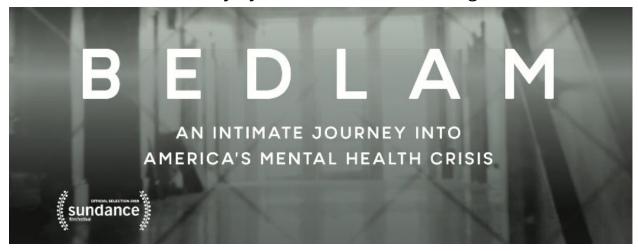
BEDLAM

A film by by Kenneth Paul Rosenberg



Trailer: https://vimeo.com/312148944

Run Time: 84:53

Website: www.bedlamfilm.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/BedlamTheFilm/

Twitter: obedlamfilm

Film stills:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GuefJBcR5Eh4ILE8v t6Wv9xZngWfvJE?usp=sh

aring

Poster: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1D46P8faWmvc06YAs5Vq3L1vm6 9NHf-C/view?usp=s

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BOOK SALES AND PRESS:

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FILM SYNOPSIS

BEDLAM is a feature-length documentary that addresses the national crisis and criminalization of the mentally ill, its connection between hundreds of thousands of homeless Americans and our nation's disastrous approach to caring for its psychiatric patients.

In the wake of decades of de-institutionalization in which half a million psychiatric hospital beds have been lost, our jails and prisons have become America's largest mental institutions. Emergency rooms provide the only refuge for severely mentally ill who need care. Psychiatric patients are held captive and warehoused in overcrowded jails as untrained and under-equipped first-responders are on the front lines. At least half the people shot and killed by police each year have mental health problems, with communities of color disproportionately impacted. The mentally ill take to the streets for survival, existing in encampments under our freeways and along our streets, doing whatever it takes to stay alive. This crisis can no longer be ignored.

Through intimate stories of patients, families, and medical providers, **BEDLAM** immerses us in the national crisis surrounding care of the severely mentally ill. Filmed over five years, the documentary brings us inside one of America's busiest psychiatric emergency rooms, into jails, and to the homes – and homeless encampments – of mentally ill members of our communities. The story is told in part by director Kenneth Paul Rosenberg, MD, a psychiatrist, filmmaker, and brother of a person with schizophrenia. Among others, featured in the film is Patrisse Cullors, co-founder of *Black Lives Matter*, and her brother Monte, a victim and survivor of this very broken system.

BEDLAM premiered to standing ovations at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival and will have its broadcast premiere on PBS's Independent Lens in April 2020.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Through intimate stories of patients, families, and medical providers, BEDLAM is a feature-length documentary that immerses us in the national crisis surrounding care of the seriously mentally ill. Filmed over five years, it brings us inside one of America's busiest psychiatric emergency rooms, into jails where psychiatric patients are warehoused, and to the homes – and homeless encampments – of mentally ill members of our communities, where silence and shame often compound personal

suffering. The story is told in part by director Kenneth Paul Rosenberg, MD, whose own life journey has been profoundly impacted by a seriously mentally ill family member.

LOGLINE

An intimate journey Into America's mental health crisis

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

What does the title of this movie mean?

Bedlam was the name of the first asylum ever built; the Bethlem Royal Hospital in London, England, created with good intentions. Since that time, in the late Middle Ages, asylums were built as monuments to enlightenment, only to become symbols of neglect. Today, the asylums are nearly no more, replaced with jails, which are today's de facto asylums, as well as homelessness. "Bedlam" is now a term associated with chaos, and regrettably also describes America's approach to serious mental illness.

Why did you make this movie?

I am a psychiatrist as well as a documentary filmmaker. But my education about severe mental illness started long before I became a doctor. When I was 14, my beautiful and kind 20-year-old sister, Merle, became seriously mentally ill. Her illness, compounded by my parents' denial that there was anything wrong with Merle, tore at the very fabric of our family and altered the course of all of our lives.

