

FACT SHEET

TITLE: **BEYOND WISEGUYS: ITALIAN AMERICANS & THE MOVIES**
[TV-14] [CC] [Stereo]

LENGTH: 1/57

NOLA CODE: BWAM

CATEGORY: Documentary

OFFERED: Summer 2007, page S4

EXPECTED RELEASE: March 1, 2008

CONTRACT TERMS: Six releases to be completed by February 28, 2010. A release is defined as unlimited use within seven days.

PROGRAM SUPPLIER: Pacific Street Films

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: **BEYOND WISEGUYS: ITALIAN AMERICANS & THE MOVIES** is an interview and clip-driven look at Italian Americans in the movies, from early films through the present. The program is narrated by Paul Borghese and executive produced by John Turturro and features commentary from some of America's greatest Italian-American actors, directors, screenwriters and authors, including: Paul Sorvino, Marisa Tomei, Martin Scorsese, Ben Gazzara, John Turturro, Frank Capra, Jr., Isabella Rosselini, Joe Pesci, and David Chase.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS: A press kit, including a fact sheet and press release will be posted to PBS Connect and to APTonline.org. Color and B&W photography is available via email and will also be posted to APTonline.org. All press kits will be posted to APTonline.org and

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FACT SHEET

PBS Connect approximately three weeks from date of Contract Confirmation notice. If you need materials sooner or have questions, please contact Mike Nadeau at ext. 150.

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BROADCAST HISTORY:

U.S. TV Premiere

RELATED MERCHANDISE:

DVDs are **NOT** available.

Pledge: If you are interested in pledging this program and need assistance with premiums, please contact Kerry Taylor at 617-338-4455, ext. 121.

VIEWER CONTACT:

info@aptonline.org

COMMUNICATIONS CONTACT:

Mike Nadeau
(617) 338-4455, ext. 150
mike_nadeau@APTonline.org

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(617) 338-4455, ext. 150
mike_nadeau@APTonline.org

PRESS RELEASE

BEYOND WISEGUYS Takes a Mature, Intelligent Look at Italian-Americans on the Silver Screen

Hollywood has always had a complex relationship with Italian-American characters. Portrayals have varied from crudely stereotypical to the popular “wiseguy” gangster, and finally to the modern, nuanced characters embodied by acclaimed actors in contemporary films.

Filled with an all-star list of interviewees and clips from unforgettable works, the new American Public Television-distributed special **BEYOND WISEGUYS: ITALIAN AMERICANS & THE MOVIES** takes a comprehensive look at the changing and diverse roles Italian-Americans have played on the silver screen.

Some of America’s greatest Italian-American actors, directors, screenwriters and authors contribute their opinions and thoughts to **BEYOND WISEGUYS**, including Isabella Rossellini, Marisa Tomei, Susan Sarandon, Paul Sorvino, Chazz Palminteri, Dominic Chianese, Joe Pesci, Stanley Tucci, Martin Scorsese, Nicholas Pileggi, and David Chase.

Clips from classic movies illustrate the varied history of Italian-Americans in films.

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Early footage shows the stereotypical images that helped shape negative public opinion of Italian-Americans, and clips from films like *Scarface*, *Goodfellas*, *Do the Right Thing* and *The Godfather* show how the violent, “wiseguy” image developed and then evolved into the nuanced portrait seen today.

Executive produced by acclaimed actor, director and screenwriter John Turturro, **BEYOND WISEGUYS: ITALIAN AMERICANS & THE MOVIES**, airing on public television stations nationwide beginning March 1, 2008, is a rich, insightful examination of the Italian-American experience in Hollywood.

BEYOND WISEGUYS: ITALIAN AMERICANS & THE MOVIES, executive produced by Rosanne DeLuca Braun and John Turturro and produced by Steven Fischler and Joel Sucher was acquired from Pacific Street Productions by American Public Television for syndication to public television stations nationwide.

About American Public Television

For 46 years, American Public Television (APT) has been a prime source of programming for the nation's public television stations. APT distributes more than 300 new program titles per year and has 10,000 hours of programming in its library. It is responsible for many public television milestones including the first HD series and the 2006 launch of the Create channel featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming. APT is known for its leadership in identifying innovative, worthwhile and viewer-friendly programming. It has established a tradition of providing public television stations with program choices that strengthen and customize their schedules, such as *Winged Migration*, *Battlefield Britain*, *Globe Trekker*, *Rick Steves' Europe*, *Great Museums*, *Jacques Pépin: Fast Food My Way*, *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated*, *Broadway: The Golden Age*, *Lidia's Family Table*, *California Dreamin' – The Songs of The Mamas & the Papas*, *Rosemary and Thyme*, *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home*, *The Big Comfy Couch*, *Monarchy With David Starkey*, and other prominent documentaries, dramatic series, how-to programs and classic movies. Press should contact Mike Nadeau at 617-338-4455 ext. 150 or email Mike_Nadeau@APTonline.org. For more information about APT's programs and services, visit APTonline.org.

9/11/2007