

Sarah Bichsel  
(617) 338-4455, ext. 150  
Sarah\_Bichsel@APTonline.org

## **RISING FROM THE RAILS: THE STORY OF THE PULLMAN PORTER** **Honors African-American Trailblazers**

Distributed by American Public Television and releasing on public television stations nationwide beginning January 1, 2018, **RISING FROM THE RAILS: THE STORY OF THE PULLMAN PORTER** reveals the little-known history of the African American men hired to work on railroad cars in the late 1860s.

Known as Pullman Porters, they were brought aboard to serve the wealthy white passengers during the “Golden Age of Railroad Travel,” but as the documentary shows, they were so much more than paid attendants. Traveling across the country, they served as social ambassadors, carrying labor organization skills, elements of black culture such as jazz and blues, and civil rights ideals throughout the United States. The Pullman Porters built the foundations of a new black social class and inspired future leaders, including their own descendants, to develop independent businesses.

Highlights of the documentary include interviews with a former porter who served for 22 years and the family members of porters now deceased. Larry Tye, the author of the best-selling book upon which the film is based, and Dr. Juliet Walker, an expert in black economic history at the University of Texas, offer their insights as well.

Enriching and inspiring, this hour-long documentary shines a light on a critical but seldom discussed part of African American history. **RISING FROM THE RAILS: THE STORY OF THE PULLMAN PORTER** was acquired by American Public Television from AMS Pictures for syndication to public television stations nationwide.

### **About APT:**

[American Public Television](#) (APT) is the leading syndicator of high-quality, top-rated programming to the nation's public television stations. For more than 10 years, APT has annually distributed one-third or more of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles in the U.S. Founded in 1961, among its 250 new program titles per year, APT

programs include prominent documentaries, performance, news and current affairs programs, dramas, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies. *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated, Cook's Country, AfroPoP, Rick Steves' Europe, Front and Center, Doc Martin, Nightly Business Report, Midsomer Murders, A Place to Call Home, Lidia's Kitchen, Globe Trekker, Simply Ming, and P. Allen Smith's Garden Home* are a sampling of APT's programs, considered some of the most popular on public television. APT licenses programs internationally through its [APT Worldwide](#) service. Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, [Create@TV](#) — featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming — is distributed by American Public Television. APT also distributes [WORLD](#)<sup>™</sup>, public television's premier news, science and documentary channel. To find out more about APT's programs and services, visit [APTonline.org](#).

###

Sarah Bichsel  
(617) 338-4455, ext. 150  
Sarah\_Bichsel@APTonline.org

## **THE ART DETECTIVES Take on the Case of Restoring Britain's Hidden Artworks**

Within the British national archive there sit at least 40,000 paintings not attributed to any particular artist. Distributed by American Public Television and releasing on public television stations nationwide beginning January 1, 2018, **THE ART DETECTIVES** follows noted art dealer and historian Dr. Bendor Grosvenor (*Fake or Fortune?*) as he tracks down these lost and hidden treasures. With the help of fellow art historian Jacky Klein, he learns the history of each piece and restores the work for public display.

In this three-part series, Klein and Grosvenor travel to museums across the British Isles, discovering works with fascinating histories attached. At Swansea museum in Wales, they uncover a valuable painting that will not only become a star of the collection but also change the course of art history. In Aberdeenshire, Scotland, the Haddo House may hold clues to the nation's greatest lost treasure, while the nearby Montrose Museum holds a painting in desperate need of restoration. Concluding in Belfast, the team investigates a series of works that have long been considered cheap imitations of Breughel the Younger but may actually have enormous value.

Combining globe-trotting mystery and detailed history, **THE ART DETECTIVES** was acquired by American Public Television from DCD Rights Limited for syndication to public television stations nationwide.

### **About APT:**

[American Public Television](#) (APT) is the leading syndicator of high-quality, top-rated programming to the nation's public television stations. For more than 10 years, APT has annually distributed one-third or more of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles in the U.S. Founded in 1961, among its 250 new program titles per year, APT programs include prominent documentaries, performance, news and current affairs programs, dramas, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies. *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated*, *Cook's Country*, *AfroPoP*, *Rick Steves' Europe*, *Front and Center*, *Doc Martin*, *Nightly Business Report*, *Midsomer Murders*, *A Place to Call Home*, *Lidia's Kitchen*, *Globe Trekker*, *Simply Ming*, and *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home* are a sampling of APT's programs, considered some of the most popular on public television. APT licenses programs internationally through its [APT Worldwide](#) service. Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, [Create@TV](#) — featuring the best of public television's lifestyle

programming — is distributed by American Public Television. APT also distributes [WORLD™](#), public television's premier news, science and documentary channel. To find out more about APT's programs and services, visit [APTonline.org](#).

###

