Press Contact:

June Jennings, The WNET Group, 443.834.3203, jenningsj@wnet.org

Press Materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](http://thirteen.org/pressroom)

*Secrets of the Dead* Debuts Five New Episodes for 20th Season on PBS

Series unearths stories from the Spencers’ Althorp Estate, Pompeii, and more

Explore the majestic grounds of a British estate with ties to the Royal Family, discover the social classes of an ancient city from the ashes of Pompeii in Italy, investigate the cause for the decline of the Roman Empire and more. ***Secrets of the Dead*** continues to uncover historical gems from around the globe in its 20th season beginning on Sunday, October 9 at 8 p.m. on PBS ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/)), [pbs.org/secrets](https://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/) and the [PBS Video app](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/).

The new season opens with royal expedition ***Archaeology at Althorp***, which reveals one of the most significant British archaeological finds of the century at the ancestral home of the Spencer family, which includes Diana, Princess of Wales.

New ***Secrets of the Dead*** episodes include:

***Secrets of the Dead: Archaeology at Althorp***

*Season 20 Premieres Sunday, October 9 at 8 p.m. on PBS*

Charles, Ninth Earl Spencer — best-selling author and brother to the late Princess Diana — may be sitting on the greatest British archaeological find of the century. Searching Althorp, the Spencer family estate, for a medieval village, a team of British archaeologists find evidence of something far older.

***Secrets of the Dead: Last Days of Pompeii***

*Premieres Wednesday, October 19 at 10 p.m. on PBS*

What were the last days in Pompeii like before the eruption of Mount Vesuvius 2,000 years ago? The dazzling discovery of an intact wooden chariot, the only one ever found, provides new insight into the social classes of the ancient city.

***Secrets of the Dead: The End of the Romans***

*Premieres Wednesday, October 26 at 10 p.m. on PBS*

Is history repeating Itself? Follow an in-depth investigation into the real causes of the decline of the Roman Empire. Three deadly epidemics and climate change could have caused its collapse—drawing frightening parallels to today.

***Secrets of the Dead: Decoding Hieroglyphics***

*Premieres Wednesday, November 2 at 10 p.m. on PBS*

A review of how ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics were first translated 200 years ago and a look at the archaeological work being done in Egypt right now to understand one of the most important scribes.

The final new episode will be announced at a later date.

As one of PBS’s ongoing limited primetime series, ***Secrets of the Dead*** is a perennial favorite, routinely ranking among one of most-watched series on public television. Now in its 20th season, ***Secrets of the Dead*** uses the latest scientific discoveries to challenge prevailing ideas and share fresh perspectives on historical events. The serieshas received 10 CINE Golden Eagle Awards and six Emmy nominations, among numerous other awards.

***Secrets of the Dead*** is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on all station-branded PBS platforms, including [PBS.org](https://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/)and [the PBS Video App](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/), available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO. PBS station members can view many series, documentaries and specials [via PBS Passport](https://www.pbs.org/passport/videos/). For more information about PBS Passport, visit [the PBS Passport FAQ website](https://help.pbs.org/support/solutions/5000121793).

***Secrets of the Dead*** is a production of The WNET Group. Stephanie Carter is executive producer. Stephen Segaller is executive in charge.

Funding for ***Secrets of the Dead*** is provided by public television viewers.

**Websites:** <http://pbs.org/secrets>, <http://facebook.com/SecretsoftheDead>, [@secretspbs](http://twitter.com/secretspbs), #SecretsDeadPBS

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**About The WNET Group**[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/) – America’s flagship PBS station – [WLIW21](http://wliw.org/), THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](https://www.mynjpbs.org/), New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](http://allarts.org/), the arts and culture media provider; and newsroom [NJ Spotlight News](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/). Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group’s award-winning productions include signature PBS series ***Nature***, ***Great Performances***, ***American Masters***, ***PBS NewsHour Weekend*** and ***Amanpour and Company*** and trusted local news programs ***MetroFocus*** and ***NJ Spotlight News******with Briana Vannozzi***. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group’s award-winning Kids’ Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series ***Cyberchase***, interactive ***Mission US*** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for nearly 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.