETA World channel is a 24/7 news and public affairs service devoted to fact-based nonfiction programming. sharing broad perspectives, stories and ideas. WETA World informs and educates, presenting award-winning documentaries and domestic and international news broadcasts. The channel features a slate of original programs that examine issues with a diversity of voices and illuminate conflicts, movements and cultures around the globe.

VISIT WETA.ORG/SCHEDULE FOR A COMPLETE PROGRAM LINEUP

Real Stories from Around the World

Sabbath

Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. on WETA World

n December, WETA World presents a wide slate of documentary programs on religion and spirituality. Among the offerings is Sabbath, a film by Martin Doblmeier that explores the religious, secular, psychological and sociological implications of a weekly day of rest for what he calls a "profoundly burned-out world." The wide-ranging two-hour documentary delves into the history and practice of an ancient concept that is rooted in the biblical story of creation. Doblmeier traveled coast-to-coast exploring sabbath beliefs and practice, meeting scholars, monks, theologians, clergy, farmers, physicians and other practitioners. He shows the profound beauty of the practice across traditions, probes the principles of justice that undergird it, and examines the potential it offers for healing a stressed-out world.



Inside the Vatican

Monday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. on WETA World

ilmed over the course of the fifth year of Pope Francis's pontificate, the two-hour film *Inside the Vatican* provides rare behind-the-scenes access to one of the most important places in the Christian world. Nestled in the city of Rome, the Vatican is the headquarters of the Catholic Church and an independent city-state. From the Pope himself to the head of security, the nuns who serve the homeless, the choristers of the Sistine Chapel, the papal gardener, the chief of the diplomatic corps, and many others, the film offers a look into the daily lives of those who live and work in the Vatican. Although the church calendar



unfolds much as it has for centuries, it is also a time of change as the Pope introduces reforms, shakes up the clerical establishment, and contends with church scandal that erupts just as he embarks on a historic visit to Ireland.

POV: An Act of Worship

Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. on WETA World

n this 90-minute 2022 film, experience a counter-narrative and collective memory of the last 30 years of Muslim life in America: explore pivotal moments in U.S. history and the impact of anti-Muslim rhetoric and policy on young Muslims who came of age after 9/11. In the film — a co-presentation of the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) and American Documentary — Pakistani-American



director Nausheen Dadabhoy weaves together observational footage of activists, community-sourced home videos, and evocative recollections from individuals affected by incidents of Islamophobia. Through the filmmaking team's first-hand knowledge of, and intimate access to, the Muslim community, Dadabhoy is able to bring together multiple voices in the narrative, which previously had been shaped largely by outsiders.



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Front Row Washington: Wu Han, Anna Geniushene & Dmytro Choni

Monday, December 18 at 9 p.m.

his month, WETA Classical continues the celebration of Wolf Trap's Chamber Music at The Barns concert series on local performance showcase *Front Row Washington*. On December 18, hear pianists Wu Han, Anna Geniushene and Dmytro Choni. Together they celebrate Sergei Rachmaninoff at 150 with his *Suites Nos. 1 and 2 for Two Pianos*, the first of which was

dedicated to Tchaikovsky — who died just weeks before he could attend the work's premiere in 1893. They also perform the distinctly post-romantic *Piano Sonata No. 4, Op. 30* by Alexander Scriabin, and they bring a little holiday magic with a two-piano Suite arrangement of Tchaikovsky's ballet, *The Nutcracker*. Join John Banther for this exciting program and other *Front Row Washington* offerings, Monday nights at 9 p.m. on WETA Classical.



"Little Match Girl" by Anne Anderson

Choral Showcase: Holiday Offerings

Sundays, December 3, 10, 24 & 31 at 9 p.m.

he month of December means Christmas music on WETA Classical's *Choral Showcase*, beginning December 3 with a choral drama about the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, *L'Enfance du Christ* ("The Childhood of Christ") by Hector Berlioz. Hear new holiday albums on December 10 featuring carols from around the world, sung in German by the MDR Radio Choir, and with a Nordic flavor by the Norwegian Soloists' Choir and Musicians. Then, on Christmas Eve, hear a narration of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, with choral accompaniment by the Skylark Vocal Ensemble in carols arranged by Benedict Sheehan. And on New Year's Eve, the program presents *The Little Match Girl Passion* by David Lang, a Bach-inspired passion based on the popular story by Hans Christian Andersen. Tune in to *Choral Showcase*, Sundays at 9 p.m.