Over the years I have come to see that my family's tragedy is an American tragedy. My family's shame is America's great secret. Fifteen million American families live with serious mental illness, and yet the resources and options for the severely mentally ill are limited and grossly inadequate. In America, the three largest providers of mental health care are our three largest jails. This dire situation is the result of the defunding and dismantling of mental institutions across the country, which began in the 1950s and culminated in the 1980s. As local psychiatric hospitals and clinics have closed, the psychiatric emergency room is now a mainstay of treatment.

By 2011, I was desperate to understand how my profession and my country had so often abandoned our sickest citizens. I returned to the city where I'd begun my

psychiatry training twenty-five years prior, Los Angeles, California, where 20,000 people with mental illness live on the streets, the largest mental institution in the United States is the LA County Jail, and the only refuge for many is the emergency room at the LAC+USC Medical Center. There, in the epicenter of the crisis, I began my chronicle of what it means to be mentally ill in America today.

My goal in making the film is to transform the way the nation treats people with serious mental illness today, so that they, unlike my sister, might have a chance to live with dignity and purpose. It is to change our insane approach to severe mental illness.

The homeless problem is nationwide and concentrated in our major cities. As a filmmaker from NYC, why was it important to you to make Los Angeles your focus?

The crisis in care of the seriously mentally ill is the largest social disaster of our time, affecting millions of people across the nation. California has been at the center of this crisis for decades, in part because the state was at the forefront of emptying out its hospitals. The crisis in Los Angeles is tragic and impossible to ignore, with tens of thousands of people sleeping on the streets every night, many of whom are seriously mentally ill.

Although I am based in New York, I chose to focus our filming in Los Angeles. It was in LA that I began my psychiatry training twenty-five years earlier, and it was there that I returned to one of the busiest and most highly regarded psychiatric emergency rooms in the country, to understand what it means to be mentally ill in America today. To follow the story of our central characters over many years allowed for a wonderful collaboration with our LA-based co-producers and principal camera crew, the legendary documentary makers Joan Churchill and Alan Barker.

What was your biggest surprise in making this film?

I began making the film without knowing that my family's story would be a part of the narrative of the documentary. But as I began to document the lives of the people in our film, I realized that at the heart of the story is the need to overcome shame and stigma. With the participation of my filmmaking team, I returned to Philadelphia to my childhood home, to examine how my family's own experiences could help frame the broader stories in our film. To be willing to tell my story meant overcoming the shame and stigma that so many family members confront.

Another surprise: over the course of making the film, I witnessed what I believe are the beginnings of a national movement to address this crisis. Two years after starting work on the film, and after meeting and filming with her brother Monte in the ER, I witnessed as Patrisse Cullors co-founded one of the most important civil rights organizations of our time, Black Lives Matter. In our film, in her work, and in her bestselling memoir, she acknowledges that all of her activism stems from her work to help her brother.

What have you learned through the process of making this film?

I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of the patients and families with whom we filmed, who in the midst of some of the most difficult challenges imaginable, were willing to share their time and stories with us.

How long did it take to make this film from inception to final edit?

It took seven years from beginning to end, but I believe it's really the culmination of all of the work I have done during my lifetime.

What was your greatest challenge making this film?

Allowing myself to participate as one of the storytellers in the film. Now that the film is done, I cannot imagine how I could have told it any other way.

What do you hope audiences will take away from seeing BEDLAM?

The film is both a call to consciousness and a call to action. We hope people will be moved by the stories in the film, and it will help spark conversations that will allow us to overcome shame and stigma, and come together an undaunted, unashamed community to insist on change.

As we have made the film itself, we have simultaneously been developing an intensive national and community-based engagement campaign in collaboration with a growing list of local and national organizations, including our broadcast partner, the Independent Television Service (ITVS), which will be presenting BEDLAM to national television audiences on the PBS series Independent Lens. We and our partners believe that the film could help alter America's understanding of the crisis in care for the severely mentally ill, and in reaching a wide, mainstream audience, will help facilitate both dialogue and urgently needed change.

What can the average person do to help?

