

## FACT SHEET

**TITLE:** **LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN**  
[TV-G] [CC] [Stereo] [Letterbox]

**LENGTH:** 1/60

**NOLA CODE:** LGMS

**CATEGORY:** Music & Entertainment

**OFFERED:** Premium Service 16 offer, June 2005

**RELEASE DATE:** November 26, 2005

**CONTRACT TERMS:** 8 releases through December 15, 2008

**PROGRAM SUPPLIER:** Warner Strategic Marketing

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** In 2005, Loggins and Messina, one of the most beloved rock groups of the '70s, reunited for the first time since 1976 for a concert tour. Their first album, *Kenny Loggins With Jim Messina Sitting In*, was released in 1972, achieving gold status and remaining on the charts for more than two years. Over the next four years, they released a series of gold and platinum albums, most of which hit the *Billboard* Top 10. **LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN**, taped at their concert performance in Santa Barbara, California, features many of the pair's popular songs, such as "Watching the River Run," "Your Mama Don't Dance" and "Vahevala."

**PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS:** Use the above program description for guide listing. A press kit, including fact sheet, press release, performer biographies and song list will be posted to PBS Connect and [APTonline.org](http://APTonline.org). Color photos will be available via email and on [APTonline.org](http://APTonline.org).

**LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN / 2**

**FACT SHEET**

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**PRODUCTION CREDITS:** Director: Jim Gable  
Producer: Chris Kraft  
Executive Producers: Martin Kirkup,  
Steve Jensen, Gary Borman, Steve Moir  
and John Beug  
Editor: Mitchell Sinoway

**BROADCAST HISTORY:** U.S. Television Premiere

**RELATED MERCHANDISE:** Individual viewer purchase: Recordings by  
Loggins and Messina are available in retail  
outlets nationwide.

Pledge:  
Program DVD, related CD: "The Best:  
Sitting in Again"

**VIEWER INQUIRIES:** American Public Television  
Viewer Services  
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Boston, MA 02110  
617-338-4455 ext. 202

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## PRESS RELEASE

### '70s Pop Superstars Recapture the Magic in **LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN**

*"The chemistry was still intact, helped by a young band that played with a fresh enthusiasm, making this show a surprising treat."*

– Steve Morse, *The Boston Globe*

Magic happened when established musician and producer Jim Messina sat in on newcomer Kenny Loggins' first record. The two artists blended their musical skills, songwriting talents and harmonious voices to create an unforgettable pop-rock sound. Their first album, *Kenny Loggins With Jim Messina Sitting In*, initially intended to be a one-time collaboration, achieved gold status and remained on the charts for more than two years. The successful duo continued with a string of hits and became one of the most beloved rock groups of the '70s. American Public Television's new pledge special, **LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN**, features this group's first tour since their 1976 break-up. Watch your local public television station starting November 26, 2005 to see these artists recapture the magic as they celebrate their vast collection of memorable songs.

Taped at a live performance in an outdoor arena in Santa Barbara, California, these two masterful musicians take the stage as if they never left. They electrify the audience with a non-stop lineup of their timeless songs including "Watching the River Run," "Your Mama Don't Dance," and "Vahevala." Their smooth voices and rich harmonies have transcended time – still as passionate and energetic as the day they started. Loggins wows the crowd with his emotionally-charged vocal performances – especially his heartfelt, soulful pleas during "Peace of Mind" – while Messina adds a level of sophisticated musicianship that anchors the performance. A talented and youthful back-up band enhances the duo's sound as they effortlessly transition from classic rock and country to folk

– more –

and ballads.

Thirty years wiser, the once fractured duo has put their past behind them to reunite in this fresh and exciting concert. Having achieved success as independent performers, Loggins and Messina are no longer burdened by competition. “The nice thing is I get to work with Kenny again, but with him having had all his solo success,” Messina says. “So instead of me being the successful one, now Kenny brings that to this relationship. Quite honestly, I feel good about it now because I can relax,” he adds.

This sense of freedom has reignited an appreciation for each other’s talents and reinvigorated their drive to perform together. **LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN** captures this renewed chemistry while evoking a sense of nostalgia. The one-hour program features a set list of classic hits, informative commentary and old performance clips highlighting the performers’ matured talents and love of rock ‘n’ roll. Loggins and Messina are performing together again both for their fans and themselves.

**LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN** is a Warner Strategic Marketing production. The program is directed by Jim Gable, produced by Chris Kraft and executive produced by Martin Kirkup, Steve Jensen, Gary Borman, Steve Moir and John Beug. APT’s Premium Service distributes the program to public television stations nationwide.

**About American Public Television**

For 44 years, American Public Television (APT) has been a prime source of programming for the nation’s public television stations. APT distributes more than 10,000 hours of programming including *JFK: Breaking the News*, *Simply Ming*, *Globe Trekker*, *Rick Steves’ Europe*, *Julia and Jacques Cooking at Home*, *Battlefield Britain*, *Jungle*, *America’s Test Kitchen*, *Lidia’s Italian Table* and classic movies. APT is known for identifying innovative programs and developing creative distribution techniques for producers. In four decades, it has established a tradition of providing public television stations nationwide with program choices that enable them to strengthen and customize their schedules. Press should contact Donna Hardwick at 617-338-4455 ext. 129 or via email to [Donna\\_Hardwick@APTonline.org](mailto:Donna_Hardwick@APTonline.org). For more information about APT’s programs and services visit [APTonline.org](http://APTonline.org).

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## SONG LIST

### LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTIN' IN AGAIN

“Watching the River Run”

“Long Tail Cat”

“Listen to a Country Song/Holiday Hotel”

“Changes”

“Lovin’ Me”

“To Make a Woman Feel Wanted”

“Peace of Mind”

“Your Momma Don’t Dance”

“Love Song”

“Vahevala”

“Nobody But You”

“Danny’s Song”

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## PERFORMER BACKGROUND

### LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN

Thirty-three years after first *Sittin' In* together, and nearly 30 years since they last toured together, Kenny Loggins and Jim Messina are sitting side by side in Loggins' living room. The two men are in the early stages of putting together their surprising and heartening *Sittin' In Again* reunion tour as well as finalizing a new Loggins and Messina retrospective of the same name.

All this shared activity marks the unexpected and unlikely return of the most successful duo of the early '70s – a group whose most enduring songs were so well crafted that they have never really gone away. At the same time, Loggins and Messina find themselves in the moving process of healing a personal connection fractured long ago.

“This is less about a musical reunion and more about reuniting a relationship that's become more of a friendship than ever before,” says Jimmy Messina.

“Nothing like 30 years to be the great leveler,” Kenny Loggins says.

Though Loggins and Messina's first greatest hits collection was called *Best of Friends*, both men confess that their relationship has long been a complex and sometimes difficult one. When they first met, Jim Messina was already a well-established success story, having produced and played with the legendary band Buffalo Springfield and later with the country-rock pioneers Poco. Loggins, meanwhile, was a young singer-songwriter with far less experience, but with talent to burn as evidenced by early compositions like “House at Pooh Corner” and “Danny's Song.” Then *Sittin' In* (1972), originally envisioned as a one-off joint release intended to introduce Loggins as part of a Messina six-album production deal with Columbia Records, became a major smash hit.

As if by public demand, this accidental duo was created. In the next few years, a series of albums would follow in rapid order – 1972's *Loggins & Messina*, 1973's *Full Sail*, 1974's double-live *On Stage*, the same year's *Mother Lode*, 1975's cover song set *So Fine* and 1976's *Native Sons*. *The Best of Friends* collection followed later that year and in 1977 another live album fittingly called *Finale*. With that, Loggins and Messina, who had sold 16 million albums and become one of rock's most popular draws, was over and apparently done.

In retrospect, the once close connection between Loggins and Messina was torn apart by the unusual nature of their working relationship and by what Messina calls a “divide and conquer strategy that's been around since Napoleonic times.”

“The trouble with duos is inevitably it becomes a competition,” explains Loggins. “It's not just the press that pits you against one another – it's everybody. It's your business managers, your managers and your lawyers. Everybody wants to get on your good

## LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN/2 PERFORMER BACKGROUND

side.”

Complicating matters, Loggins and Messina’s partnership was from the inception not one of equals. “In our original relationship, I came in and auditioned for Jimmy,” Loggins remembers. “Right from the beginning, Jimmy was the producer, I was the artist. I’d never made a record. I’d never put a band together. I’d never found a manager or an agent. So Jimmy was the lead and in that way, he became my mentor. The inevitable thing when you grow through a mentor is you have to leave and go off on your own. Our relationship had become teacher-student, father-son, big brother little brother and eventually it was not healthy for me. I had a lot to prove to myself and, subconsciously I think, I had a lot to prove to Jimmy too.”

