





ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

# KING OF KINGS

**CHASING EDWARD JONES** 

THE OTHER BOSS OF CHICAGO

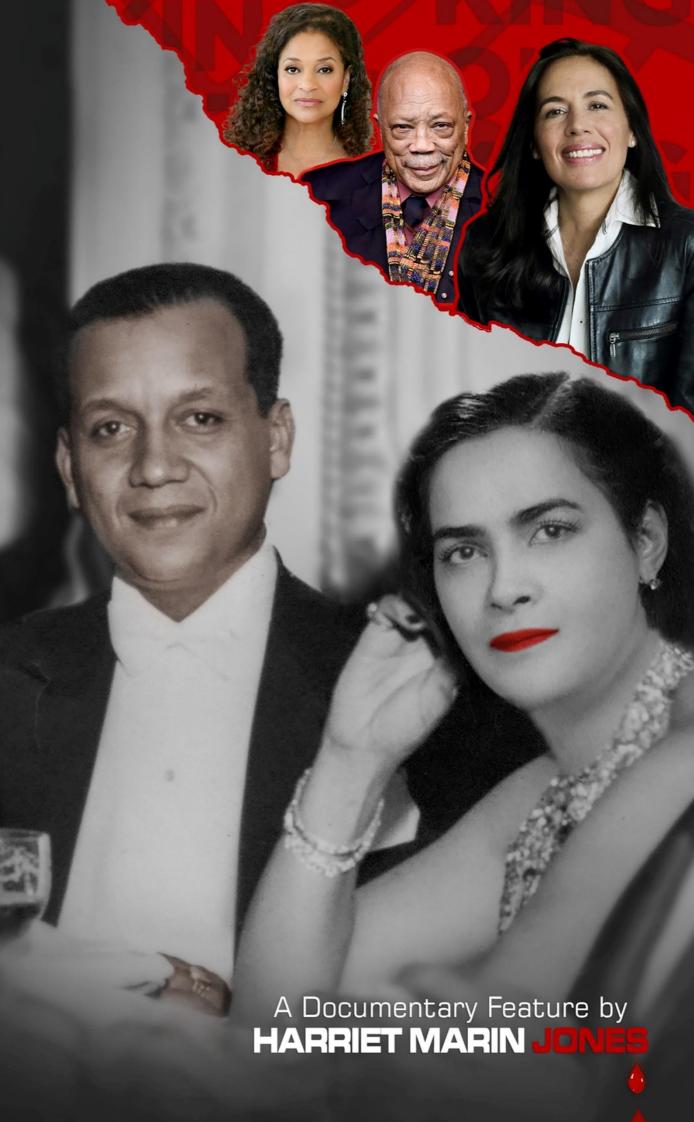
Executive Producers

QUINCY JONES © DEBBIE ALLEN

ABELART PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A FILM WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY HARRIET MARIN JONES

PRODUCERS QUINCY JONES & DEBBIE ALLEN PRODUCERS FRANCE SÉVÉRINE CAPPA & STEPHANE SPERRY MUSIC PHILIPPE KELLY

EDITES GILES GARDNER CONSWITTING MICHEL FESSLER & GILES GARDNER PROFESSIONER PROFESSIONER SEQUENCES EN CHRISTIAN VOLKMAN



# AWARD-WINNING INDUSTRY TITANS QUINCY JONES AND DEBBIE ALLEN TEAM UP

# FOR KING OF KINGS DOCUMENTARY

Industry titans Quincy Jones and Debbie Allen have teamed up as executive producers to tell 60 years of an American story through the eyes of one family who almost had it all. The award-winning doc, KING OF KINGS, is making its rounds on the film festival circuit.

The doc KING OF KINGS, directed by Harriet Marin Jones, searches for the truth about her grandfather, Edward Jones, a charismatic African American businessman who rose to the heights of financial and political prominence in Depression-era Chicago before falling into oblivion.

In shaping the destiny of a city, Edward Jones could not, however, escape discrimination. By exploring her family roots, European filmmaker Harriet Marin Jones uncovers more forgotten Black History that ultimately helped to shape this country!









## KING OF KINGS: CHASING EDWARD JONES



Logline

The untold story of the other boss of Chicago, the King of Policy Kings, a man who held too much power and wealth during segregation.



