



**SAVING THE *TITANIC*,  
The Remarkable Untold Story of the Men Who Tried to Save the Ship,  
Premieres Sunday, April 1, 2012 at 10:00 p.m. ([check local listings](#)) on PBS**



*Titanic*

Credit: Courtesy of Tile Films Ltd.

She was the Pride of the British Empire and a leading example of state-of-the art engineering in a time of groundbreaking scientific and technological innovations on a global scale. Yet the RMS *Titanic* sank less than three hours after striking an iceberg on April 14, 1912. Everyone knows about the many deaths in the icy waters, the fates of the rich and famous on the ship's maiden voyage and the dramas that played out in the *Titanic*'s last hours. What is less known is how a team of shipbuilders and engineers attempted to save the stricken vessel. One hundred years after the sinking of the vessel considered unsinkable, **SAVING THE *TITANIC*** is the untold story of self-sacrifice and dignity of the ship's engineers, stokers and firemen in the face of impending death. With an ensemble cast in the roles of the valiant men below deck, **SAVING THE *TITANIC* premieres on Sunday, April 1 at 10:00 p.m. ET with encore presentations on Friday, April 6 at 10:30 p.m. ET, Tuesday, April 10 at 9:00 p.m. ET, and Saturday, April 14 at 9:00 p.m. ET ([check local listings](#)) on PBS.**

Additional PBS programs scheduled in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the *Titanic* disaster include **THE *TITANIC* WITH LEN GOODMAN** (April 10) and **NOVA "Why Ships Sink"** (April 18).

Seeking to answer the question of what happened in the engine and boiler rooms after the collision, **SAVING THE *TITANIC*** tells the story of the disaster from below deck, with the action taking place between the time the crew embarked from Southampton until the eventual sinking of the ship. Based upon eyewitness accounts, this is the remarkable story of nine central characters from the engineering crew as they work among the huge, coal-fired furnaces heating the boilers and massive dynamos whirring to satisfy the ship's demand for electricity. These nine men — among them 18-year-old electrical engineer Albert Ervine (Andrew Simpson) from Belfast and Chief Engineer Joseph Bell (David Wilmot) — fought courageously to hold back the power of the sea and keep the power systems running, even when they learned that all was lost. Most of these men died but their brave actions saved many lives.

— more —



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Vividly bringing to life the valiant struggle and last desperate hours of those who tried to save her, **SAVING THE *TITANIC*** features computer-generated imagery and high-end special effects. The program features an ensemble cast playing the key roles, including David Wilmot, Ciaran McMenamin, Owen McDonnell, Jonathan Byrne, Andrew Simpson, Hugh O'Connor, Douglas Rankine, Paul Kennedy, Stephen Hogan, Conor MacNeill, and Chris Newman.

**SAVING THE *TITANIC*** is a co-production of Tile Films Ltd. in Ireland and Gebrueder Beetz Filmproduktion in Germany produced in association with RTÉ, Broadcasting Authority of Ireland - Sound and Vision Broadcasting Funding Scheme, Bord Scannán na hÉireann/the Irish Film Board, Windmill Lane Pictures Ltd., Section 481 - Ireland's Film Investment Scheme, AETN / History UK, ZDF, and ZDF Enterprises. Producer is Stephen Rooke. Co-Producer is Reinhardt Beetz. Creative Producer is Keith Farrell. Writers are Colin Herber-Percy & Lyall Watson. Director is Maurice Sweeney. Supervising Producer is Stephanie Carter. Production Assistant is Rachel Hartman. WNET Executive-in-Charge is Stephen Segaller.

### About PBS

[PBS](#), with its nearly 360 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches nearly 123 million people through television and more than 21 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front-row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS' broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS' premier children's TV programming and its website, [pbskids.org](#), are parents' and teachers' most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at [pbs.org](#), one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or through our apps for mobile devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](#) or by following [PBS Pressroom on Twitter](#).

### About WNET

New York's WNET is America's flagship public media outlet, bringing quality arts, education and public affairs programming to over 5 million viewers each week. The parent company of public television stations [THIRTEEN](#) and [WLIW21](#) and operator of [NJTV](#), WNET produces and presents such acclaimed PBS series as [Nature](#), [Great Performances](#), [American Masters](#), [Need to Know](#), [Charlie Rose](#) and a range of documentaries, children's programs, and local news and cultural offerings available on air and online. Pioneers in educational programming, WNET has created such groundbreaking series as [Get the Math](#), [Noah Comprehend](#) and [Cyberchase](#) and provides tools for educators that bring compelling content to life in the classroom and at home. WNET highlights the tri-state's unique culture and diverse communities through [NYC-ARTS](#), [Reel 13](#), [NJ Today](#) and the new online newsmagazine [MetroFocus](#).

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