

# American MASTERS

20  
years

**thirteen**  
WNET NEW YORK

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press information

A Production of  
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## Production Bios



**PBS**

### *AMERICAN MASTERS Sketches of Frank Gehry*

#### **FRANK GEHRY**

##### *Architect*

Raised in Toronto, Canada, Frank Gehry moved with his family to Los Angeles in 1947. Gehry received his bachelor of architecture degree from the University of Southern California in 1954, and he studied city planning at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. Gehry has built an architectural career that has spanned four decades and produced public and private buildings in America, Europe and Asia. In an article published in *The New York Times* in November 1989, noted architecture critic Paul Goldberger wrote that Gehry's "buildings are powerful essays in primal geometric form and... materials, and from an aesthetic standpoint they are among the most profound and brilliant works of architecture of our time."

His work has earned Gehry several of the most significant awards in the architectural field. In 1977, Gehry was named recipient of the Arnold W. Brunner Memorial Prize in Architecture from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 1989, he was awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize, perhaps the premiere accolade of the field, honoring "significant contributions to humanity and the built environment through the art of architecture." In 1992, he received the Wolf Prize in Art from the Wolf Foundation. In the same year, he was named the recipient of the Praemium Imperiale Award by the Japan Art Association to "honor outstanding contributions to the development, popularization, and progress of the arts."

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In 1994, he became the first recipient of the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Award for lifetime contribution to the arts. In 1998, Gehry received the National Medal of Arts, and he became the first recipient of the Friedrich Kiesler Prize. In 1999, Gehry received the Lotos Medal of Merit from the Lotos Club, and he received the Gold Medal from the American Institute of Architects. In 2000, Gehry received the Gold Medal from the Royal Institute of British Architects, and he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Americans for the Arts. In 2002, Gehry received the Gold Medal for Architecture from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Gehry was named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1987, a trustee of the American Academy in Rome in 1989, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1991. In 1994, he was bestowed with the title of academician by the National Academy of Design. In 1998, he was named an honorary academician by the Royal Academy of Arts. In 2003, Gehry was inducted into the European Academy of Sciences and Arts and he was designated as a Companion to the Order of Canada.

Gehry is a founding trustee and vice president of the Hereditary Disease Foundation. Gehry has received honorary doctoral degrees from Occidental College, Whittier College, the California College of Arts and Crafts, the Technical University of Nova Scotia, the Rhode Island School of Design, the California Institute of Arts, the Southern California Institute of Architecture, the Otis Art Institute at the Parsons School of Design, the University of Toronto, the University of Southern California, Yale University, Harvard University, and the University of Edinburgh. In 1982, 1985, and 1987-89, Gehry held the Charlotte Davenport Professorship in Architecture at Yale University, where he continues to teach today. In 1984, he held the Eliot Noyes Chair at Harvard University. In 1996-97, he was a visiting scholar at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich, Switzerland. Gehry was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects (A.I.A.) in 1974, and his buildings have received more than 100 national and regional A.I.A. awards.

Gehry's work has been published widely and his architectural drawings and models have been exhibited in major museums throughout the world. Recent and current projects include: the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao in Bilbao, Spain; the DZ Bank Building, a mixed-use building adjacent to the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany; Der Neue Zollhof, an office complex in Düsseldorf, Germany; the Experience Music Project in Seattle, Washington; the Bard College Performing Arts Center in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York; the Peter B. Lewis campus of the Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio; the Jay Pritzker Pavilion and BP Bridge in Millennium Park in Chicago, Illinois; Maggie's Centre, a cancer patient care center in Dundee, Scotland; the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota; the University of Toledo Center for the Visual Arts in Toledo, Ohio; and the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, California.

## **SYDNEY POLLACK**

*Director, Producer*

Sydney Pollack's 19 films have received 46 Academy Award nominations, including two for Best Picture. His film *Out of Africa* won seven Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director for Pollack.

He won the New York Film Critics' Award for his 1982 film *Tootsie* and the David di Donatello Award for *Three Days of the Condor*. He's received the Golden Globe for Best Director twice, the National Society of Film Critics' Award, the NATO Director of the Year Award, and prizes from the Brussels, Belgrade, San Sebastian, Moscow, and Taormina film festivals. In 2000, he was awarded the Directors Guild of America John Huston Award by the Artists Rights Foundation.

The American Film Institute voted *Tootsie* the No. 2 comedy of all time and *The Way We Were* and *Out of Africa* are in the AFI's top 100 Romantic Films of all time.

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Biography*

In 1986, the French government awarded him the medal of Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres. Pollack served twice as a member of the jury at the Cannes Film Festival and once as the jury's president.

As an actor, he has appeared in Woody Allen's *Husbands and Wives*, Robert Altman's *The Player*, Robert Zemeckis's *Death Becomes Her*, Steve Zaillian's *Civil Action*, Stanley Kubrick's *Eyes Wide Shut*, and Roger Mitchell's *Changing Lanes*. On television, he has appeared on *Mad About You* and *Will & Grace*.

In 1985, he formed Mirage Productions. Under that banner he has produced the films *Presumed Innocent*, *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, *White Palace*, *Major League*, *Dead Again*, *Searching for Bobby Fisher*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, *The Quiet American*, and *Cold Mountain*. In 2000, writer/director Anthony Minghella became a partner in Mirage Productions.

Pollack is currently producing four films through Mirage Productions due for release within the next nine months. They are: *Margaret*, Kenny Lonergan, director; *Michael Clayton*, Tony Gilroy, director; *Catch a Fire*, Phillip Noyce, director; and *Breaking and Entering*, Anthony Minghella, director.

Pollack is a founding member of The Sundance Institute, The Chairman Emeritus of The American Cinematheque, a founding member of The Film Foundation, and on the board of directors for The Motion Picture and Television Fund.

ULTAN GUILFOYLE

Producer

Ulta n Guilfoyle is an award-winning filmmaker and writer whose films have appeared on CBS, HBO, Bravo, and PBS in the United States, and the BBC and Channel 4 in Britain.

In May 2006, his film production, *Sketches of Frank Gehry*, directed by Sydney Pollack, was an official selection of the Cannes Film Festival in France. It was also featured at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

In 1998, Guilfoyle was invited by the Guggenheim Museum to curate the landmark exhibition, the Art of the Motorcycle. The exhibition was inaugurated in New York and subsequently toured to the Guggenheim Bilbao and the Guggenheim Las Vegas, achieving a total attendance of more than 2 million visitors, placing it among the top five of museum exhibitions ever held.

When not producing large-scale documentary films, Ulta n Guilfoyle writes on design and architecture in the United States and Britain, and his writing has appeared in *The New York Times* and *Metropolis Magazine*, among others.

While at the BBC, Guilfoyle produced music and arts programs, including the long-running rock show, *Whistle Test*, and the international rock concert *Live Aid* which, at the time, was the biggest single television broadcast ever produced.

After leaving the BBC, he founded the independent production company Planet Pictures with Live Aid organizer, Sir Bob Geldof.

Guilfoyle's most recent book, *Phaidon Design Classics*, was published by Phaidon Press in April 2006.

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