



Objects and Memory

a documentary film and educational initiative

"Finally, a film that connects our all too familiar material world with a spiritual one. *Objects and Memory* reminds us all how precious memories cling tenaciously to ordinary things, offering shared moments across cultural boundaries and historical time." - Kathleen Hulser, New-York Historical Society Public Historian

"This film moved me deeply. What a powerful testimonial to history and how we salvage and preserve it in the smallest and most enigmatic of objects. The stories selected conveyed so eloquently the importance and gravity of the role objects play in allowing people to make their peace with devastation and trauma." - Susan Faludi, author of *"The Terror Dream."*

"...a meditation on how seemingly ordinary objects can serve as a link to past events and absent loved ones in the wake of catastrophic events...The film concludes that without such objects, the stories they represent would lack vibrancy, and that without the stories, the objects would lack significance. *Objects and Memory* is a moving exploration of how the two conjoin."

 Associated Press

"*Objects and Memory*...achieves a poignancy...Personal stories...are the core of this film...Objects—a rabbit's foot key chain, some old boots, a baseball—[are] displayed without explanation but so lovingly and respectfully photographed that they tell their own stories. Philip Glass's music is the perfect accompaniment."

The New York Times

"*Objects and Memory* is compelling and fascinating, and a wonderful gift for people who may have missed it in theatres or on PBS. The film makes us look at what we've lost and what is left after catastrophe. I strongly recommend this. -- Anne Summers, Montrose, New York (on Amazon.com)

"*Objects and Memory* takes an entirely different approach to Oklahoma City and, even more, to 9/11. The documentary's focus is on how the people of the affected communities responded... *Objects and Memory* is a marvelous program, thoughtfully conceived and wonderfully realized. You won't regret the hour you spend watching it." **THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

"Thoughtful, engaging, poignant, evocative. An excellent resource." **The Journal of American History**

"*Objects and Memory* outlines the power of remembrance... This calm [film] reminds us that there can be more power in one ordinary found object than in all but the most eloquent rhetorical tributes. *Objects and Memory* isn't all about Sept. 11, since it also talks about the role of objects in commemorating the Oklahoma City bombing and the Vietnam War. In each case, it suggests that surviving objects, however apparently mundane and random, become our tangible

connection to the past, to something we don't wish to forget no matter how terrible it was. Unlike some Sept. 11 memorials, *Objects and Memory* may not always trigger the saddest remembrances of that day. Just some of the most enduring.” **DAILY NEWS** |

“What an incredible piece of work--you have my most sincere admiration. A great idea, perfectly executed. Wonderful visuals and wonderful interviews from the most impressive of people. My wife and I were spell-bound as we sat there and watched it. The program is nothing short of spectacular--poignant, moving, haunting, sentimental, beautiful.” – *Roger Connor, Vice President, Marriott International*

“Making compelling use of Frank Langella's dusky, measured narration and Philip Glass' alternately haunting, soaring music - as persistent as memory itself - the documentary considers the way everyday things can transform our lives and be themselves transformed in the wake of tragedy.

“*Objects and Memory* charts how the replaceable - currency, paperwork, accessories - can become irreplaceable, particularly when horrifying circumstances make many of the departed seemingly vanish. And how items conveying one terrible moment in time become emblems of immortality.” **The Journal News**


“What an extraordinary and insightful film! My wife and I were both stunned by the power of it.” – *Martin Aronchick, Westchester, NY*

“The stories themselves really bordered upon the miraculous and ultimately I think inspire hope and empathy. There were so many characters who acted and responded to the articles and objects of life with such good intention that it makes me recognize this characteristic in myself - and reminds one, I think, to be more aware of the ways that we communicate with the physical reality of the world we live in.” – *Thomas W. Campbell, filmmaker*

“Moving and relevant” **Preservation Nation**

“*Objects and Memory* is a blessing for all of us.” – *Sharon Sokoloff, Director, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Brandeis University*

“*Objects and Memory* addresses the importance of history—what we need to remember from those who preceded us, what we wish to pass on to the future, and why we need to do so. It explores the notion of museums—why do we have them, how do things get there, who are the people who are behind the things that we see in the glass cases? What happens to us when we are in the presence of relics? *Objects and Memory* depicts the transformation of ordinary items into vital sources of connection.” **NATIONAL HISTORY EDUCATION CLEARINGHOUSE**

“How do objects take on sacred meaning, anyway? The new PBS documentary *Objects & Memory* examines just this question. In the aftermath of great loss, ordinary objects often take on profound emotional importance for us, helping us bridge an irreplaceable past and a hopeful future.” 

“An absolutely stunning, poignant and articulate film.” -- *Robin Rene Roe, Director of Education, Santa Barbara Historical Museum*