Synopsis

Gangster for some, philanthropist for others, who was really Edward Jones? In the 1930s and 1940s, this descendant of slaves becomes one of the richest men in the United States thanks to the Policy business, an illegal numbers game, that ultimately became the modern state lottery, now played by millions nationwide.

Edward Jones, nicknamed the "King of Kings," amassed a fortune of \$25 million in the Policy business, and redistributed part of that money back into his community, setting an example and opening many doors. But in these times of segregation, his success and unfailing support to the African American community are a problem. In conflict with both the mob and the Feds, he is eventually forced into a life on the run!

Exploring the rise and fall of the most famous Policy King of all times, the filmmaker, Edward Jones's granddaughter, uncovers an unparalleled story, while showing the lasting repercussions of his untold story, both within her family, and for Chicago's South Side where he once embodied the American dream.

Love, success, violence, revenge, mafia, murder, betrayal, prison, kidnapping... Edward Jones's story holds all the best ingredients of gangster movies. Add segregation and you have a very explosive cocktail!

CHICAGO MAY 13 1946 **FATURDAY** NO. 31.

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from Page 1) n automobile last

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# FBI TRAILS JONES The Most Sensational Kidnap In Chicago's History

The most sensational kidnap in Chicago's history, which police freely admitted had them baffled, came to a dramatic climax early Friday morning with the release of Edward P. Jones, multi-millionaire business man and policy baron, after payment of \$100,000 ransom, to his abductors.

Immediately, the entire police department and the FBI Joined in a nation-wide search for two suspects, both known as dangerous

They are Grover Dullard, bodygangsters with prison records. guard expert, and suspect in the

killing of Harry "Red" Richmond,

# **FBI Joins Hunt**

(Confinued from Page 1) bankie and Virgil Sum- dropped from an automobile last



# **HARRIET MARIN JONES**

Writer, Producer, Director

Award-Winning Director and Producer, Harriet Marin Jones grew up in different countries in Europe. After studying at Loyola University in Chicago and American University in Washington, D.C. where she received a bachelor's degree in visual media and voted Best Student in the department, she pursued her master's degree in Cinema Studies at New York University. During her studies, Jones wrote and directed a dozen short films that won numerous awards. She started her career as an assistant director on feature films in the United States and France, and began simultaneously evaluating scripts for two major French broadcasters. Marin Jones has written and directed two high-budgets short films, followed by her first feature film, distributed by Gaumont. In addition, she has worked as a script doctor; written two novels, directed a play by Ray Cooney; and co-produced and directed the pilot for France 2. In 2008, she started her own film and TV company, Abelart Productions. In 2017, she created and launched two online-course platforms with a total enrollment of more than 70,000 students. Marin Jones has two children, resides in Paris, has traveled to over 100 countries, and has just finished her third novel. "KING OF KINGS: Chasing Edward Jones" is her first documentary.

# Director's Statement

KING OF KINGS takes an in-depth look at the life and legacy of Edward Jones. As his granddaughter, I've had access to countless anecdotes and incredible documents retracing his personal journey in the midst of major historical events. Even though it took me years to do all the research and interviews, as well as find the funds to finance the film, as a filmmaker, I could not have asked for a better story.

Since I have been living most of my life in Europe, making this documentary was not only an amazing personal and professional experience, it also allowed me to plunge into the history of the United States. As Quincy Jones says in the film, "It is so important to know and understand your history, because if you know where you come from, it helps you get where you're going."

Discovering for instance that African Americans were behind the State Lottery and seeing the incredible impact my grandfather had on Chicago were just some of the many eye-opening facts that I came across. Seeing the amazing enthusiastic audience response to the film each time it is being screened makes all this journey worth it. Policy Kings will not fall after all into oblivion.

it is a very important story, not only for African Americans or for Chicago, but for the United States.



# **Executive Producers**



# Quincy Jones (Executive Producer)

Quincy Jones Jr. is an American record producer, musician, songwriter, composer, arranger, and film and television producer. His career spans 70 years in the entertainment industry with a record of 80 Grammy Award nominations, 28 Grammys, and a Grammy Legend Award.



