



Screening Event at Slater Library

Friday, June
21st @ 6:30pm

Please join us as we host with PBS/CPTV
a free screening of the new
documentary, Chasing the Moon, a film
by Robert Stone.

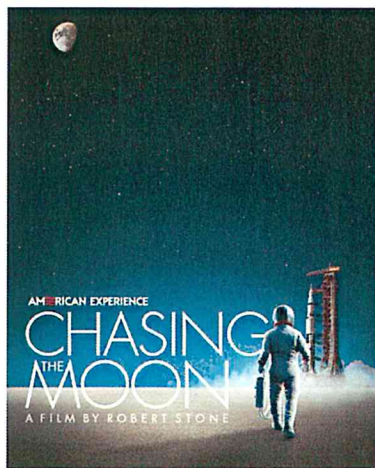
PBS will be airing the full documentary Chasing the Moon in their AMERICAN EXPERIENCE series July 8th, 9th and 10th on our local CPTV station.

Don't miss this experience on our big screen with a discussion afterwards lead by our own history professor, John Haskell. Stop in or check your local PBS station for a list of other programs in their "Summer of Space."

This is an Adult /pre-teen event and light refreshments will be served. We kindly request signing-up for this event so that seating can be arranged accordingly.

**AMERICAN EXPERIENCE “Chasing the Moon”
from Academy Award Nominee Robert Stone
Premieres Monday-Wednesday, July 8-10, 2019 on PBS**

**Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing,
This Six-Hour Series Explores the 10-Year Space Race Odyssey**



(BOSTON, MA) — **“Chasing the Moon,”** a new six-hour documentary series about the space race, from its earliest beginnings to the monumental achievement of the first lunar landing in 1969 and beyond, will premiere Monday-Wednesday, July 8-10, 2019, 9:00-11:00 p.m. ET on PBS. It will also be available for simultaneous online streaming at pbs.org. Scheduled in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, **“Chasing the Moon”** is a film by Robert Stone and marks his eighth project for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.

“Chasing the Moon” thoroughly reimagines the race to the moon for a new generation, upending much of the conventional mythology surrounding the effort. The three-part series recasts the Space Age as a fascinating stew of scientific innovation and PR savvy, political calculation and media spectacle, visionary impulses and personal drama. With no narration and using only archival footage — including a visual feast of previously lost or

overlooked material — the film features new interviews with a diverse cast of characters who played key roles in these historic events. Among those included are astronauts Buzz Aldrin, Frank Borman and Bill Anders; Freeman Dyson, the renowned futurist and theoretical physicist; Sergei Khrushchev, the son of former Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev, who played a prominent role in the Soviet space program as a rocket engineer; Poppy Northcutt, the 25-year-old “mathematics whiz” who gained worldwide attention as the first woman to serve in the all-male bastion of NASA’s Mission Control; and Ed Dwight, the Air Force pilot selected by the Kennedy administration to train as America’s first black astronaut.

While other documentaries have largely painted a familiar narrative of goals set, obstacles overcome, disasters averted and missions accomplished, **“Chasing the Moon”** tells a vastly more entertaining and surprising story. As the film reveals, the drive to land a man on the moon was fueled as much by politics as it was by technology and was a controversial undertaking during a volatile time.

“When we think of that breathtaking moment of the 1969 moon landing, we forget what a turbulent time that was,” said Mark Samels, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE executive producer. “The country was dealing with huge problems — Vietnam, poverty, civil rights — and there was a lot of skepticism about the space program. **‘Chasing the Moon’** explores the unbelievably complex challenges that NASA was able to overcome. Not a

week goes by when someone doesn’t say, ‘Why can’t we do something today as ambitious, as grand as

MAJOR FUNDING FOR AMERICAN EXPERIENCE PROVIDED BY LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE, CONSUMER CELLULAR AND BY THE ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION. MAJOR FUNDING FOR CHASING THE MOON PROVIDED BY THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING, THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES, EXPLORING THE HUMAN ENDEAVOR, AND BY THE ARTHUR VINING DAVIS FOUNDATIONS. STRENGTHENING AMERICA’S FUTURE THROUGH EDUCATION. ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR AMERICAN EXPERIENCE PROVIDED BY THE ROBERT DAVID LION GARDINER FOUNDATION, THE DOCUMENTARY INVESTMENT GROUP, IRA AND DIANA RIKLIS AND PUBLIC TELEVISION VIEWERS. AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IS PRODUCED FOR PBS BY WGBH BOSTON.



