



Documentary Channel Blasts Off With IMAX Films Package

By: Thomas Umstead Mar 16 2009 - 5:14pm

The Documentary Channel will debut three movies from its exclusive IMAX Original films package on April 12 as it salutes man's first trip into outer space.

The films, part of DOC channel's 2008 multiyear deal with Northstar Media for the IMAX XXI film package, will include *Hail Columbia!*, which spotlights the inaugural voyage of the world's first space shuttle; *Space Station*, narrated by Tom Cruise, which helps viewers experience for themselves life in zero gravity away from our planet; and *Destiny in Space*, which pays tribute to the spirit of our continuing exploration of the solar system.

The films will commemorate the anniversary of man's first trip into outer space (Yuri Gagarin, April 12, 1961) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) first space shuttle launch (Columbia, April 12, 1981).

Other IMAX films set to debut Sundays in April on DOC include the Walter Cronkite-narrated space exploration film *The Dream Is Alive*; and *Mission to Mir*, which will provide viewers with the opportunity to spend time aboard the world's first long term space station.

"It is with great pride that The Documentary Channel is the first network to premiere these extraordinary and often breathtaking IMAX films to television audiences in North America," says Tom Neff, The Documentary Channel CEO and founder in a statement. "IMAX has established a well-deserved one-of-a-kind reputation for filmmaking, and we hope viewers will take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy our new IMAX Originals lineup every Sunday."

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