Peter Getzels and Harriet Gordon

Directors/Producers, The Penguin Counters

Peter Getzels and Harriet Gordon have a long track record of producing, directing, filming and writing award-winning documentaries all over the world for British, American, and European television. With a background in Anthropology and exploration, their subjects range from long-term, character-driven narratives to cutting-edge science and the fringes of religion. Based in Oxford, England for 16 years where they both attended the National Film and TV School, Peter and Harriet made a wide range of provocative documentaries for British television, including "Summerhill at 70," about A.S. Neill's famous school for free-range children; and "Mr. Mike is on the Mountain," about Sherpas' viewpoint of a British climbing expedition. They are now based in Washington, DC, where Peter worked as a staff producer for National Geographic Television, making several award-winning documentaries for the flagship series Explorer; while Harriet worked independently for National Geographic, Discovery and HDNet.

Through Getzels Gordon Productions, Peter now leads a team with Robert Lawrence Kuhn on Closer to Truth, a global journey in search of the vital ideas about the cosmos, consciousness and meaning. Currently in its 17th season, the series includes many of the world's top scientists, philosophers and theologians, as well as eight Nobel Prize winners. Working with Shanghai Media Group, Peter also produced and directed two five-part series called "China's Challenges," which won China's top News Media Award and an Emmy Award. Peter and Harriet are credited with the feature length documentary "Harvest of Empire," which played theatrically across the USA and won Best of Independent Documentaries and Special Jury from Cine Golden Eagle; Best Documentary from the Imagen Foundation; and the ABC News Video Source Award from the IDA. In January 2017 they completed a new feature documentary called "Zuzana: Music is Life," about a woman who became one of the world's greatest harpsichordists and interpreters of Bach, despite spending her teenage years in concentration camps and enduring 40 years of Communist persecution in Czechoslovakia.





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