

FACT SHEET

TITLE: **MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II**
[TV-PG] [Stereo] [CC]

LENGTH: 5/60

NOLA CODE: MNAC

CATEGORY: Documentary

OFFERED: Spring 2007, page S4

EXPECTED RELEASE: October 1, 2007

CONTRACT TERMS: Six releases to be completed by September 30, 2010. A release is defined as unlimited use within seven days.

PROGRAM SUPPLIER: Thirteen / WNET

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: **MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II** continues an ambitious TV history of the British Crown by examining the power, politics, religion and extraordinary lives that make up one the oldest surviving governing institutions in existence today. This series picks up where the first left off, and travels from the Restoration Period of 1660 after the Civil War to the end of Queen Victoria's reign in the early 20th Century.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS: Use above description for guide listings. A press release will be posted to PBS Connect and APTonline.org. Color photography will be available via email and will also be posted on APTonline.org.

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BROADCAST HISTORY: U.S. television premiere

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RELATED MERCHANDISE:

Viewers: There is no individual merchandise for viewers.

Pledge: If you are interested in pledging this program and need assistance with premiums, please contact APT station services at 617-338-4455, ext. 121.

VIEWER CONTACT:

www.thirteen.org

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PRESS RELEASE

The Remarkable Story of the English Monarchy Continues in Series Two of MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY

"This is not another picture book story of kings and queens, instead, it is a real grown-up history of how a monarchy created a nation." – David Starkey

MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II continues the acclaimed series focusing on the evolution of English kingship. From the Restoration Period to the modern English throne, this striking series analyzes the gradual emergence of a unique form of government – a constitutional monarchy. This comprehensive and informative documentary airs on American public television stations beginning October 1, 2007 (check local listings).

Renowned British historian and public television host David Starkey (*The Six Wives of Henry VIII*) brings this prolific tale of England's royal rulers to life with his compelling narrative style. **MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II** begins after the reign of the Stuarts, tracing the kingdom through the post-Civil War Restoration Period in 1660 through the end of Queen Victoria's reign in the early 20th Century. Interspersed throughout the rich historical facts are specific stories of greed, lust, treason and murder that illuminate the power struggles, political developments and religious convictions that ultimately produced the British monarchy.

In his writings on the monarchy, Starkey discusses why this type of ruling institution is unique. "...In Britain – or, rather, in England – monarchy takes on a special meaning because we still have our monarchy. It is over 1,500 years old, which means it is the oldest functioning political institution in Europe. It is also unique because, right from the beginning, the English monarchy had a strong popular element."

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Distributed by American Public Television, **MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II**, combines a gripping biographical narrative of England's royal rulers with original, intelligent analysis, showing how the world's most famous throne came to power.

MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II was acquired from Educational Broadcasting Corporation by American Public Television for syndication to public television stations nationwide.

About American Public Television

For 46 years, American Public Television (APT) has been a prime source of programming for the nation's public television stations. APT distributes more than 300 new program titles per year and has 10,000 hours of programming in its library. It is responsible for many public television milestones including the first HD series and the 2006 launch of the Create channel featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming. APT is known for its leadership in identifying innovative, worthwhile and viewer-friendly programming. It has established a tradition of providing public television stations with program choices that strengthen and customize their schedules, such as *Winged Migration*, *Battlefield Britain*, *Globe Trekker*, *Rick Steves' Europe*, *Great Museums*, *Jacques Pépin: Fast Food My Way*, *America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated*, *Broadway: The Golden Age*, *Lidia's Family Table*, *California Dreamin' – The Songs of The Mamas & the Papas*, *Rosemary and Thyme*, *P. Allen Smith's Garden Home*, *The Big Comfy Couch*, *Monarchy With David Starkey*, and other prominent documentaries, dramatic series, how-to programs and classic movies. Press should contact Mike Nadeau at 617-338-4455 ext. 150 or email Mike_Nadeau@APTonline.org. For more information about APT's programs and services, visit APTonline.org.

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MONARCHY WITH DAVID STARKEY II**Episode #201: "Return of the King"**

In 1660, the English monarchy was restored when King Charles II returned from exile. Could this father of 17 bastard children turn his mind to healing the wounds of division in England? This opening episode tells the remarkable story of a King who secured the restoration of the English monarchy through a series of political twists and turns; aligning his throne with a Catholic France and a Protestant Parliament while finding a way to help his country overcome the plague and the Great Fire of London. King Charles II's reign restored the authority of the English Crown and laid the foundation of the world's first modern state.

Episode #202: "The Glorious Revolution"

Although less well-remembered than the Norman conquest of 1066, the Dutch Invasion of 1688, led by William of Orange, had consequences just as momentous. The reign of Charles II had left the religious and constitutional divides of the Civil War unresolved. When his Catholic brother James II succeeded him, the old wounds of religion and rule opened again. James II's mishandled attempts to promote toleration for Catholics led to fears of a rebirth of royal tyranny. By replacing the Catholic King with his own Protestant nephew, Parliament fashioned a largely peaceful settlement that markedly curtailed royal power.

Episode #203: "Rule Britannia"

Twenty-five years after the Glorious Revolution of 1688, England was transformed from an insignificant minor state to the greatest power in Europe. Along the way she became known by a new name — Great Britain — reflecting the fact that the Monarchy now ruled not just England and Wales (as it had since the time of Henry VIII) but Scotland and Ireland as well. Dr. Starkey examines the achievements and weaknesses of William and Mary and Queen Anne, and he enlightens us to other key players such as the Duke of Marlborough — one of the greatest military commanders in British history (and a distant relative to Winston Churchill). Dr. Starkey explains how this period formed the foundation of modern Britain and how the relationship between the Crown and Parliament changed to become what we now recognize as a modern monarchy.

Episode #204: "Empire"

Despite Queen Anne's 18 pregnancies, she died without leaving an heir to the throne. In 1714, an obscure German Prince (rumored to be 52nd in line to the throne, but the next Protestant available) was crowned King George I of Great Britain. His reign signaled the

beginning of a new political era that saw the rise of a new power broker on the political scene — the Prime Minister. The Hanoverian King would be succeeded by his namesakes George II and George III. The relationship that developed between each of the three Kings and Parliament defined the future of British government. In this episode, Dr. Starkey travels to the United States to chart the evolution of the American War of Independence and the Crown's devastating loss of the American colonies.

Episode #205: "Survival"

The French Revolution began in 1789 when the Bastille prison in Paris was stormed by suffering French citizens. Very few people in Britain — least of all King George III — thought that it would lead to a cataclysmic war with France. But the execution of King Louis XVI of France in 1793 created a moment of crisis for the British monarchy. Would Britain go the way of France? Or would George III, George IV, William IV and William's niece, Victoria, weather the storm by appealing to British history and tradition? Dr. Starkey brings his story to the dawn of the 20th century, when it was beginning to look as if the Monarchy was going to be re-invented once again.

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