

TO BEGIN THE WORLD OVER AGAIN: THE LIFE OF THOMAS PAINE

The Film Project of actor-writer Ian Ruskin ~ the following information from The Film Project website

Radical founding father **Thomas Paine's** life mission inspired writer-actor **Ian Ruskin** to write his one-man play *TO BEGIN THE WORLD OVER AGAIN* and perform it the past four years in the US and the UK. Paine's life and ideas inspire audiences today; responses have been extraordinary.



The film was made in March 2015 at the Lillian Theatre in Hollywood. The National Educational Telecommunications Association will distribute it to Public Television. We decided to wait until 2016 for PBS distribution, which gives us time to create grassroots support for airings, and have Paine's words ringing out in the Presidential election year!

On January 4, 2016 we will launch our Film Webpage for our campaign to fill the airways of public television with this story. There will be opportunities to host sneak-preview screenings of the film, take specific actions to register people to vote (Paine would love this), and debate on the webpage (Paine would also love this). If you are not on our mailing list, join us by sending your email to info@thelifeofthomaspaine.org. You will then hear about all the ways of spreading the word.

Our first film *From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks*, about Union Leader Harry Bridges, aired on PBS for four years

reaching 150 million households. It's now time to present *TO BEGIN THE WORLD OVER AGAIN* across America on PBS, with the added possibilities of the BBC, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, France Télévisions, and more! We are VERY EXCITED that the film is funded and completed, and there will be so many ways in which you will all be able to help! Stand by for more news.

Our other goals still stand:

** Expand the film market; there is great interest in the story of Paine in England, France, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. We want to work with a distributor who specializes in presenting our kind of film. Estimated cost: \$6,000.

** Produce 1,000 DVDs of the full-length version of the play, and 1,000 CDs of the audio version, professionally pressed and sold to the public. And we will press 1,000 DVDs of the 60 minute version to be given for free to schools and educators. Estimated cost: \$5,000.

** Develop a website that takes themes from the film and provides in-depth research tools for students and the general public. This will include a bibliography, links to articles, original source material, and media. We will work with educators and Paine scholars on the content of this site. Estimated cost: \$9,000.

Please send us suggestions of people and organizations that might help in these goals. www.thelifeofthomaspaine.org and info@thelifeofthomaspaine.org

Thomas Paine Society, Pasadena CA, is acting as fiscal sponsor for The Film Project. www.thomaspainesociety.org

Undeniably apropos for the corporatist-beleaguered present. ---David C. Nichols, *Los Angeles Times*

At a time when so many Americans feel disaffected by the political system, Ruskin has done us the great service of resurrecting the man who wrote and lived by the credo that "we have it in our power to begin the world over again." ---Hector Villagra, Executive Director, ACLU Foundation of Southern California