



**Critical Acclaim For
P.O.V.'s "OMAR & PETE"**
By Tod Lending

"A vivid, sobering and sympathetic portrait of heavily stacked odds in action. . . .
Sharply assembled vérité package packs considerable cumulative punch."
- **Dennis Harvey, *Variety***

"A hauntingly resonant profile of two convicts re-entering society after lifelong stints in prison.
The unprecedented cooperation from the Maryland Department of Corrections . . .
allows the filmmaker to obtain a degree of intimacy and raw power not often seen . . ."
- **Jimmie Briggs, *New York Amsterdam News***

"A fine documentary."
- **Maureen Ryan, *Chicago Tribune***

"Those of us who complain there's nothing worth watching . . . should tune in and eyeball
Omar & Pete. . . . By the end of the documentary, both men have all but shattered our instincts to
stereotype and depersonalize such offenders. They provide a rarely seen, but necessary,
three-dimensional face to a significant prison population."
- **Rubén Rosario, *St. Paul Pioneer Press***

"You root for Omar as he talks about making it, and feel disappointed the occasions he fails to."
- **Roger Catlin, *The Hartford Courant***

"Not only is truth sometimes stranger than fiction, it can also be more dramatic."
- **Aaron Barnhart, *Kansas City Star***

"The PBS series 'P.O.V.' continues its winning streak tonight with *Omar & Pete*. . . .
[Tod] Lending magnificently captures the mundane but monumental struggle men like Omar face.
[The prison system's] subjects may be hidden from many citizens, but their problems
are deservedly in your face."
- **Cliff Vaughn, *Ethicsdaily.com***