



Infinity Entertainment Group & Smithsonian Networks Proudly Present

Stories From the Vaults: Season One

From the Extraordinary to the Bizarre ...

**Unprecedented & Exclusive Behind-the-Scenes Access to the Vaults & Vast Collections
Of the World-Renowned Smithsonian Institution, Hosted by Tom Cavanagh
Coming to Blu-Ray & DVD in Stores Across the Nation Sept. 23rd**

LOS ANGELES — Sept. 1, 2008 — For Immediate Release — With unprecedented and exclusive access to unlock the vaults and reveal the stories of the prized collections of the Smithsonian Institution, the Smithsonian Networks' original, award-winning program *Stories From the Vaults* comes to Blu-Ray disc and DVD Sept. 23, from Infinity Entertainment Group.

Ever wondered what's hiding behind the scenes of America's most renowned museum complex? Find out as host **Tom Cavanagh** (*Eli Stone*, *Ed*) takes viewers beyond the exhibit halls on an insider's tour of the private rooms, high-tech vaults and cutting-edge labs of the Smithsonian, revealing some of the amazing artifacts and rarely-seen treasures that visitors can't see! Boasting more than 342,000-square-feet of storage space and more than 31 million items in just *one* of their facilities ... some of the oldest *and* weirdest artifacts are housed here!

In each episode of *Stories From the Vaults*, the Smithsonian's curators, experts and scientists open their collections and share their distinctive passions by presenting their most prized, surprising or enlightening artifacts, relics or specimens—standouts among the 100 million or so items in the Smithsonian's collections currently not on exhibit.

Cavanagh climbs ladders, peers in drawers, looks behind doors, stares into microscopes and interacts with old bones, bringing a contagious enthusiasm and off-beat humor to the series. He uncovers the intriguing history of each object—its origins, how it came to the Smithsonian, how it is being painstakingly preserved and studied and what it might tell us about ourselves, our culture, where we came from or where we may be going.

Episodes from season one of this original Smithsonian Networks program include: "Famous Donors," "Superlatives," "No Place Like Home," "Beauty," "Firsts," "Life After Death" and "Random?"

In recognition of its creativity, the *Stories From The Vaults* series recently received a Gold World Medal from the New York Festival, as well as a Parent's Choice Gold Award for Excellence.

Stories From the Vaults is presented in 5.1 Dolby Digital Surround Sound. Standard definition DVD is presented in widescreen (aspect ratio 16:9) and Blu-Ray disc is presented in widescreen (aspect ratio 16:9) 1080i. Special features include closed captioning on SD DVD and subtitles on Blu-Ray disc.

Smithsonian Networks is a joint venture between Showtime Networks Inc. and the Smithsonian Institution. It was formed to create new channels to showcase scientific, cultural and historical programming based largely upon the assets of the Smithsonian Institution, the world's largest museum complex. Smithsonian Channel features original documentaries, short-subject explorations and innovative and groundbreaking programs highlighting America's historical, cultural and scientific heritage. Visit Smithsonian Networks on the Internet at www.smithsonianchannel.com.

Infinity Entertainment Group, headquartered in Los Angeles, Calif., is a multi-service home entertainment retail distributor specializing in independent films, television programming, special-interest, documentaries, anime and music. Clients include Smithsonian Networks, MOJO HD, Falcon Picture Group, Bandai Entertainment, Roxbury Entertainment, SJ2 Entertainment and Retromedia. Hit titles include the iconic *Route 66* television series, now available on DVD for the first time, and *Spike Jones: The Legend*. The company was launched in 2006 and is a division of **Infinity Resources, Inc.**, a privately-held, multi-channel marketing and service enterprise with general offices based in suburban Chicago, Ill.

Stories From the Vaults: Season One (2 discs)

Infinity Entertainment Group

Genre: Television/Documentary

Not Rated

Format: DVD & Blue-Ray

Running Time: Approx. 189 Minutes

Suggested Retail Price: DVD – \$24.98

Blu-Ray – \$34.98

Pre-Order Date: August 19, 2008

Street Date: September 23, 2008

Catalog #: DVD – IEG2058

Blu-Ray – IEG2060

UPC Code: DVD – #617742205893

Blu-Ray – #617742206098

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Stories From the Vaults: Season One

Hosted by Tom Cavanagh

Episode 1 — *Famous Donors*

The Smithsonian adds 50,000 objects each year to its vast collections. But where do they come from? How did they get to the Smithsonian? The premiere program looks at what President **Teddy Roosevelt**, author **John Steinbeck** and even comedienne **Phyllis Diller** have contributed to the Smithsonian's holdings.

Episode 2 — *Superlatives*

With more than 151 million objects amassed in one place – from the microscopic to the gigantic, from the ancient to the modern – it takes a unique identity to stand out among the rest. For this program, Tom Cavanagh goes in search of “The Most Misunderstood,” “The Best” and “The Tiniest” ... all within the Smithsonian collections.

Episode 3 — *No Place Like Home*

The Smithsonian Institution is the ultimate home for the nation, the collective memory for much of its history, natural history, science and culture. Among the millions of treasures housed at its 19 museums, its artifacts and specimens reveal how many different kinds of homes have been invented by humans and other species, from spacesuits to roundworms.

Episode 4 — *Beauty*

The Smithsonian Institution has a lot to reveal about what humans find beautiful. This episode explores beauty through the eyes of three Smithsonian curators who share their expertise about orchids, advertising and ants.

Episode 5 — *Firsts*

There are several ways to approach the quest to define what is “numero uno.” This episode explores the history of commercial aviation from the cockpit of a jumbo jet, traces the legacy of Thomas Edison through drawers filled with early light bulbs and delves into the pre-history of the videogame revolution.

Episode 6 — *Life After Death*

What is the difference between life and death? It's a mystery reflected in arts and religion. The living and the dead find a home at the Smithsonian, where researchers study and explore this fascinating subject.

Episode 7 — *Random?*

This episode finds that the Smithsonian collection is anything but random, but its range is extraordinary. Its tremendous breadth and scope houses the answers to the questions of researchers not even born yet.