ANY VIEWS, FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, OR RECOMMENDATIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PROGRAM DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THOSE OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES.

putting a man on the moon?" It was a century-defining achievement, and our film tells a familiar story in an entirely new way."

"As a 10-year-old kid in England in July 1969, my mother woke me up in the middle of the night to watch two Americans set foot upon another world, the Moon quite literally staring at us through the window above our television set," said Oscar and Emmy Award-nominated filmmaker Robert Stone. "I'd recently seen Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey* and the one-two punch of those two intensely visceral experiences ignited a fire in my mind that's stuck with me ever since. It's when I first began to want to be a filmmaker. In many ways, **'Chasing the Moon'** is the culmination of a lifetime of thoughts that have been churning through my mind about this extraordinary period in which I grew up, about the boundless ambition and promise of a brighter future that space travel inspired, the belief that anything is possible if we join together in a common goal, and the urgency it ignited to preserve and care for our home planet. Having PBS as a partner to take this film out worldwide is a real honor for me."

The broadcast of **"Chasing the Moon"** will be accompanied by a multi-platform engagement campaign, including a series of screening events and discussions hosted by universities, museums and public television stations around the country, as well as an immersive, interactive website hosting original digital content that further explores themes and topics from the film. In addition to the July 8-10 broadcast premiere, **"Chasing the Moon"** will have an encore broadcast on Tuesdays, July 16, 23 and 30, 9:00-11:00 p.m. ET, and a marathon broadcast on Saturday, July 20, 2:00-8:00 p.m.

Ballantine Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, will publish the book *Chasing the Moon*, by Stone and writer/researcher Alan Andres, to coincide with the PBS premiere. The book will include and expand on the stories examined in the documentary.

PART ONE: A Place Beyond the Sky begins in 1957 and tracks the early years of the space race as the United States struggles to catch up with the Soviet Union. The episode reveals breathtaking failures and successes of the nascent American space program and demonstrates the stakes and costs of reaching the moon.

PART TWO: Earthrise covers 1964-1968, four heady, dangerous years in the history of the space race, focusing on the events surrounding the Apollo 1 and Apollo 8 missions. As Americans moved through the 60s and reflect on the challenges ahead, many begin to wonder: What exactly is it going to take to beat the Soviets to the moon?

PART THREE: Magnificent Desolation, which covers 1969-1970, takes Americans to the moon and back. Dreams of space dramatically intersect with dreams of democracy on American soil, raising questions of national priorities and national identity. The final episode also considers what happens to scientific and engineering programs — and to a country — after ambitious national goals have been achieved.

About the Filmmakers

A Robert Stone Productions film in association with ARTE France for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

Written, Produced and Directed By ROBERT STONE
Producers DANIEL AEGERTER, KEITH HAVILAND, AND
RAY ROTHROCK
Music By GARY LIONELLI

Edited By LINDY JANKURA & ROBERT STONE

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE is a production of **WGBH Boston**

Senior Producer SUSAN BELLOWS

Executive Producer MARK SAMELS

Robert Stone is a multi-award-winning, Oscar-nominated and Emmy-nominated documentary filmmaker. Born in England, he grew up in both Europe and America. After graduating with a degree in history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, he moved to New York City in 1983 to pursue a career in filmmaking. He gained considerable recognition for his first film, *Radio Bikini* (1987), which premiered at Sundance, was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary and was the first of his seven films to premiere on AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. His best-known works includes *Guerrilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst* (2004), which premiered at Sundance and went on to become one of the most highly acclaimed theatrical documentaries of the year. That was followed by the documentary feature *Oswald's Ghost* (2007), for which Stone earned a second Emmy nomination for Outstanding Achievement in Non-Fiction Filmmaking. *Earth Days* was the Closing Night Film at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and was released theatrically to wide critical acclaim. His next film, *Pandora's Promise*, premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival, won the prestigious Green Award at the Sheffield Documentary Film Festival and was broadcast on CNN in 2013. In addition to *Radio Bikini*, *Guerrilla*, *Oswald's Ghost* and *Earth Days*, Stone also produced *The Satellite Sky*, *Civilian Conservation Corps* and *Cold War Roadshow* for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE.

