

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE™

Eleanor Roosevelt
January 16, 2006 at 9pm
pbs.org/americanexperience

"elegant and aching" Los Angeles Times

"acutely human portrait" Newsday

"vivid portrait.....a gem" US Weekly

For more than thirty years, she was the most powerful woman in America. Niece of one president and wife of another, Eleanor Roosevelt was at the center of much of last century's history. A charismatic woman of charm and of contradictions, aristocratic in voice and manner, she was also "tough as nails," says historian Geoffrey Ward. "In fact, she was one of the best politicians of the twentieth century."

On Monday, January 16, 2006 at 9pm, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE reprises *Eleanor Roosevelt*, a provocative portrait of the woman who was called "the best of the Roosevelts." Directed and written by Sue Williams (*Mary Pickford*), and produced by Kathryn Dietz (*Mary Pickford*) and Sue Williams, the two-and-a-half-hour special is a film by Ambrica Productions for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. Alfre Woodard narrates.

Few people were neutral about her. To admirers, she was a woman of immense moral and physical courage. Through her newspaper columns, radio broadcasts, and public appearances, she seemed to be a familiar friend. Her detractors saw her as a dangerous meddler, a dilettante, a traitor to her class, and political cartoonists had a field day with her buck teeth and weak-chinned profile. Some criticized her leftist leanings and her "overreaching" role as First Lady; others derided her as a political naïf. Determined to live life on her own terms, Eleanor Roosevelt traveled far from her sheltered beginnings to become one of America's most admired figures.

Visit pbs.org/amex/eleanor for program transcripts and special features such as a Roosevelt family tree, excerpts from Eleanor Roosevelt's FBI file, syndicated columns written by her, and video footage of Eleanor Roosevelt with President John F. Kennedy.

125 Western Avenue • Boston, Massachusetts 02134 • 617.300.5950 • pbs.org/americanexperience



Credits

A film by Ambrica Productions, Inc. for AMERICAN EXPERIENCE
Written and directed by Sue Williams
Produced by Kathryn Dietz and Sue Williams
Executive producer for Eleanor Roosevelt is Judith Vecchione
Senior creative consultant: Geoffrey C. Ward
Editor: Howard Sharp
Music: Tom Phillips
Narrator: Alfre Woodard

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AMERICAN EXPERIENCE is a production of WGBH Boston.
Sharon Grimberg, series producer
Mark Samels, executive producer

ACCESSIBILITY

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE is closed captioned for deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers, and described for people who are blind or visually impaired by the Media Access Group at WGBH. The descriptive narration is available on the SAP channel of stereo TVs and VCRs.

ABOUT AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, television's most-watched history series, is a leading producer of historical documentaries, related Web sites, and DVDs. The pioneer of quality historical programming for public television audiences, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE has won every prestigious broadcast award and enjoys consistent widespread support from television critics and viewers alike.

For more information about AMERICAN EXPERIENCE and Eleanor Roosevelt, visit the World Wide Web:
pbs.org/americanexperience.

ABOUT WGBH BOSTON

WGBH Boston is America's preeminent public broadcasting producer. More than one-third of PBS's prime-time lineup and companion Web content as well as many public radio favorites are produced by WGBH. The station also is a

pioneer in educational multimedia and in access technologies for people with disabilities. For more information visit wgbh.org.

Download press materials and images for Eleanor Roosevelt and other AMERICAN EXPERIENCE programs at pbs.org/pressroom and pressroom.wgbh.org.

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