

A black and white photograph of George Dunbar, an older man with a mustache, wearing a light-colored headband and a button-down shirt. He is standing in front of a large, textured metal surface, possibly a mine wall, which has several circular openings. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the metal and his features.

 **wlae**
PRESENTS

GEORGE DUNBAR

MINING THE SURFACES

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From the award-winning executive producers of the documentaries **Fats Domino – Walkin’ Back to New Orleans** and **A Tribute to Toussaint** comes the latest documentary by WLAE-TV and LAE Productions.

For those who know the artist and his work, this name brings a career, a work ethic, a personality, a journey into vivid focus.

Like his art, George Dunbar is a gift to the world of beauty he inhabits. Across the decades he has been in constant motion, and like the landscape he lives and works within, his work, his style, have ever ebbed and flowed in a myriad of directions. His works have been called sumptuous, vigorous, immaculate, and an effort toward perfection.

From the early days of Abstract Expressionism in New York, working with giants like Franz Kline and Willem de Kooning, showing with the former, his body of work has run like a river through the varied series and mediums over time. The sculptural and gilded forms he is known for take on a refined ethos with a sublime weightiness and permanence. The precise, architectural, if not liturgical works of scale, from the “Coin” series, are both modern, and convey a profound history the viewer “knows”.

George Dunbar’s love of New Orleans, his inspiration derived from the landscape here, his place in the rise of modern and contemporary art in the area, and his rare approachability as an artist of voluminous contribution, are the substance of this long overdue documentary on the man and his work.

Collectors cannot get enough of him or his work; some have entire homes filled with only his work, the varied series across the decades. To speak with him, it is immediately clear, “the work is the thing.” For Dunbar the calling to art is about the art, with no regard to the misappropriated and all too common search for fame and recognition. He has indeed received his fair share of renown, among collectors, museums, institutions, and beyond, yet, the everyday pursuit of the art still drives him, now into his 90s. He has outlived so many artists of his time, and no doubt, his art will live on in the future, receiving an ever growing sense of appreciation and passionate pursuit.

We could not be more honored and pleased to bring the story of George Dunbar to viewers near and far.



Executive Producers Ron Yager and Jim Dotson are the power team responsible for numerous award-winning films for WLAE. Their individual and collaborative careers include extensive experience and expertise producing entertaining and informative content for television audiences.

Three of their concert documentaries enjoy national distribution through American Public Television: ***Fats Domino – Walkin’ Back to New Orleans***, the Emmy-Award winning ***A Tribute to Toussaint***, and ***Leah Chase: The Queen of Creole Cuisine***. ***Irma Thomas: The Soul Queen of New Orleans*** premiered in 2021 can be seen on LPB affiliate stations statewide.

Other highly acclaimed releases include ***Fitz! The Life and Political Legacy of Jimmy Fitzmorris*** and their multi-Emmy Award-winning travel series ***Go Coast: Louisiana*** which celebrates Louisiana music, food and culture and runs locally on WLAE and statewide on LPB. Ron and Jim also have been twice-honored with coveted Gabriel Awards in 2016 & 2017 for their biopics, ***Ordinary People***, ***Extraordinary Gifts: The Road to Sainthood*** and ***A Legacy Of Love: Henriette Delille and the Sisters of the Holy Family***. They invite you to be a supporting partner in this tribute celebrating George Dunbar’s illustrious career.



Executive Producer & Director of Legacy Projects Bruce Lee Smith has a 25 year career in art, collectible assets, TV and radio, and funding enterprises. As a business owner and director of high profile institutions within the world of fine art and world class rare objects, and as a published author and storyteller, he has become a great fit for our current and future efforts here at WLAE TV. Bruce has been a radio host, frequent commentator and guest on nationally recognized shows, and is passionate about the mission of education and service through public television.



Producer Janet Gross is an award-winning television journalist, writer and producer. She has spent her career talking to people, learning about them and telling their stories. In addition to covering TV news in several states, she’s hosted television and radio talk shows in New Orleans and has written and narrated several award-winning documentaries and programs for WLAE-TV.



BECOME A PARTNER

GEORGE DUNBAR

MINING THE SURFACES



ICON
\$50,000

Executive Producer credit, premiere signage, meet and greet with photos at premiere, 12 tickets to premiere, plus private tour of the artist's studio. Framed documentary poster. On-screen Icon level credit with logo or name, social media mentions, commemorative DVD, and more.

PRESENTING
\$25,000

Associate Executive Producer credit, Premiere signage, meet and greet with photos at premiere, 8 tickets to premiere, plus private tour of the artist's studio. Framed documentary poster. "Presented by" on-screen credit with logo or name, social media mentions, commemorative DVD and more.



DIAMOND
\$10,000

Premiere signage, meet and greet with photos at premiere, 4 tickets to premiere. Diamond-level donors group tour of the artist's studio. Framed documentary poster. On-screen credit (business or personal name), social media mentions, commemorative DVD, and more.

GOLD
\$5,000

Premiere signage (group listing,) 2 tickets to premiere, framed documentary poster and commemorative DVD.

SILVER
\$1,000

1 ticket to premiere and commemorative DVD

**For more information,
please contact:**

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