

## *Documentaries by Tom Spain:*

AMERICA'S FIRST RIVER: Bill Moyers on The Hudson. A two hour lyrical portrait of the Hudson River and its role in the early awakening of America's environmental consciousness. Broadcast on PBS April 23, 2002

SATURDAYS AT REUBEN'S Feature documentary about a group old-time New York magicians who have been meeting in the backroom of a delicatessen on 38th St since the 1940's.

AMERICA IN THE FORTIES A Three-Hour PBS Signature Special- a rich sampling of the details of life in the 1940s, featuring a quirky, yet brilliant cast of characters who remember those moments as if they happened last night. Television's first Non Fiction Musical. Hosted by Charles Durning.

YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES 1995 A National Geographic film about the rediscovery of some of the great Bronx Doo-Wopp singers from the 1950's.

IF YOU KNEW SOUSA 1993 90 minute documentary about John Philip Sousa and his music produced for the American Experience Series on PBS. Narrated by Charles Kuralt and featuring America's greatest concert bands. One of the most often repeated shows on PBS; a favorite of the fund raisers.

HOUSTON HOMICIDE 1992 1-hour Prime Time Documentary for NBC about how murder effects the lives of men and women whose daily routine involves the details of violent death.

TO BE AN AMERICAN 1991 A Cambodian family's journey from the jungles of Pol Pot's torture and terror to the frozen streets and grim textile mills of Lowell Massachusetts. A study of the Asian immigrant. Produced for NBC News

(Winner: George Foster Peabody Award)

THE FIRE NEXT DOOR with Bill Moyers. Winner of 32 journalism and broadcast awards, a documentary about America's desperate urban condition and the fires that were destroying Bronx. This landmark broadcast was hailed as a pinnacle of broadcast journalism, in the best tradition of Edward R. Murrow. It led to federal legislation on Arson and was cited as the year's best documentary by the NY Times. (Tom produced, directed or photographed four of the NY Times best that year- 1978)

ANYPLACE BUT HERE CBS Reports documentary on the lives of mental patients who leave the profound horror and addictive comfort of life in a state mental hospital and struggle to start a new life on the streets of New York. With Bill Moyers. (Winner: 4 Emmys, Humanitas Prize, 14 major awards)

INSIDE CBS A portrait of a broadcasting Empire when it was at its peak.

TO BE A TEACHER NBC White Paper profiling two student teachers and the lessons they learn trying to teach in the big high school.

(Winner: San Francisco Film Festival)

TO BE A DOCTOR An hour documentary about the experiences of a group of medical students and interns during their first moments in the practice of medicine. A look into the mystique of medicine, its culture and ethical dilemmas.

(Winner: Emmy, Peabody, American College of Physicians Media Award, and others.)

THE ALIENS A close-up portrait of a Mexican family learning about the wonders of life in Los Angeles and an America which is disturbed that they arrived here illegally. With Bill Moyers.

(Winner Emmy, Humanitas Prize, Christopher, Award, 13 others)

THE RACE FOR THE YELLOW JERSEY Feature documentary about a grueling bicycle race through eastern Canada. Shown in 1978 on PBS, CBC, and is now in home video distribution.

Writer and Producer, CBS Reports, NBC White Papers

Director, Editor CBS News 26-part WORLD WAR I SERIES

Director, Film Editor, CBS News THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Classic archival film series, with one of the longest runs in TV history With Walter Cronkite

Writer, Director, technical films at Bell Telephone Laboratories

**Awards:** Individual Emmys for Cinematography, Directing, Writing  
RFK Journalism Award Grand Prize, George Foster Peabody Award  
Christopher Medal 3 times, Humanitas Prize for writing 2 times  
Monte Carlo International TV Festival Grand Prize, UNDA Prize, Critics award  
Sidney Hillman Award, Women In Communication Awards  
American College of Physicians Media Award. (Others on request)

Born: Morristown, NJ

Mount Hermon School; UNC, Chapel Hill      Member WGA

Tom Spain: [tomspaintuba@mac.com](mailto:tomspaintuba@mac.com)

## **America In The Forties**

*Press comments*

**Mesmerizing-**

**Superb television, movingly, achingly poignant, elegaic and wistful,  
a hymn to a time difficult to explain to those who didn't live it.**

-Boston Globe

How does one describe a three-part, three -hour, documentary that nearly cost him his marriage? So enthralled was I by this series that I unarranged my wife's plans to visit Chinatown last Saturday. Viewers be warned: This is a take-the-phone-off-the-hook, scrap-your-cat's-visit-to-the-vet kind of documentary

-Hunterdon County Democrat

**'40's Gets PBS an A in history**

**a shimmering evocation of the past**

**-poignant, funny, romantic, and sometimes horrific**

-NY Daily News

**Beautifully off-the-beaten track ramble down memory lane**

-Houston Chronicle

**Masterly look at War Years**

-Columbus Dispatch

**A Compelling Glimpse of an America that has Vanished from the Landscape**

-Oakland Press

**Wonderful Swinging Jazzy Music of the '40s provides a framework for this poignant, powerful, magnetic story.**

-Newark Star Ledger

**A Glossy Social History with a Vengeance.**

**Appeals to the heart, not the head, marvelously capturing the feel of the times**

**Super storytellers, elegant arrangers of words**

-Philadelphia Inquirer