EPZICOM abacavir sulfate · lamivudine TABLETS
EPZICOM.COM ›
Reveal your inner strength to fight HIV. Ask your doctor if EPZICOM should be part of that fight.
BY PRESCRIPTION ONLY.
SCROLL HERE
Important Safety Information
• EPZICOM is used with other medicines to treat HIV infections in adults.
PRESCRIBING INFORMATION & MEDICATION GUIDE

Entertainment :: Television

here! Documents 30 Years of the AIDS Epidemic

by Steve Weinstein
EDGE Editor-In-Chief
Sunday Nov 27, 2011

PRINT | EMAIL | SHARE | +1 | COMMENTS (0)

The on-demand service here! gives TV viewers a great reason to tune in with a new documentary about the history of AIDS in the United States. In less than 50 minutes, "30 Years from Here" gives a very powerful account of the epidemic, from the first cases up to the "cocktail."

Director Josh Rosenzweig tackled the seemingly impossible task of summing up such a huge subject in a shortened period. His solution was the present, not so much a parade of facts and figures, as more a feel for the way in which the disease presented itself, spread, caused panic, created a support system, and affected those of us who lived through the 1980s and 1990s.

Rosenzweig decided to focus on New York City, which remained the epicenter of the pandemic in this country from its beginnings until very recently. New York also represents many of the key players and events of those years, including the formation of amFAR, Gay Men's Health Crisis and ACT-UP.

The nine talking heads included represent a gamut, from the well-known (Larry Kramer), to powerful workers in the fight against the disease (GMHC Director Marjorie Hill), to a doctor and nurse working on the front lines, to ordinary people.

The result is a collage of impressions that gives the viewer a sense of the mystery, helplessness and terror of the early years; and how that transformed itself into activism, organization and, finally, political action.

How Rosenzweig managed to assemble the footage, conduct interviews, write the script and even provide the narration for the film is especially remarkable considering that he has a more-than-fulltime day job as the head of original programming at the network.

Advertisement
Reveal your inner strength to fight HIV. Ask your doctor if EPZICOM should be part of that fight.
EPZICOM abacavir sulfate · lamivudine TABLETS
EPZICOM.COM ›
BY PRESCRIPTION ONLY.
SCROLL HERE
Important Safety Information
• EPZICOM is used with other medicines to treat HIV infections in adults.
• EPZICOM is one of 3 medicines
PRESCRIBING INFORMATION & MEDICATION GUIDE

However, for him, this project was personal. "I forgot how much a part of my life it was," he said in a recent interview. "I grew up and came out in 1981-'82, so I literally lived with it from the beginning. So unintentionally, a lot of my voice went into the experience of what you see."

The project began as a tie-in with the Advocate (part of the same company as here!) planning a time-line for its Pride issue. "So I said, 'We'll just videoize the timeline and call it a day. As we started to work with the Advocate, it incorporated a lot more on a macro level."

Meanwhile, Rosenzweig had run into the director of "We Were Here," the documentary about people who lived through the epidemic in San Francisco. "When he told me about his film, I realized one of the big challenges was, how do you tell the story?" Rosenzweig recalled. "I didn't know where to start, or what to include. We stayed away from pop culture. A lot more was my journey through it. I was involved with ACT-UP."

There were originally 18 interviews, and all of the interviews run to several hours, which gives here! itself an oral archive of the epidemic. What remains on the TV screen is a highly distilled portrait of an era. Of necessity, this means that many of the important details are left out. There's no discussion of how AIDS moved into the hemophiliac community, or how it affected the blood supply. You won't find a mention of the dual discovery of HIV in Washington and Paris.

Even so, it's powerful stuff. If you lived through it, it will bring back memories and probably make you start hating Ronald Reagan all over again. If you are too young to have been there, this will serve as an important primer of what happened and how the gay community responded.

"30 Years From Here" debuted on Nov. 25, but will be rerun continually throughout the month of December in conjunction with another fascinating AIDS documentary, "Heart of Broadway," about the organization Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. For more information, go to here!'s website.text

EDGE Editor-in-Chief Steve Weinstein has been a regular correspondent for the International Herald Tribune, the Advocate, the Village Voice and Out. He has been covering the AIDS crisis since the early '80s, when he began his career. He is the author of "The Q Guide to Fire Island" (Alyson, 2007).