Maestro Gianandrea Noseda

NSO Showcase for the Holidays Wednesday, December 6 at 9 p.m.

he singers in the University of Maryland chorus had their masks on in December 2021 for a performance of Bach's *Magnificat* and a portion of Handel's *Messiah*. Maestro Gianandrea Noseda led the concert, conducting *Messiah* with the National Symphony Orchestra for the first time, and the performance featured five of the Washington National Opera's Cafritz Young Artists. On the December 6 *NSO Showcase* program, the concert features Part I of *Messiah*, but the encore will have you tempted to stand up when you hear it. It is WETA Classical's holiday gift to you, and best of all, you can stream the program all month long at *wetaclassical.org* to keep you in the spirit.

WETA Classical is excited to announce the WETA Classical Newsletter! Sign up to learn about the classical music content you value via emails sent right to your inbox. The newsletter is published every two weeks and features carefully curated articles, artist interviews, podcast episodes, special sneak peeks and more. Visit **weta.org/classicalnewsletter** to sign up!

With the new Bradley Cooper bio-pic *Maestro* — co-created with Martin Scorsese and Steven Spielberg and spotlighting composer Leonard Bernstein and his wife Felicia Montealegre (Carey Mulligan) — streaming on Netflix as of December 20, enjoy Bernstein pieces on WETA Classical throughout December 19, in addition to a new *Classical Breakdown* podcast episode (visit *classicalbreakdown.org*) about the composer and his music.

Classical for Washington

Metropolitan Opera on WETA Classical

Saturdays at 1 p.m. starting Dec. 9 on Opera Matinee

By Linda Carducci, On-Air Host

ive radio broadcasts of Metropolitan Opera performances have been a treasured tradition since their inception in 1931. In fact, this series is the longest-running classical music program on American radio, reaching millions of listeners each year in the United States and more than 35 countries, a testament to the power of this artistic expression. Another spectacular broadcast season gets underway this month, and WETA Classical is delighted to bring these performances to you each Saturday afternoon on *Opera Matinee*.

Here below is a summary of the December offerings, and some highlights of the remainder of the 2023-2024 season that includes the greatest number of new works in the Met's modern history, a slate of classics, and several special presentations. All are performed by world-class artists.

Broadcasts begin **December 9** with the Met premiere of Daniel Catán's *Florencia en el Amazonas*, a love story within the realm of magical realism. This production, the Met's first opera in Spanish in nearly a century, will be led by the organization's artistic director Yannick Nézet-Séguin and stars Ailyn Pérez in the principal role.

A special abridged, English-language version of Mozart's eternal and charming *The Magic Flute* airs **December 16** (at noon). This production has become a holiday tradition, and a favorite for audiences of all ages.



Rolando Villazón as Papageno in Mozart's The Magic Flute (Dec. 16)

Tenor Rolando Villazón, popular with Met audiences, is cast as the lovable bird-catcher, Papageno.

December 23 brings us Richard Wagner's moving and magical *Tannhäuser* in a production featuring Austrian tenor Andreas Schager as a man struggling with opposing forces of earthly pleasure and sacred love.

The month closes with the **December 30** presentation of Mozart's delightful masterpiece *Le Nozze di Figaro* (*The Marriage of Figaro*) in a special vintage performance from 1956 to celebrate the centenaries of legendary singers Cesare Siepi and Victoria de los Ángeles.

New and impressive productions fill the remainder of the season: The Met premiere of Jake Heggie's *Dead Man Walking* (Jan. 20), based on the book by Sister Helen Prejean, with superstar mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato; *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* (Feb. 3) by Anthony Davis; Terence Blanchard's *Fire Shut Up in My Bones* (Apr. 27); and a return of Kevin Puts' *The Hours* (May 18), which premiered last year to stellar reviews.

Specials include a *Valentines from the Met* (Feb. 10) showcase of spectacular romantic duets from the company's vast archives in a nod to Valentine's Day. Also scheduled are *Mozart and Beethoven in Concert at the Met* (Feb. 24), spotlighting those composers' vocal music, and the stirring Verdi *Requiem* (Mar. 30). The *Listeners' Choice: Great Met Broadcasts* program — an archival performance selected by popular vote — returns March 2.



Opening scene from Madama Butterfly (May 11)

Venerated favorites, such as Verdi's Nabucco (Jan. 6); Bizet's

Carmen (Jan. 27); and a trio of Puccini's greats — the immortal *La Bohème* (Jan. 13), thrilling *Turandot* (Mar. 16), and heartbreaking *Madama Butterfly* (May 11) — among others, are also on the bill. The broadcast season ends with Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* (June 8).

These broadcasts are musical experiences not to be missed! Airtimes vary for a few operas, and the Met may occasionally make slight adjustments to the opera schedule and cast changes during the course of the broadcast season, so please check the Opera section of *wetaclassical.org* for the most up-to-date information.

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