

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# ***Born To Rein* Producers Announce the 2019 “Triple Crown Series” Launch of the Documentary Film with Three State Premieres; and the First National Screening during the 100-Year Anniversary of America’s First Triple Crown Winner: Sir Barton**

***Full-Length Feature Film Pays Tribute to America’s Oldest Sport and National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame Horse Trainers: John Nerud, Marion and Jack Van Berg***

Scottsbluff, NE – April 16, 2019 –

Join ***Born To Rein*** co-producers, **Jody L. Lamp** and **Melody Dobson** of **American Doorstop Project Productions, LLC** for the “Triple Crown Series” launch of their

documentary film, which pays tribute to the legends of America’s Oldest Sport – in time to strategically precede each race that makes up Thoroughbred Horse Racing’s Triple Crown – the **Kentucky Derby**, **Preakness Stakes** and **Belmont Stakes**.

The ***Born To Rein*** documentary film honors the lives and careers of native Nebraskans and National Hall of Fame Trainers – **John Nerud** of Minatare; and father-and-son trainers, **Marion** and **Jack Van Berg** of Columbus – and how their horsemanship continues to impact and influence the national thoroughbred industry today. The timing of the documentary coincides with **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of America’s First Triple Crown Winner, Sir Barton**, who after retiring from racing also spent time in Nebraska, as a U.S. Army Remount Service Stallion at Fort Robinson near Crawford, NE.

**Lamp** and **Dobson** will premiere ***Born To Rein*** in three Nebraska cities and theaters on the following dates and times:

- **The Historic Grand Theatre – Grand Island, NE** (316 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street)
  - Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. & Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m.
  - Meet the Filmmakers after each screening. Ticket prices are \$8 each. Visit [www.grandmovietheatre.com](http://www.grandmovietheatre.com) for additional ticket purchasing information.



## **Fast Facts about the Film and Filmmakers:**

- Research for ***Born To Rein*** began in 2009 after Lamp discovered a son of Sir Barton’s was sold at the May 1946 horse sale at Billings Livestock Commission in Billings, MT.
- **Lamp** and **Dobson** launched the **American Doorstop Project** on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015; and launched film production for ***Born To Rein*** at Churchill Downs in Louisville, KY, in November 2017.
- Lamp & Dobson wrote a book – **A History of Nebraska Agriculture: A Life Worth Living** and launched it in Grand Island, NE on **June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017** – **Jack Van Berg’s 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday**.
- Other National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame inductees interviewed for ***Born To Rein***, include:
  - Bob Baffert, *Two-Time Triple Crown Winning Trainer*
  - Carl Nafzger, *Trainer of Kentucky Derby winners, Unbridled and Street Sense*
  - D. Wayne Lukas, *Trainer of 24 Thoroughbred Champions*
  - Bill Mott, *Three-Time Eclipse Award Outstanding Trainer*
  - Gary Stevens, *Youngest jockey ever to surpass \$100 million in career earnings*
  - Pat Day, *Jockey ranking fourth in all-time career victories with 8,803 wins*





- **The Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center – Lincoln, NE** (313 N 13th St.)
  - Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m. in the Cooper Theater
  - Meet Filmmaker Jody L. Lamp after the screening. Ticket prices are the same as the evening prices at The Ross. Visit <https://theross.org/movies/#tickets> for additional ticket purchasing information.

- **Midwest Theater – Scottsbluff, NE** (1707 Broadway)
  - Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 p.m. & Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.
  - Meet the Filmmakers after each screening. Ticket prices are \$7 for Adults; \$4 for Midwest Members & Students. No passes, coupons, corporate or gold cards accepted.

In addition, **Lamp** and **Dobson** announce the first scheduled national screening of *Born To Rein*:



- **National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.**
  - Tuesday, Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> (Time and details to be announced in July)
  - *Born To Rein* will be featured among many activities occurring at Saratoga Springs during the **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Week** of the legendary **Travers Stakes at the Saratoga Race Course**.

- The **Travers Stakes** dates back to 1864, making it the oldest major Thoroughbred horse race in America. It was named after **William R. Travers**, who founded the Saratoga Race Course in 1863.
- *Born To Rein* features the journey of a young, Minatare, Neb., native **John A. Nerud**, who first arrived in Saratoga Springs in 1937 and worked as a groom for the Jock Whitney Stables. Ironically, 20 years later in 1957, **Nerud** would **train Gallant Man** and win the **Belmont Stakes, Travers Stakes, Peter Pan Stakes, Jockey Club Gold Cup, Nassau County Handicap and Hibiscus Stakes**. **Gallant Man** set a 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>-mile track record at Saratoga in the Travers Stakes.
- **Marion Van Berg** was the first Nebraskan ever to be inducted into the Nebraska Racing Hall of Fame; and the National Hall of Fame in 1970. His son, **Jack Van Berg** would become the first trainer ever to reach a career high of 5,000 wins; and setting a record with 496 wins in one year.
- **Jack Van Berg** was inducted into the National Hall of Fame in 1985.
- **John Nerud** was inducted into the National Hall of Fame in 1972.

"We couldn't be more excited for *Born To Rein* to launch in Nebraska during the 100-year Anniversary of America's Triple Crown for its own "Triple Crown Series" screenings to honor the prestige of the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes races," says **Lamp**, who was raised near the John Nerud family homestead near Minatare in western Nebraska. "And certainly, we can't think of a better venue to showcase *Born To Rein* than at the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame during 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Travers Stakes."

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To bring the *Born To Rein* documentary film to a theater near you, or to book the filmmakers and the film for your next event, contact the producers at [office@BornToRein.com](mailto:office@BornToRein.com) or call **406.698.9675**.

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