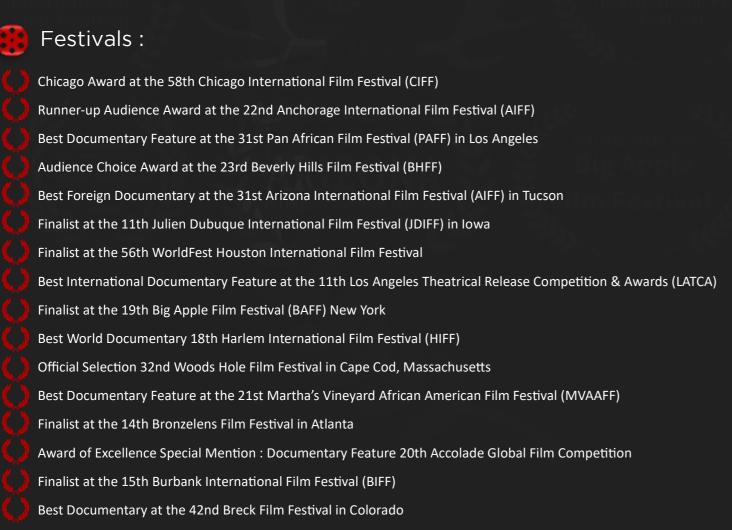
# Debbie Allen (Executive Producer)

Debbie Allen is an award-winning director and choreographer. She has choreographed the Academy Awards a record ten times and directed and choreographed for legendary artists including Michael Jackson. Ms. Allen received the Golden Globe for her role as Lydia Grant in the 1980s hit series Fame and is a three-time Emmy Award winner in Choreography for Fame and The Motown 25th. She has been honored with ten Image Awards as director, actress, choreographer and producer for Fame, A Different World, Motown 25th, The Academy Awards, The Debbie Allen Special and Amistad. Ms. Allen has also directed and produced award-winning network television and currently serves as Executive Producing Director of Grey's Anatomy, where she also holds a recurring role as Catherine Fox. In 2001, she founded the non-profit Debbie Allen Dance Academy in Los Angeles. In 2022, Debbie Allen partnered with Shonda Rhimes to create the Shonda Rhimes Performing Arts Center in Los Angeles. Ms. Allen is a BFA graduate of Howard University in Theater and Classical Greek Studies and is a native of Houston, Texas. She is the daughter of Vivian Ayers and Dr. Andrew Allen, wife to NBA All-Star Norman Nixon.



# Stéphane Sperry (Executive Producer)

Stéphane Sperry has a long and impressive track record in the industry. He held top senior positions at CANAL+, Ellipse Studio and Alliance before joining the Federation Entertainment as Co-founder with Pascal Breton in 2013. He is notably known for producing The Adventures of Tintin alongside Steven Spielberg and Peter Jackson, and Assault on Precint 13, starring Ethan Hawke. He began his film industry career, working on nearly three dozen features. He spent three years as President of Alliance International, Canada's foremost film production and distribution company, as well as four years as the head of Island Records (France). Sperry came to Canal Plus in 1987 as the head of the Ellipse Programmes. (Canal + is the most important cable operator in France and a major producer of French films.) Later he was Executive Vice President for programming and strategic development at Studio Canal, then Head of Acquisitions, before becoming Co- President of Canal Plus US operation where he orchestrated investments in films such as Mulholland Drive, Sleepy Hollow or The Pianist.



Title: KING OF KINGS: Chasing Edward Jones

**Documentary** written, produced and directed by Harriet Marin Jones

**Executive Producers US**: Quincy Jones, Debbie Allen

Executive Producers France: Stéphane Sperry, Séverine Cappa

Production: Abélart Productions (165 quai de Valmy, 75010 Paris, France)

Lenght: 98 minutes

Contact: +33609926903 / hmarinjones@icloud.com

To view the trailer of KING OF KINGS

https://vimeo.com/726689130/d17e004b58

For more information about KING OF KINGS :

https://kingofkings-film.com

Best of the Fest at the 14th Chagrin Documentary Film Festival in Ohio
Best Documentary at the Oak Park Black Film Festival in Sacramento
Best Documentary Feature at 13th Gary International Black Film Festival
Official Selection 22nd San Diego International Film Festival
Best Editing at 19th Angel Film Awards Monaco International Film Festival
Best Visual Effects and Animated Sequences 19th Angel Film Awards Monaco International Film Festival
Best Producer at 19th Angel Film Awards Monaco International Film Festival
Best Film 19th Angel Film Awards Monaco International Film Festival
Diamond Globe Award for Best Documentary at the 11th International New York Film Festival
Special Jury Award Best Documentary at the 19th Frozen River Film Festival, Minnesota
Best Documentary Special Mention at the 22nd Riverside International Film Festival, California
Best Documentary at the 11th Nice International Film Festival
Official Selection 28th American Black Film Festival, Miami
Best Director International Feature Documentary 11th Seattle Film Festival, Washington