Mark Samels (Executive Producer) conceives, commissions and oversees all films for the PBS flagship history series AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. Samels has overseen more than 130 films, expanding both the breadth of subjects and the filmmaking style embraced by the series, allowing for more contemporary topics and witness-driven storytelling. Beginning his career as an independent documentary filmmaker, he held production executive positions at public television stations in West Virginia and Pennsylvania before joining WGBH. Samels is a founding member of the International Documentary Association and has served as a governor of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Samels holds honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees from Emerson College and Elizabethtown College.

About AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

For 30 years, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE has been television's most-watched history series. Hailed as "peerless" (*The Wall Street Journal*), "the most consistently enriching program on television" (*Chicago Tribune*) and "a beacon of intelligence and purpose" (*Houston Chronicle*), the series brings to life the incredible characters and epic stories that have shaped America's past and present. AMERICAN EXPERIENCE documentaries have been honored with every major broadcast award, including 30 Emmy Awards, four duPont-Columbia Awards and 17 George Foster Peabody Awards; the series received an Academy Award® nomination for Best Documentary Feature in 2015 for *Last Days in Vietnam*. AMERICAN EXPERIENCE also creates original digital content that uses new forms of storytelling to connect our collective past with the present. Visit pbs.org/americanexperience and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) to learn more.

Major funding for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE provided by Liberty Mutual Insurance, Consumer Cellular and by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Major funding for "Chasing the Moon" provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor, and by The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations: Strengthening America's Future Through Education. Additional funding for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE provided by the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, The Documentary Investment Group: Ira and Diana Riklis and public television viewers. AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

is produced for PBS by WGBH Boston.

About PBS Summer of Space

Along with **AMERICAN EXPERIENCE** “**Chasing the Moon**,” PBS brings viewers the universe with **SUMMER OF SPACE**, a multiplatform experience that includes six new science and history programs, all commemorating America’s journey into space. The celebration officially kicks off July 8 with a new space-themed **ANTIQUES ROADSHOW** “**Out of This World**.” **NOVA** special “**Back to the Moon**” (July 10) explores how new scientific discoveries are fueling excitement for a return to the lunar surface, and its five-part series “**The Planets**” (July 24) brings to life the dramatic story of our solar system — from Saturn’s 45,000-mile-wide rings, to Mars’ ancient waterfalls, to the raging winds of Neptune and more. **8 DAYS: TO THE MOON AND BACK** (July 17) tells the story of Apollo 11 with rare mission audio and CGI recreation of the crew experience, and in the three-part **ANCIENT SKIES** (July 24), audiences will discover the centuries of knowledge, experimentation and engineering that helped our ancestors explore outer space. Immersive and interactive space content will also stream concurrently on PBS.org, OTT and PBS apps. PBS Digital Studios will launch a new space-themed miniseries on Facebook, and rare imagery from NASA will be the focus of an Instagram Stories campaign.

About PBS

PBS, with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 120 million people through television and 26 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’ broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS’ premier children’s media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV – including a 24/7 channel, online at pbskids.org, via an array of mobile apps and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at www.pbs.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](#). Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following [PBS Pressroom on Twitter](#).

#ChasingtheMoonPBS

###

Press Contacts:

CaraMar Publicity

Mary Lugo	770-623-8190	lugo@negia.net
Cara White	843-881-1480	cara.white@mac.com
Abbe Harris	908-244-5516	abbe.harris@caramar.net

For further information and photos visit <http://www.pbs.org/pressroom>