



thirteen
WNET NEW YORK

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press information

WIDE ANGLE, PUBLIC TELEVISION'S EMMY-WINNING WEEKLY SERIES OF IN-DEPTH REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD, RETURNS FOR ITS SIXTH SEASON, TUESDAY, JULY 3 ON PBS

Six Billion People. 200 Nations. Someone Has To Cover It.

Season Six Explores A Legendary Boxing Academy In Cuba; China's Burgeoning Justice System; An All-Female Talk Show That's Shaking Up The Arab World; The Impact Of New Racial Quotas In Brazil; And More.

Daljit Dhaliwal Returns As Series Host

WIDE ANGLE, the award-winning series of in-depth documentaries from around the world, returns to PBS for its sixth season this July. The only series of its kind on television, *WIDE ANGLE* focuses on the human stories behind crucial global trends. With compelling narratives that bring pressing international issues to life, *WIDE ANGLE* offers Americans urgently needed insight into today's interconnected world.

WIDE ANGLE, a production of Thirteen/WNET New York, launches its sixth season Tuesday, July 3 at 9 p.m. (ET) on PBS (check local listings). The series airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on PBS stations nationwide.

(Due to the currency of *WIDE ANGLE*'s content, all programs are subject to change. As all films are still in production, the exact order of individual programs will be set and **announced** closer to the premiere date. All program titles are working titles and subject to change.)

"In this era marked by a global economy and regional conflicts, Americans are taking an ever keener interest in the affairs of the world, and particularly in the stories that are unfolding behind the scenes," said Stephen Segaller, director of news and public affairs programming at



Thirteen/WNET and executive producer of *WIDE ANGLE*. “As it enters its sixth year on PBS, *WIDE ANGLE* has become the series that Americans know for presenting both a human picture of world events and a nuanced insight into developments that are affecting everyone’s lives the world over.”

In the summer of 2007, *WIDE ANGLE* again reports from the locations that matter, with world exclusives, including an intimate look at Cuba’s legendary Havana Boxing Academy. Dominating the Olympic boxing medals for the past quarter century, Cuba’s athletes have propelled their tiny nation onto the world stage and served as an unconventional tool of foreign and domestic policy. As Fidel Castro’s faltering health throws the future into question, *WIDE ANGLE* embeds inside the communist state for the eight-month training season of a select group of young boys who are preparing for the biggest event of their lives – the National Boxing Championships. A rich portrait of the grade-school athletes being groomed as the “standard bearers of the revolution,” *Victory Is Your Duty* reports from modern Cuba at a crucial time of transition.

This season *WIDE ANGLE* also takes viewers inside the courtrooms and law schools of China to provide a rare, character-driven look at its rapidly growing legal system. *The People’s Court* follows itinerant judges, law students and ordinary Chinese seeking justice as the country tackles the massive task of establishing a legal framework for its new market economy. Poised to dominate the global economy, yet facing mounting domestic and international pressure for a fairer system of legal redress, China is racing to reshape the rules of society – with employment laws and property rights and thousands of newly trained lawyers. China’s fledgling experiment to introduce the western concept of “rule of law” within a system still firmly controlled by the Communist Party has global stakes.

Dishing Democracy goes behind the scenes at Arab television channel MBC in Cairo for

an inside look at the hit all-female talk show, *Kalam Nawaem*. Similar in style to ABC's *The View*, the top-rated program delivers entertainment, frank exchanges and conflict, by mixing four presenters of different ages, nationalities and points of view. Muna Abusulayman (Saudi), Farah Bseiso (Palestinian), Fawzia Salama (Egyptian), and Rania Barghout (Lebanese) have become new and previously unthinkable role models in the region, attracting millions of viewers – men and women alike. Unafraid to tackle sensitive issues, the four working mothers were the first in the Arab media to discuss homosexuality openly, and have been outspoken on subjects like polygamy, domestic violence and equality between the sexes. *WIDE ANGLE* demonstrates how the satellite television revolution is bringing unexpected voices for social reform into living rooms throughout the Middle East – in primetime.

WIDE ANGLE next explores the impact of affirmative action quotas on Brazil, the world's most racially diverse nation. While Brazil has long presented itself as a colorblind "racial democracy," the new laws are prompted by striking income and educational disparities between the country's lighter and darker populations. *Brazil in Black and White (w.t.)*, follows the lives of four students from diverse backgrounds competing to win a coveted spot at the elite University of Brasilia, where – for the first time – 20 percent of the incoming freshmen must qualify as Afro-Brazilian. As the controversial selection process goes into effect, protests and demonstrations break out in Brasilia. The film explores a unique moment in Brazilian history as racial quotas launch an entirely new dialogue about race and identity in this country of 190 million.

Daljit Dhaliwal, the incisive international journalist who has anchored world news broadcasts on the BBC, ITN News and CNN, will return to American public television as the anchor of *WIDE ANGLE*. As anchor, Dhaliwal will introduce each weekly program and conduct post-film interviews with expert guests, providing viewers with context and critical perspective on how global issues connect to American concerns and U.S. foreign policy.

Major funding for *WIDE ANGLE* has been provided by PBS, The William and Flora

Hewlett Foundation, Bernard and Irene Schwartz, Mutual of America Life Insurance Company, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Foundation, The Jacob Burns Foundation, Ford Foundation, Josh and Judy Weston, Rosalind P. Walter, and The Shelley & Donald Rubin Foundation.

WIDE ANGLE is a production of Thirteen/WNET New York for PBS. Stephen Segaller is executive producer. Pamela Hogan is series producer. Andy Halper is senior producer.

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Thirteen/WNET New York is one of the key program providers for public television, bringing such acclaimed series as *Nature*, *Great Performances*, *American Masters*, *Charlie Rose*, *Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*, *Wide Angle*, *Secrets of the Dead*, *NOW With David Brancaccio*, and *Cyberchase* - as well as the work of Bill Moyers - to audiences nationwide. As the flagship public broadcaster in the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut metro area, Thirteen reaches millions of viewers each week, airing the best of American public television along with its own local productions such as The Ethnic Heritage Specials, The Thirteen Walking Tours, *New York Voices*, and *Reel New York*. Thirteen extends the impact of its television productions through educational and community outreach projects - including the Celebration of Teaching and Learning - as well as Web sites and other digital media platforms. More information can be found at: www.thirteen.org.

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