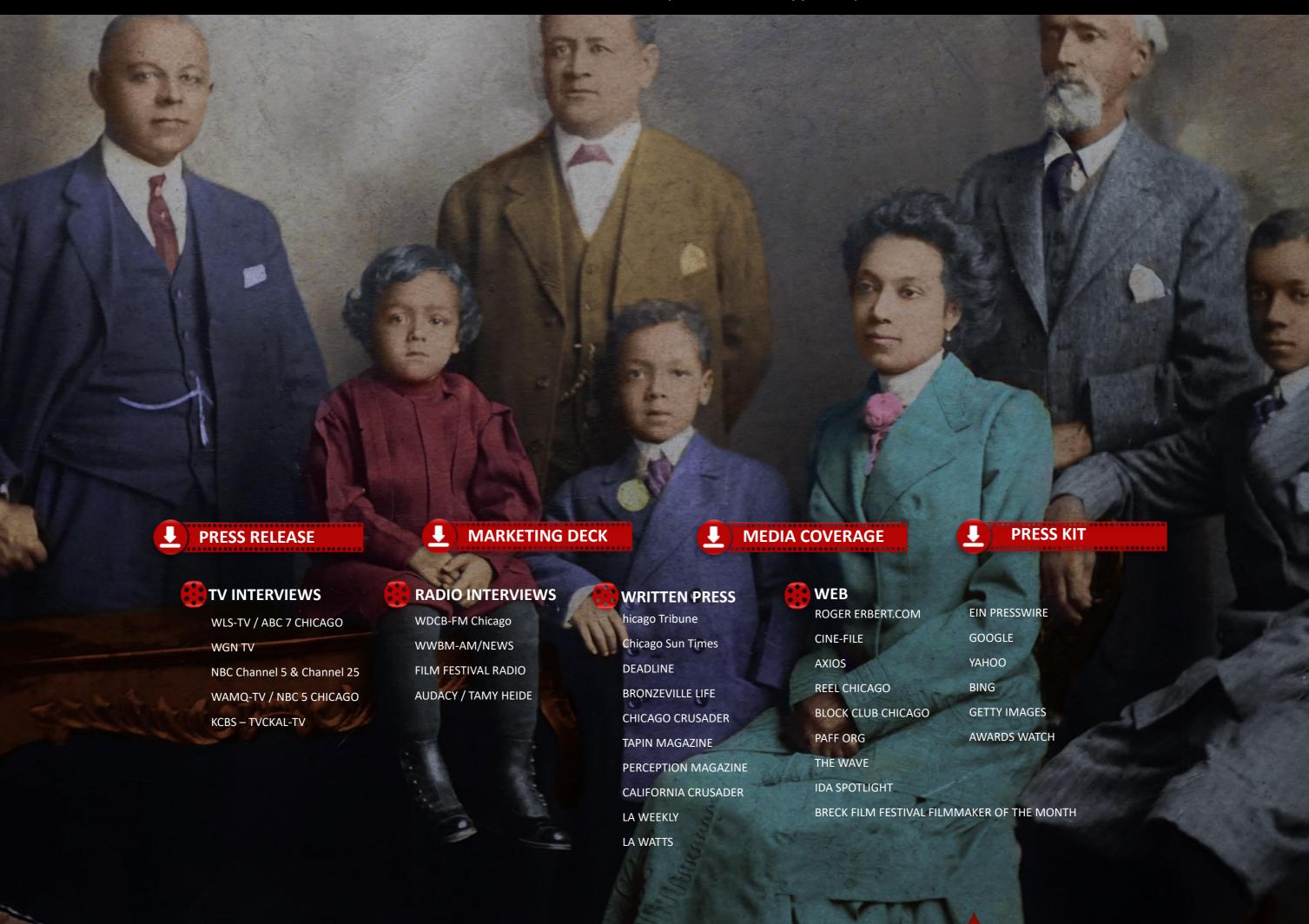
Award of Excellence Special Mention Feature Documentary 15th IndieFEST Film Awards

Award of Excellence: History / Biographical 15th IndieFEST Film Awards

Award of Excellence: Direction 15th IndieFEST Film Awards









Thank you!