In the decades apart, Loggins established himself as a solo artist with a series of albums starting with 1977’s *Celebrate Me Home*, 1978’s *Nightwatch*, 1979’s *Keep the Fire*, 1980’s *Alive*, 1982’s *High Adventure*, 1985’s *Vox Humana*, 1988’s *Leap of Faith*, 1991’s *Leap of Faith*, 1993’s *Outside: From the Redwoods*, 1994’s *Return to Pooh Corner*, 1997’s *Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow: The Greatest Hits of Kenny Loggins and The Unimaginable Life*, 1998’s *December*, 2000’s *More Songs From Pooh Corner*, 2002’s *The Essential Kenny Loggins*, as well as a number of soundtrack contributions.

During this time, Jim Messina recorded five solo albums: 1979’s *Oasis*, 1981’s *Messina*, 1983’s *One More Mile* and 1996’s *Watching the River Run*. Messina also reunited with Poco for the 1989 album *Legacy*, as well as establishing the Songwriters’ Performance Workshop. “The purpose of the workshop is to empower amateurs,” explains Messina.

Today, Jim Messina explains that he has no desire to be in charge. “The nice thing is I get to work with Kenny again, but with him having had all his solo success,” Messina says. “So instead of me being the successful one, now Kenny brings that to this relationship. Quite honestly, I feel good about it now because I can relax. This time I’m looking forward to just being an artist. I’m very excited about playing our music listening to our arrangements and pulling out my dusty mandolin to see if it still works.”

Until a recent series of low-key benefit performances together, there had been precious little contact between the two men. “There was just very little bridge left to cross back during those years,” Loggins admits. “There’s the career and there are the wives. Wives will tend to take people in different directions – that’s the cleanest way I can put it.”

When Jimmy joined Kenny at a benefit at Santa Barbara’s Arlington Theater last year, Loggins noticed something else. “As soon as we hit the harmonies, I was struck by the fact that I hadn’t heard that sound in a long time,” he says. “It hit me like the Everly Brothers hit me the first time they got back together. There was something that in 30 years I had not been able to duplicate with anyone else. There’s a spark here that I’ve completely forgotten about.”

Both men see *Sitting in Again* as a chance to look back at what they’ve achieved.

“This album is about more than hits,” says Messina. “I think one of the reasons we were successful is that we spoke to a generation, not just to a radio station.”

## LOGGINS AND MESSINA: SITTING IN AGAIN/3 PERFORMER BACKGROUND

“I wanted this new retrospective to accurately depict who Loggins and Messina was,” adds Loggins. “I wasn’t too concerned with who we became or what songs spoke better now than they did then. I want this to be the quintessential element of who we were then.”

“You know I spent years trying to forget this crap,” Loggins jokes to Messina. Today, he seems struck by the harmonic convergence and of the sound of their original band – Al Garth, Jon Clark, Michael Omartian, Merle Brigante, and Milt Holland. “All the forces came together to create one hell of a band,” Loggins recalls. “We were very lucky.”

As for the *Sittin’ in Again* tour, both men want to celebrate the past while leaving the future an open and intriguing question. They want their show to feature a *Sittin’ In* segment that will allow other musical associates and possibly former band members to join them onstage.

As they head back to work auditioning new band members, Loggins and Messina both sound genuinely excited and fully engaged.

For Loggins: “There’s a message of reconciliation here that hearts will heal over time. We’re not the same people, but in some ways, we’re exactly who we were. Essentially, I’m still pretty much naïve. I look back on the last 30 years and think, how the hell did I do that in a world where they try to beat it out of you? So when people ask, ‘What do you see coming for Loggins and Messina?’ I see that we have an incredible second chance at actually having fun and dropping some of the competitive thing. I remember we were so tight at the beginning we’d walk into a clothing shop and both reach for the same shirt or boots.”

For both men the chance to be *Sittin’ in Again* represents what Jimmy Messina calls “a great and meaningful opportunity.”

“I’m really looking forward to the audiences,” says Kenny Loggins. “I’m looking forward to seeing good friends from long ago and, I’m hoping, some of the friends I’ve picked up along the way. And then . . . well, and then we’ll just see where it goes from there.”

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