



MEDIA ALERT

SMITHSONIAN CHANNEL CLEANS UP AT THE WORLDFEST HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Cable Network Goes Home with Eight Awards

New York, NY April 22, 2010 – Smithsonian Channel original programming was recognized for its excellence at **WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival** last weekend, winning eight awards. Now in its 42nd year, WorldFest is one of the oldest and largest film and video competitions in the world, honoring outstanding creative excellence in film and video.

Smithsonian Channel won the following:

- ***Smithsonian Spotlight: Making a Winning Portrait*** - Platinum Remi in the Talk Show category. Platinum Remi is WorldFest's highest honor.
An in-depth look at the exhibits, research projects, and publications of the Smithsonian Institution, hosted by Susan Spencer. Spotlight's magazine format features informed, spirited and soulful one-on-one discussions with the scientists, artists and innovators who shape our world and sometimes risk their lives to expand our understanding of the universe.
- ***The Accordion Kings*** - Special Jury Award in two categories, Cultural Television Production and Ethnic/Cultural Production. Premieres August 1 at 8pm et/pt. This film explores the infectious music of Colombia's Magdalena Valley and a legendary contest to crown a "king of kings," the greatest accordion player of all.
- ***Worlds of Sound: The Ballad of Folkways*** - Special Jury Award, Cultural Television Production
Narrated by Pete Seeger, this is the story of the little record label that could. Smithsonian Folkways is the place where a world of sound is at your fingertips.
- ***White House Revealed*** - Special Jury Award, Documentary Television Production
The people who help run the world's most famous home are anonymous to the public, but the presidents know their names. From the devoted doormen to the butlers, plumbers, chefs, housekeepers, engineers and florists, the dedicated individuals who serve president after president are all eyewitnesses to history.
- ***History in HD: Shooting Iwo Jima*** - Special Jury Award, Documentary Television Production
The story of unsung hero Bill Genaust, who captured on film the flag-raising on Iwo Jima.
- ***Apocalypse: The Second World War*** - Special Jury Award, Documentary Television Production

Six-part, six-hour series narrated by Martin Sheen. Extraordinary footage from World War II that has been restored, colorized and transferred to stunning high definition.

- **Arlington: Call To Honor** - Special Jury Award, Documentary Television Production
Every graveyard tells a story but few can talk to the living like Arlington National Cemetery. It's here that America buries its war heroes, from the Revolutionary War to 9/11 and the current struggle in Iraq.

ABOUT SMITHSONIAN NETWORKS

Smithsonian Networks (SNI/SI Networks L.L.C.) is a joint venture between Showtime Networks Inc. and the Smithsonian Institution, formed to create channels featuring programs largely inspired by the assets of the Smithsonian Institution, the world's largest museum complex. Smithsonian Channel features award-winning original documentaries, series, and groundbreaking programs highlighting America's historical, cultural and scientific heritage. Smithsonian Channel brings the American experience home in high definition and Dolby Digital 5.1 and is currently available to customers of DirectTV, Time Warner Cable, Charter Communications, Cablevision, Verizon, AT&T, and more. Learn more at www.smithsonianchannel.com.

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