



A NEW COLOR: THE ART OF BEING EDYTHE BOONE
To Premiere on AMERICA REFRAMED
A film by Marlene “Mo” Morris

Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 8 p.m. on WORLD Channel

“Art and activism often go hand in hand, yet, even among artists whose work is oriented toward social justice, it’s rare to find someone whose creativity and community-building work are as naturally entwined as Berkeley’s Edythe Boone.” –
Jessica Zack, *San Francisco Chronicle*

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January 7, 2017 – (New York, NY) – Marlene “Mo” Morris’ debut documentary feature **A NEW COLOR: THE ART OF BEING EDYTHE BOONE** will have its U.S. television premiere **Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 8 p.m.** on WORLD Channel ([check local listings](#)), as part of the new season of public media’s **AMERICA REFRAMED**. The documentary series is dedicated to highlighting intimate stories by emerging and veteran filmmakers who are chronicling an ever-changing America. The broadcast will be followed by free streaming for audiences across the U.S. at www.worldchannel.org/americareframed starting on February 15th.

A New Color focuses on the life and work of muralist, activist and educator, Edythe (Edy) Boone, a self-taught artist from East Harlem who moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in search of a safe environment for her children. Filmed over five years, Morris follows Boone, the spirited and captivating septuagenarian who became an artist/activist simply because empowering and building community is “the right thing to do.” Concerned about the exceedingly high number of senseless deaths amongst young Black men in the U.S., Boone uses these injustices as part of the narrative in her murals.

When Boone was a little girl, she dreamt of creating a new color—one the world has never before seen. She was inspired by her grandmother, a seamstress, whose private quarters resembled an artist’s studio with fabric, patterns and colors. Boone’s muse and first role model— her grandmother—could create anything. As a



child, Boone lived her first six years with an orthodox Jewish family who nurtured her intellectual curiosity and influenced her respect for all cultures. Her art and social practice was also informed by the Black Power and Civil Rights movements, periods which made an impact on her paintings – both on canvas and in public space. She explores representations of African Americans to convey a complex inner world and humanity, while confronting racial stereotypes and social inequities. Boone lived for many years in East Harlem’s James Weldon Johnson public housing where she made her first murals and organized the tenants. After confronting the New York City Housing Authority with the tenants’ complaints, the city agency provided her with paint. The movement she started led to new murals in 25 public buildings; a result she believed could foster trust and community building.

Perhaps best known for her work on the iconic San Francisco Women’s Building mural, “Maestrapeace,” (1995) Boone was one of the seven original muralists. The film captures these artists mentoring a new generation of artists and restoring the mural alongside them. Boone believes that art is for everyone and that collaborative artmaking can be a transformative experience for children and adults of all ages. Like many artists, she enjoys getting immersed in the creation of her personal work. Driven by the practice of engaging others through public art and mural making, she tackles difficult issues, such as the deaths of young Black males that include Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Sean Bell, Kenny Johnson, and her nephew, Eric Garner. Ultimately, Boone’s mission is to empower individuals and transform communities through art and activism.

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Media Contact

Journalists and reviewers may contact Neyda Martinez at **917 656 7846** or via email at neyda@amdoc.org for interviews and special requests.

Film Credits

Director/Producer:	Marlene “Mo” Morris
Editor:	Maureen Gosling
Cinematographer:	Peggy Peralta
Executive Producer:	Jed Riffe



About AMERICA REFRAMED

AMERICA REFRAMED is a co-production of the WORLD Channel and American Documentary, Inc.

AMERICA REFRAMED curates a diverse selection of films highlighting innovative and artistic approaches to storytelling from emerging and veteran filmmakers alike. Viewers will be immersed in personal stories from the streets of towns big and small to the exurbs and country roads that span the spectrum of American life. The documentaries invite audiences to reflect on topics as varied as culture, healthcare, politics, gun violence, religion and more.

An award-winning documentary series, AMERICA REFRAMED is the recipient of a Christopher, a GRACIE, and several Telly and Cine Golden Eagle Awards, as well as nominations for an EMMY, Independent Documentary Association, and Imagen Award.

AMERICA REFRAMED Series Credits

Executive Producers: Justine Nagan, Chris Hastings, Chris White
Series Producer: Carmen L. Vicencio

AMERICA REFRAMED can be accessed online via
<http://worldchannel.org/programs/america-reframed/>
and,
<https://www.facebook.com/WorldChannel>
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AMERICA REFRAMED Co-Producers

American Documentary, Inc. (AmDoc) is a multimedia arts organization dedicated to creating, identifying and presenting contemporary stories that express opinions and perspectives rarely featured in mainstream media outlets. AmDoc is a catalyst for public culture, developing collaborative strategic engagement activities around socially relevant content on television, online and in community settings. These activities are designed to trigger action, from dialogue and feedback to educational opportunities and



community participation. AmDoc is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. For more information, visit: www.amdoc.org

The WORLD Channel delivers the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming, including original content by and about diverse communities, to U.S. audiences through local public television stations and streaming online at worldchannel.org. WORLD reached 35.8 million unique viewers 18+ last year (55% adults 18-49) and over-indexes in key diversity demographics. Online, the WORLD Channel expands on broadcast topics and fuels dialogue across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction.

WORLD is programmed by WGBH/Boston, in partnership with American Public Television and WNET/New York, and in association with PBS and National Educational Telecommunications Association. Funding for the WORLD Channel is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and The Kendeda Fund. Additional support for America ReFramed is provided by The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The Wyncote Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

For more information about The WORLD Channel, visit www.worldchannel.org

