



## POV Films Receive Two Primetime Emmy® Award Nominations

“The Betrayal (Nerakhoon)” and “Patti Smith: Dream of Life” Nominated  
For Exceptional Merit in Nonfiction Filmmaking.

New York, NY – July 8, 2010 – **POV (Point of View)**, public television's premier showcase for independent documentaries, has received two nominations in the 62nd Primetime Emmy® Awards, it was announced July 8 by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. POV's **The Betrayal (Nerakhoon)** and **Patti Smith: Dream of Life**, which both premiered on PBS in 2009, have been nominated for Exceptional Merit in Nonfiction Filmmaking. PBS received 32 Primetime Emmy nominations.

“These two films were real labors of love for both the filmmakers and subjects,” said POV Executive Director Simon Kilmurry. “**The Betrayal** and **Patti Smith: Dream of Life** exemplify the finest work being done by documentary filmmakers today. These documentaries are beautifully filmed and meticulously crafted, and it is a thrill to have them recognized by the Academy.”

The 62nd Primetime Emmy Awards, hosted by Jimmy Fallon, will air live from the NOKIA Theater in Los Angeles on Sunday, Aug. 29 at 8 p.m. ET on NBC.

Now in its 23rd season on PBS, POV has won 22 Emmy Awards, including a 2007 Special News & Documentary Emmy for Excellence in Television Documentary Filmmaking, and earned 50 previous Emmy nominations. POV has garnered many other coveted industry awards and honors, including 12 George Foster Peabody Awards, nine duPont-Columbia Broadcast Journalism Awards, four Independent Spirit Awards, three Academy Awards®, the Prix Italia, the Webby and the International Documentary Association IDA Award for Best Continuing Series. POV airs Tuesdays at 10 p.m. on PBS from June – September, and features primetime specials during the year. (Check local listings.)

### About the films:

**The Betrayal (Nerakhoon)** by Ellen Kuras and Thavisouk Phrasavath  
Pandinlao Films, LLC in Association with American Documentary | POV

Nominees: Producer: Ellen Kuras and Flora Fernandez-Marengo; Executive Producers: Simon Kilmurry and Cara Mertes

Filmed over 23 years, **The Betrayal** is the Academy Award®-nominated directorial debut of renowned cinematographer Ellen Kuras in a unique collaboration with the film's subject and co-director, Thavisouk (“Thavi”) Phrasavath. After the U.S. government waged a secret war in Laos during the Vietnam War, Thavi's father and thousands of other Laotians who had fought alongside American forces were abandoned and left to face imprisonment or execution. Hoping to find safety, Thavi's family made a harrowing escape to America, where they discovered a different kind of war. Weaving ancient prophecy with personal testimony and stunning imagery, **The Betrayal** is a story of survival and the resilient bonds of family. *A Diverse Voices Project co-production with support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting); funded in part by the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM). An Official Selection of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival.*

**Patti Smith: Dream of Life** by Steven Sebring

A Production of Clean Socks and Thirteen for WNET.ORG in association with American Documentary | POV

Nominees: Producer: Steven Sebring; Executive Producers: Steven Sebring, Margaret Smilow and

Simon Kilmurry

Shot over 11 years by renowned fashion photographer Steven Sebring, **Patti Smith: Dream of Life** is an intimate portrait of the legendary rocker, poet and artist. Following Smith's personal reflections over a decade, the film explores her many art forms and the friends and poets who inspired her — William Burroughs, Allen Ginsberg, Bob Dylan, Robert Mapplethorpe and Michael Stipe. She emerges as a crucial, contemporary link between the Beats, punks and today's music. Shot in lush, dark tones, featuring rare performance clips and narrated by the artist herself, **Patti Smith: Dream of Life** is an impressionistic journal of a multi-faceted artist that underscores her unique place in American culture. *Winner of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival Excellence in Cinematography Award: Documentary.*

**ABOUT POV:**



Produced by American Documentary, Inc. and now in its 23rd season on PBS, the award-winning POV series is the longest-running showcase on American television to feature the work of today's best independent documentary filmmakers. Airing June through September, with primetime specials during the year, POV has brought more than 300 acclaimed documentaries to millions nationwide and has a Webby Award-winning online series, *POV's Borders*. Since 1988, POV has pioneered the art of presentation and outreach using independent nonfiction media to build new communities in conversation about today's most pressing social issues. More information is available at [www.pbs.org/pov](http://www.pbs.org/pov).

Major funding for POV is provided by PBS, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, The Educational Foundation of America, New York State Council on the Arts, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, The Fledgling Fund, FACT and public television viewers. Funding for POV's *Diverse Voices Project* is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Special support provided by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. POV is presented by a consortium of public television stations, including KCET Los Angeles, WGBH Boston and THIRTEEN in association with WNET.ORG.

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**CONTACT:**

**Cathy Fisher: 212-989-7425, [cfisher@pov.org](mailto:cfisher@pov.org)** for interviews with the filmmakers and more information about the issues explored in their films. Visit [www.pbs.org/pov](http://www.pbs.org/pov), POV's award-winning website, featuring a pressroom, [www.pbs.org/pov/pressroom](http://www.pbs.org/pov/pressroom) with news releases, artwork, transcripts, critical acclaim and more information.