

Paul Espinosa

Series Producer of *California and the American Dream*

Producer and Director of *The Price of Renewal*

Paul Espinosa is an award-winning Filmmaker and Producer, now a Professor in the Department of Transborder Chicano/Latina Studies at Arizona State University. He has been involved with producing films for over 25 years, specializing in documentary and dramatic films focused on the U.S.-Mexico border region. Through his production company, Espinosa Productions, and working with public television stations in San Diego and Dallas, he has produced many major national PBS productions including: **California and the American Dream**, a documentary series examining how demographic changes are transforming California and the nation; **The Border**, a PBS news magazine about life along the US-Mexico border; **The U.S.-Mexican War: 1846-1848**, a binational documentary series commemorating the 150th anniversary of this pivotal event in U.S.-Mexican history; **...and the earth did not swallow him**, a American Playhouse adaptation of a novel about a Mexican American boy and his farmworker family; and **The Lemon Grove Incident**, a docudrama about one of America's earliest desegregation cases.

Espinosa's films have been screened at festivals around the country and the world and have won many awards including eight Emmys; five CINE Golden Eagle awards; two Ohio State Awards; a Golden Mike Award; two Blue Ribbons and a Red Ribbon from the American Film Festival.

Espinosa received his B.A. degree from Brown University in Anthropology and his Ph.D. from Stanford University, also in Anthropology, where he specialized in the cultural analysis of television communication. Espinosa has been the recipient of major funding from many national and state agencies, including the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Ford Foundation, ITVS, the American Experience, American Playhouse and The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Other major national PBS productions include: **Taco Shop Poets**, a segment for **Visiones** a three hour series examining all genres of Latino art; **The Hunt for Pancho Villa** (for The American Experience), a documentary profiling Villa's dramatic raid on Columbus, New Mexico and the American expedition sent to capture him; **1492 Revisited**, a documentary on a dramatic art exhibit providing a critical perspective on the quincentenary; **Los Mineros** (for The American Experience), the story of Mexican American copper miners' 50-year struggle for justice in Arizona; **The New Tijuana**, a documentary portraying the dynamic economic and political changes shaping Tijuana, Mexico; **Uneasy Neighbors**, a profile of escalating tensions between migrant camps and affluent homeowners in San Diego; **In the Shadow of the Law**, a documentary profiling four families living illegally in the U.S.; and **Ballad of an Unsung Hero**, a portrait of the colorful life of Pedro J. Gonzalez.

Espinosa has been honored with retrospective Paul Espinosa Festivals in Albuquerque, El Paso and San Diego. The California Chicano News Media Association honored Espinosa with a Lifetime Achievement Award and the National Association of Hispanic Journalists has inducted him into the NAHJ Hall of Fame. He has served on the Boards of the Media Arts Center of San Diego (as President and Co-Founder) and the Association of Independent Video and Filmmakers National Board (as Treasurer), and is an active member of the National Association of Latino Independent Producers.

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