



**R EISENBERG PRESENTS, INC.**

**Regina Eisenberg**

**regina@reisenbergpresents.com ·510.550.1706**

June 8, 2009

*"There will always be a place for us somewhere, somehow, as long as we see to it that working people fight for everything they have, everything they hope to get, for dignity, equality, democracy, to oppose war and to bring to the world a better life."*

&

*"We went out as wharf rats but we came back as the lord of the docks."*  
- Harry Bridges



**From Wharf Rats to Lord of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges**

**Producers: Ian Ruskin and Suzanne Thompson, The Harry Bridges Project**

**Director: Academy Award©-winning director and cinematographer Haskell Wexler**

**Distributor: NETA**

**NOLA Code: HBRG 0K1 (SD Base)**

**SD Feed: Sunday, June 21, 2009 @ 1900-2030 ET/SD 07**

**Second Feed in Time for Labor Day Schedules. Date TBA**

**\*Feed-for-Record\***

**Broadcast Rights: Unlimited/3 Yrs (6/21/09-6/20/12)**

**Non-Commercial Cable: Yes**

**VOD Rights: 1 Year**

**School Record: 1 Year**

**TV-G**

***Recommended for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bloody Thursday (July 5<sup>th</sup>) and/or Labor Day Weekend***

**A DVD of the 90-Minute Program Is in the Mail**

***"He's incredible, you'd swear you were seeing and hearing Harry Bridges."***

**- (Grif Fariello, San Francisco Chronicle, referring to Ian Ruskin)**

Dear colleague:

NETA is proud to present *From Wharf Rats to Lord of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges*, a multi-media one-act play performed before a packed house of 1,000 longshore workers. Directed by Haskell Wexler and starring Ian Ruskin, this 90-minute special is an intimate exploration of the life and times of Harry Bridges replete with the high drama and biting humor that ran through his life—as well as uncanny parallels to many of our current concerns.

In **From Wharf Rats to Lord of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges**, viewers hear Bridges' own words – from speeches, private letters and personal recordings – brilliantly brought to life by Ian Ruskin, learning about his life—his Australian childhood, Bloody Thursday, San Francisco's 1934 3-day General Strike, and the forming of the ILWU. Audiences are privy to the gossip and tumult that surrounded him, and to Harry's biting humor and irony as he faced marriages and divorces, his many hearings and trials, and the relentless controversy of a union steeped in struggle. We cannot help but be struck by how Bridges faced questions mirroring those we are grappling with today—globalization, racism, wars on terrorism, surveillance and privacy, and the widening gap between rich and poor.

**From Wharf Rats to Lord of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges** includes appearances by Elliott Gould, Edward Asner and members of ILWU Local 13, and music by Jackson Browne, Arlo Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Tim Reynolds, Ciro Hurtado, David Mora and the world premiere of Woody Guthrie's song about Harry, sung by his granddaughter, Sarah Lee Guthrie. It also contains rare labor songs and archival photos and letters, conferring an exciting exploration of 50 years of American history that eerily echo 21<sup>st</sup> Century problems.

Donna Hardwick, On and On PR and Suzanne Thompson, The Harry Bridges Project, will secure interviews in press and on radio. The producers have arranged for support and promotion from the AFL-CIO through <http://blog.aflcio.org/> and will work with union locals to promote the program in all areas that air it.

**From Wharf Rats to Lord of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges** is produced by Ian Ruskin and Suzanne Thompson (The Harry Bridges Project), and Ian portrays Harry Bridges in the performance. It is directed by Academy Award-Winning Haskell Wexler. NETA is the distributor.

The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, ILWU Coast Labor Relations Committee, The Port of Long Beach, The Port of Los Angeles, The California Teachers Association, Councilwoman Janice Hahn, City of Los Angeles, 15<sup>th</sup> District, Councilman Bill Rosendahl, City of Los Angeles, 11<sup>th</sup> District, Port of Seattle, Port of Oakland, Port of San Francisco, Aris Anagnos, Whitey Kelm, Jack Stryker, ILWU Canada Locals 500 and 502,

ILWU Local 13, The ILWU Credit Union, The Harry Bridges Institute, The Durfee Foundation, The Diane Middleton Foundation, Cindy Kobetich and Barbara Harold in memory of their father Harry Minaker, Joe and Joan Amalfitano, The Arian Family, Erska L. Barnett, Robert Freedman, John Gibson, Councilwoman Janice Hahn, City of Los Angeles, 15th District, Los Angeles College Faculty Guild, ILWU Locals 4, 46, 92 and 142, Paula and Sidney Machtinger, Maritime Trades Department of Southern California, Maritime Union of Australia, Suzy and Wally Marks, The International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots, Michael McLavy, The Mora Family in memory of Robert Workman, Nancy O'Connor, Nancy L. Powell and the Powell Family Trust, Reel Work May Day Labor Film Festival, Betty W. and Stanley K. Sheinbaum, Norman and Patricia Tuck, ILWU Locals 5,10,19,21,24, 27,40,47,51, 91, 94, 200, 523, ILWU Canada Locals 505, 514, 517, IBU Columbia River, HBI Columbia River Committee, ILWU Southern California Pensioners Group, ILWU Longview Pension Group, Seattle Pensioners' Club, ILWU Auxiliary 5, Olympia Longshoremen's Beneficial Association, The ILWU International.

Local underwriting *is* permitted.

Please contact me if you have questions. I'll be in touch with you about your carriage plans during the next months. A fact sheet follows.

