PBS Plunges into the Wonders of the Pacific Ocean This Summer in
BIG PACIFIC

* **Actor Daniel Dae Kim Narrates Five-part Series Starting June 21, 2017** –

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| Green sea turtle diving at Coron, Palawan, Philippines.Credit: NHNZ |

ARLINGTON, VA; MAY 11, 2017 – PBS announced today that the new documentary series BIG PACIFIC will air June 21-July 19, 2017, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET on PBS. Over four cinematic episodes and a “Making Of” special, **BIG PACIFIC** breaks boundaries between land and sea to survey the array of rare and dazzling creatures found in and around the Pacific Ocean. Actor and producer Daniel Dae Kim (*Hawaii Five-0, Lost*) narrates the series.

Traveling coast to coast and examining the micro to the mega, **BIG PACIFIC** moves throughout the world’s largest ocean to present a broad range of locations, species, natural phenomena and behaviors. Each episode focuses on an iconic characteristic of the Pacific— voracious, mysterious, violent and passionate — to weave stories from across the sea that illustrate the multi-faceted character of this ocean.

“PBS is the destination for fascinating and comprehensive science and nature programming year-round and we are excited to share **BIG PACIFIC** with audiences this summer,” said Pamela Aguilar, Senior Director of Programming & Development for PBS. “The Pacific Ocean is truly epic. It is an ocean so many people know, but it has many amazing untold stories found in its depths, from the mysterious sand circles of the Japanese coast to the behavioral adaptations of isolated island dwellers and the incredible appetites of the largest animals on earth.”

Filmed in ultra-high definition, **BIG PACIFIC** will present the ocean and its denizens in way never before seen on television.

**“Mysterious”**

***Premieres Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET***

In the 21st century,explorers are only beginning to plumb the depths of the Pacific, yearning to unravel its mysteries … but the ocean doesn’t give up secrets willingly.

**“Violent”**

***Premieres Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET***

Surrounded by the Ring of Fire, the Pacific Ocean is the epicenter of natural mayhem. Violence is part of life in the Pacific, and the creatures that live there must choose whether to avoid conflict or rise to meet it.

**“Voracious”**

***Premieres Wednesday, July 5, 2017, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET***

Food is plentiful in the Pacific Ocean, but the challenge of finding that food drives all life in the Pacific. For creatures large and small, every mouthful counts.

**“Passionate”**

***Premieres Wednesday, July 12, 2017, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET***

In the Pacific, the quest to multiply has spawned a stunning array of unusual behaviors and adaptations.

**“Big Pacific: Making Of” (w.t.)**

***Premieres Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET***

Follow the adventures of the filmmakers of BIG PACIFIC. This special captures the highlights and challenges of wildlife filmmaking.

**BIG PACIFIC** was produced by NHNZ in association with PBS, ARTE France, CCTV9, Discovery Networks Europe, ZDF, ZDF Enterprises and NHK. The series was made possible by the Anne Ray Charitable Trust and public television viewers.

**BIG PACIFIC** will be available on Blu-ray and DVD from PBS Distribution at [shopPBS.org](http://www.shoppbs.org/home/index.jsp). The series will also be available for digital download. The companion book to the five-part series is published by the Princeton University Press.

**BIG PACIFIC** is part of “PBS Summer of Adventure,” taking viewers and their families on an adventure around the world this season. The lineup of history, science and natural history programming includes the six-part series THE STORY OF CHINA, an exploration of China’s 4,000-year history featuring Michael Wood beginning June 20. Following BIG PACIFIC on June 21, GREAT YELLOWSTONE THAW is a three-part series showcasing the stories of different animal families as they attempt to survive the toughest spring on Earth. On July 12, the three-part NATURE’S GREAT RACE explores the most astounding migrations on earth. RARE – CREATURES OF THE PHOTO ARK, beginning July 18, follows National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore in three episodes as he documents the world’s species at risk of extinction. WEEKEND IN HAVANA is a one-hour walking tour through Cuba on July 18. On August 2, IRELAND’S WILD COAST takes viewers on a one-hour journey along the island’s rugged Atlantic coast. PBS KIDS will also feature special “Summer of Adventure" children’s programming.

 **About PBS**
[PBS](http://www.pbs.org/), with nearly 350 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches nearly 100 million people through television and nearly 28 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’ broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS’ premier children’s media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV – including a new 24/7 channel, online at [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org/), via an array of mobile apps and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org/), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](https://twitter.com/pbs), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs) or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](http://www.pbs.org/anywhere/home/). Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pressroom.pbs.org/) or by following[PBS Pressroom on Twitter](https://twitter.com/pbspressroom).

**About NHNZ**

NHNZ is a major global producer of factual television creating original content for National Geographic Channels, PBS, Animal Planet, Discovery, NHK and CCTV. NHNZ’s storytelling prowess has been recognized with more than 250 international awards including Emmy awards and the prestigious Wildscreen Panda. With a market focussed approach, NHNZ is made of three central divisions. Highly regarded for its 35-year plus natural history heritage, NHNZ core continues to go from strength to strength in the wildlife blue chip arena, with the upcoming series *Big Pacific* set to be the company’s biggest global co-production to date. NHNZ has also cemented its expertise in clip shows via The Archive Unit which, since launching in 2014, has produced over 28 hours of premium archive content for broadcasters around the globe, including original series *Wild 24* and *Extreme Animal Babies*. Following the recent success with US-based commissions like *I Survived…* and *LA Frock Stars*, NHNZ this year launched a US production division, Outrun the Sun, based in Washington, D.C.

[www.nhnz.tv](http://www.nhnz.tv)

**About ZDF Enterprises**

ZDF Enterprises was founded in 1993 as a commercial subsidiary of ZDF, one of the largest and most renowned TV broadcasters in Europe. Headquartered in Mainz, Germany, ZDF Enterprises is responsible for the worldwide sale of programs, the making of international co-productions, the acquisition of licenses as well as the merchandising of strong program brands in its own name, for the ZDF, and for third parties. ZDF Enterprises has successfully established itself as an independent market player on the German and international stage. Bound into a strong group, the company manages the largest German-language stock of programs in the world and, next to this, a continuously growing portfolio of international productions consisting of series and miniseries, TV movies, documentaries and children’s programs. In the course of the development and diversification process carried out up to now, many business fields in the television and media domains were made accessible in the ZDF Enterprises group. Thus ZDF Enterprises can provide a comprehensive, full-service offering today, and covers every step in the chain of origin and exploitation of successful TV programs, from development to production and up to the marketing of TV licenses, merchandising rights, online rights and much more.

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