Related Topics: Larry Kramer | GMHC | HIV/AIDS

Like
0 +1
0 Tweet

Reveal your inner strength to fight HIV. Ask your doctor if EPZICOM should be part of that fight.
EPZICOM abacavir sulfate · lamivudine TABLETS
BY PRESCRIPTION ONLY.
• EPZICOM is used with other medicines to treat HIV infections in adults.
• EPZICOM is one of 3 medicines
PRESCRIBING INFORMATION & MEDICATION GUIDE

Popular Stories in Entertainment

Gregory Haney :: 'Bring It On's' transgender cheerleader
By Jim Halterman | Nov 22
In the new musical adaptation of the cult hit "Bring It On" actor Gregory Haney plays a transsexual that helps start an h.s. cheerleading squad. EDGE spoke to the New York-based actor about his role & career.

Gods, Titans & buff mortals clash in 'Immortals'
By Fred Topel | Nov 9
In "Immortals" up-and-coming British star Henry Cavill leads a battle against an evil king in this 3-D action take on classic Greek myths. EDGE spoke to Cavill and co-stars Mickey Rourke and Luke Evans about the film.

Much Ado about Sean Maher
By Jim Halterman | Nov 7
Sean Maher has had quite an autumn - first he got a lead on a new series & a Shakespeare film; then he came out & saw his series cancelled. EDGE spoke to him about his career roller-coaster.

Follow EDGE

Stay up to date with breaking news, arts reviews, interviews, giveaways and more:

EDGE Media Network page on Facebook
Like 4,099 people like this.

EDGE News/Entertainment feed on Twitter
EDGE Nightlife feed on Twitter

Enter your email address below to receive daily email updates:
Enter email here | Submit

Free Stuff!

AmericanAirlines
AA.com

Comments

Add New Comment

Comments on Facebook

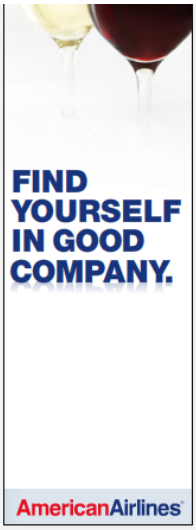
Add a comment...

Comment using...

Facebook social plugin

Back to: Television » Entertainment » Home

"Hot In Cleveland - Season Two" on DVD!



In Orlando

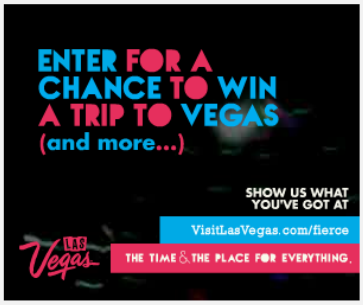
Gator's Last Day @ The 801 Bourbon Bar KW:: November 6, 2011

Hot Video

Doctors Get 'Bedside Manners' Training From Actors

CBS News correspondent Bill Whitaker reports on how future doctors are getting some of their most valuable lessons from professional actors pretending to be patients.

More videos»



Inside EDGE

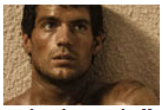
Silence is golden in "The Artist"

Inside 'J. Edgar' :: DC politics, power & the closet

Gregory Haney :: 'Bring It On's' transgender cheerleader

Graffiti 6 take 'Northern Soul' on tour & EP

Thomas Dolby returns in a retro-tech groove



Gods, Titans & buff mortals clash in 'Immortals'

- Fire Island, NY
- Las Vegas, NV
- Los Angeles, CA
- Miami, FL
- New York, NY
- San Diego, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- Seattle, WA
- United States
- Washington, DC

- Read Privacy Statement
- Read Terms of Use
- Contact Us

Email Updates

Enter your email address below to receive daily email updates including news, giveaways and more.

Enter email here | Submit

About Us | Privacy | Terms of Use | Newsletters | Advertise | Feedback | Contact Us

Make EDGE your home page

Copyright © 2003-2011
EDGE Publications, Inc. / All Rights Reserved

64.60.87.194

View low-bandwidth version