

Rediscovering Alexander Hamilton

PREMIERES April 11, 2011 ON PBS AT 10:00PM (check local listing)

FEATURING: LARRY FLYNT, RUPERT MURDOCH, FORMER GANG MEMBERS,
PEOPLE'S COURT JUDGE MARILYN MILIAN, CARRIBEAN WOMEN IN PRISON,
AND JUSTICE SCALIA, AMONG OTHERS

Rediscovering Alexander Hamilton, by director/producer Michael Pack and writer/host Richard Brookhiser, re-invents the documentary biopic. Following the style of their acclaimed *Rediscovering George Washington* (2002), they take us to the Caribbean islands where Hamilton was born, to Yorktown and Wall Street where he fought and worked, to Harlem and Weehawken, New Jersey, where he lived and died. We hear a Treasury Secretary and a Supreme Court Justice, publishers, pornographers, lawyers, warriors, calypso singers and urban gang members talk about money, rights, news, battle, sex and honor—all the themes that shaped Hamilton's life, led him to his early death, and helped him make modern capitalist America.

As America's first Treasury Secretary, Hamilton saved a debt-ridden emerging nation from banana republic status, saw us through a financial panic as bad as 2008, and foresaw our future as a modern mixed economy. As a practicing lawyer and a signer of the Constitution, he was a pioneer of judicial review. As a lifelong journalist—he reported on a hurricane in the Virgin Islands when he was fifteen—he inspired and wrote the op-eds that became the *Federalist Papers*, and founded the *New York Post*.

He accomplished it all against great odds. He was an illegitimate orphan; an immigrant; a brilliant Ivy Leaguer who dropped out to spend six years in the Army. He made powerful friends--George Washington--and powerful enemies—Thomas Jefferson. He was passionate and passionately forthright—he confessed to the nation's first sex scandal, and provoked the Vice President of the United States to challenge him to a duel.

His legacy is modern America, and its symbol is New York, his adopted city—urban, entrepreneurial, open and diverse.

Host Richard Brookhiser, a journalist for 40 years, is a senior editor of *National Review*. He is the author of ten books including *Founding Father: Rediscovering George Washington* (a main selection of the book-of-the-month club), *Alexander Hamilton: American*, and numerous other books on the founding fathers. His most recent book is *Right Time, Right Place: Coming of Age with William F. Buckley Jr. and the Conservative Movement*. He is currently writing a biography of James Madison.

Producer/Director Michael Pack is president of Manifold Productions, Inc., an award-winning independent film and television company based in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Pack's credits include *God and the Inner City*, *The Fall of Newt Gingrich*, *The Rodney King Incident*, *Campus Culture Wars*, and *America's Political Parties*. His most recent film is *The Last 600 Meters: The Battles of Najaf and Fallujah*, which will soon be released and will air on PBS. Pack served as Senior Vice President for Television Programming at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, where he created the 20-hour current affairs series, *America at a Crossroads*.

Rediscovering Alexander Hamilton is a production of Manifold Productions, Inc., in association with WNET/Thirteen in New York City.

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Rediscovering Alexander Hamilton will be broadcast nationally via PBS on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 10 PM. (Check local listings.) The program will be transmitted in high definition television and standard definition.

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