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## INDEPENDENT LENS DOCUMENTARIES RECEIVE EIGHT NEWS & DOCUMENTARY EMMY® AWARD NOMINATIONS

### ITVS CO-PRODUCTION HONORED

(San Francisco, CA) Tuesday, July 27, 2021 — PBS's award-winning documentary anthology series INDEPENDENT LENS, in association with ITVS, today announced three films released under its banner have been honored with eight News and Documentary Emmy® Award nominations, including Best Documentary. Nominated projects include "Belly of the Beast," "Feels Good Man" and "Rewind."

Additionally, the ITVS co-production "Our Time Machine" has been nominated in the Outstanding Arts and Culture category by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS).

"Belly of the Beast" is a part of Stories for Justice, presented by INDEPENDENT LENS, a public media partnership to spark community conversations and boost the work of people on the front lines of justice reform.

"Delving into a range of subjects including the forced sterilization of incarcerated women, the future and safety of domestic abuse and sexual assault survivors, and the role the internet plays in shaping national discourse and real-world events, INDEPENDENT LENS documentaries inform, inspire and entertain," said Lois Vossen, Executive Producer of the series. "We're extremely proud to have partnered with these talented filmmakers to bring these exceptional programs to American audiences for free on PBS, America's Home for Documentaries. They remind us why storytelling you can trust is so essential, especially in these turbulent times."

INDEPENDENT LENS continues to serve as a public media's home for thought-provoking documentaries, and is presented by ITVS, the leading independent documentary co-producer and distributor for public media. INDEPENDENT LENS and ITVS productions have received over 115 nominations since inception.

The 42nd News & Documentary Emmy Awards virtual ceremonies will take place over the course of two days, presenting news categories on September 28, 2021 and documentary categories on September 29, 2021 and will be available to stream live on The Emmys app and at [watch.theemmys.tv](https://watch.theemmys.tv). The app and registration are free and the ceremonies will remain available for on-demand viewing for those unable to tune-in on awards night.

About the INDEPENDENT LENS nominees:

"[Belly of the Beast](#)," Best Documentary, Outstanding Current Affairs Documentary, Outstanding Direction: Documentary & Outstanding Editing: Documentary  
Co-Producer: Black Public Media  
Filmmaker: Erika Cohn



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Two women investigate a pattern of illegal sterilizations in women's prisons and battle the Department of Corrections.

["Feels Good Man,"](#) Outstanding Research: Documentary

Filmmakers: Arthur Jones and Giorgio Angelini

When adorable, trippy indie comic character Pepe the Frog becomes an unwitting icon of hate, his creator fights to bring Pepe back from the darkness.

["Rewind,"](#) Outstanding Social Issue Documentary, Outstanding Direction: Documentary & Outstanding Editing: Documentary

Filmmaker: Sasha Joseph Neulinger

Rewind paints a vivid but ultimately hopeful portrait of a family plagued by a vicious cycle of abuse.

About the ITVS co-production nominee:

["Our Time Machine"](#) (POV), Outstanding Arts and Culture Documentary

Filmmaker: S. Leo Chiang and Yang Sun

When artist Maleonn realizes that his father suffers from Alzheimer's disease, he creates "Papa's Time Machine," a magical, autobiographical stage performance featuring life-size mechanical puppets.

### **About INDEPENDENT LENS**

INDEPENDENT LENS is an Emmy® Award-winning weekly series airing on PBS Monday nights at 10:00 p.m. The acclaimed series, with Lois Vossen as executive producer, features documentaries united by the creative freedom, artistic achievement, and unflinching visions of independent filmmakers. Presented by ITVS, the series is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private corporation funded by the American people, with additional funding from PBS, Acton Family Giving, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Wyncote Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more visit [pbs.org/independentlens](https://pbs.org/independentlens). Join the conversation: [facebook.com/independentlens](https://facebook.com/independentlens) and on Twitter [@IndependentLens](https://twitter.com/IndependentLens).

### **About ITVS**

ITVS is a San Francisco-based nonprofit organization that has, for over 25 years, funded and partnered with a diverse range of documentary filmmakers to produce and distribute untold stories. ITVS incubates and co-produces these award-winning films and then airs them for free on PBS via our weekly series, INDEPENDENT LENS, as well as on other PBS series and through our digital platform, OVEE. ITVS is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. For more information, visit [itvs.org](https://itvs.org)

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