Very truly yours,  
Regina  
Regina Eisenberg

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***2340 Powell Street, Suite 333, Emeryville, CA 94608***

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**fact sheet**

**From Wharf Rats to Lord of the Docks: The Life and Times of Harry Bridges**

**Program Summary:**

A multi-media one-act play performed before a packed house of 1,000 longshore workers. Directed by Haskell Wexler and starring Ian Ruskin, this 90-minute special is an intimate exploration of the life and times of Harry Bridges replete with the high drama and biting humor that ran through his life—as well as uncanny parallels to many of our current concerns.

**Length:**

1/90

**Rights:**

Broadcast: Unlimited/3 Years  
June 21, 2009-June 20, 2012

VOD: 1 Year

Non-Commercial Cable: Yes

School Record: 1 Year

**Video:**

SD Base

**NOLA Code:**

**HBRG OK1 (SD Base)**

**SD Feed:**

**Sunday, June 21, 2009 @ 1900-2030 ET/SD 07  
2<sup>nd</sup> Feed in Time for Labor Day. Date TBA.**

\*Feed-for-Record\*

**Audio/Visual:**

Stereo



**SAP:**

DVI

**V-Chip Rating:**

TV-G

**Flags:**

Occasional use of "damn" & "hell".

**Producers:**

Ian Ruskin and Suzanne Thompson  
The Harry Bridges Project

**Director:**

Academy Award®-winning director and cinematographer Haskell Wexler

**Distributor:**

NETA

**Underwriters:**

The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, ILWU Coast Labor Relations Committee, The Port of Long Beach, The Port of Los Angeles, The California Teachers Association, Councilwoman Janice Hahn, City of Los Angeles, 15<sup>th</sup> District, Councilman Bill Rosendahl, City of Los Angeles, 11<sup>th</sup> District, Port of Seattle, Port of Oakland, Port of San Francisco, Aris Anagnos, Whitey Kelm, Jack Stryker, ILWU Canada Locals 500 and 502, ILWU Local 13, The ILWU Credit Union, The Harry Bridges Institute, The Durfee Foundation, The Diane Middleton Foundation, Cindy Kobetich and Barbara Harold in memory of their father Harry Minaker, Joe and Joan Amalfitano, The Arian Family, Erska L. Barnett, Robert Freedman, John Gibson, Councilwoman Janice Hahn, City of Los Angeles, 15th District, Los Angeles College Faculty Guild, ILWU Locals 4, 46, 92 and 142, Paula and Sidney Machtinger, Maritime Trades Department of Southern California, Maritime Union of Australia, Suzy and Wally Marks, The International Organization of Masters, Mates & Pilots, Michael McLavy, The Mora Family in memory of Robert Workman, Nancy O'Connor, Nancy L. Powell and the Powell Family Trust, Reel Work May Day Labor Film Festival, Betty W. and Stanley K. Sheinbaum, Norman and Patricia Tuck, ILWU Locals 5,10,19,21,24, 27,40,47,51, 91, 94, 200, 523, ILWU Canada Locals 505, 514, 517, IBU Columbia River, HBI Columbia River Committee, ILWU Southern California Pensioners Group, ILWU Longview Pension Group, Seattle Pensioners' Club, ILWU Auxiliary 5, Olympia Longshoremen's Beneficial Association, The ILWU International.

**Local Underwriting:**

Local underwriting is permitted.

**Companion Products:**

DVD (Two DVD set)

Soundtrack

Available at: [www.theharrybridgesproject.org](http://www.theharrybridgesproject.org)

**To View Entire Program On-Line:**

[www.stationrelations.com](http://www.stationrelations.com)

[www.reisenbergpresents.com](http://www.reisenbergpresents.com)

Clips & Pics Section

ID: programmer. Password: vuprogram

**Scheduling Suggestion:**

We hope that you will consider for your themed program slots and your channels dedicated to theater & drama, arts & culture, social issues, and biographies.

**National Promotion & Outreach:**

In addition to Press and Radio, Organizations that will help promote and publicize airings and provide Outreach include:

The AFL-CIO (National and State Federations), hundreds of union locals, the National Education Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Center for Collaborative Solutions, Labor History Associations, the California Teachers Association, and universities, colleges, grass-roots organizations and internet newspapers nationwide.

**Upcoming Live 2009 Performances:**

UFCW Local 5 Stewards Conference, San Jose, CA July 28th

Connecticut Education Association Leadership Conference, Mohegan Sun Resort, CT, August 5th at 9 AM

Nevada Education Association Summer Conference, University of Nevada, Reno, August 6th at 1 PM

York College of Pennsylvania, date TBA

**Websites:**

[www.theharrybridgesproject.org](http://www.theharrybridgesproject.org)

[www.netaonline.com](http://www.netaonline.com)

[www.stationrelations.com](http://www.stationrelations.com) (*Note: this redirects to:*)

[www.reisenbergpresents.com](http://www.reisenbergpresents.com)

**Contacts:**

**Station Relations & DVD Screener**

Regina Eisenberg

**R EISENBERG PRESENTS, INC.**

[regina@reisenbergpresents.com](mailto:regina@reisenbergpresents.com)

510.550.1706

**Publicity & PR:**

Suzanne Thompson

[sthompson007@ca.rr.com](mailto:sthompson007@ca.rr.com)

310-570-5419

Donna Hardwick

On and On PR

[dhardwick@onandonpr.com](mailto:dhardwick@onandonpr.com)

310.399.0984

**Outreach & Viewer Questions & Comments:**

Ian Ruskin  
The Harry Bridges Project  
PO Box 662018  
Los Angeles, CA90068  
[ianruskin@theharrybridgesproject.org](mailto:ianruskin@theharrybridgesproject.org)

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