We hope that audiences will be moved by meeting the patients, families, and doctors in our film, and that they will want to join in a national conversation to

demand that we change the insane way in which our nation cares for people with serious mental illness.

FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Kenneth Paul Rosenberg (director/producer/writer) has been making award-winning documentaries since medical school. While a medical student at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, he also studied film at NYU. He co-produced and co-directed (with Ruth Neuwald Falcon) AN ALZHEIMER'S STORY, a film about a film living with Alzheimer's Disease, filmed over the course of eighteen months. After his residency in Psychiatry at the Payne-Whitney Clinic at New York Presbyterian Hospital, he did a Fellowship in Public Health, during which he directed and produced THROUGH MADNESS, a film on serious mental illness, for PBS. While a practicing psychiatrist, Ken produced and directed films for HBO, including WHY AM I GAY?: STORIES OF COMING OUT IN AMERICA (Oscar Documentary Feature Shortlist), BACK FROM MADNESS, and DRINKING APART, and executive produced CANCER: EVOLUTION TO REVOLUTION (Peabody Award-winner). He

is also the editor of medical textbooks and author of popular books including BEDLAM which was published by Avery/Penguin Random House.



Peter Miller (producer/writer) is an Emmy and Peabody-award winning filmmaker whose documentaries have screened in cinemas and on television throughout the world. His films include A.K.A. DOC POMUS, SACCO AND VANZETTI, JEWS AND BASEBALL: AN AMERICAN LOVE STORY, ROBERT SHAW: MAN OF MANY VOICES, PROJECTIONS OF AMERICA, THE INTERNATIONALE, and A CLASS APART. Peter has also been a producer on numerous documentaries by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, including the PBS series THE WAR, JAZZ, and FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT. More at willowpondfilms.com



Jim Cricchi (editor) is a Brooklyn-based documentary editor and filmmaker. A co-founder of Twelve Letter Films, Jim directed, photographed and edited the IDA shortlisted and award-winning short documentary LOS LECHEROS (2017) and is in production on a feature doc covering Wisconsin's tumultuous 2018 midterm elections. He has edited documentaries

(BEDLAM, ONE BIG HOME), feature films (MILAREPA, I DO AND I DON'T), television (EMMY-winning series Vice on HBO) and short films for The Criterion Collection and *The New York Times*.



Joan Churchill (co-producer/director of photography) Filmmaker and cinematographer Joan Churchill, is dedicated to making experiential films. Churchill began her career shooting on a series of music films, including Gimme Shelter, No Nukes, and Jimi Plays Berkeley, which she directed. Her credits include An American Family, the definitive vérité study of dysfunctional family life, Punishment Park and Pumping Iron, in which the world met Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Churchill with Nick Broomfield have made 10 films together, including Soldier Girls, Aileen: Life & Death of a Serial Killer, Kurt & Courtney, Biggie & Tupac and Sarah Palin: You Betcha!. With her partner, Alan Barker, she produced and shot two TV vérité series, The Residents and American High. Their recent credits include Last Days in Vietnam, Citizen Koch, Inventing David Geffen and three films about mental health issues: Medicating Normal, Cracked Up and Bedlam.

Churchill is the first pure documentary cinematographer to be accepted into the ASC. Her accolades include the BAFTA, DuPont Columbia Award, Prix Italia, IDA's Award for Outstanding Cinematography; Camerlmage's Outstanding Achievement in Documentary Filmmaking; Sundance, Chicago, Tribeca and IDFA festival prizes, Amnesty International Doen Award, and Women in Film's Vision Award, among others.



Danny Bensi and Saunder Jurriaans (composers) are award winning film composers who have been playing music together for over twenty years. In the last eight years, they have completed well over 100 acclaimed film and TV scores. As a duo, they are known for bold unpredictability, uniqueness, and their ability to interpret a wide range of genres.

Select credits include: MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE, ENEMY (Best Musical Score, Canadian Screen Awards), THE GIFT, LA 92 (Nat Geo), AMANDA KNOX (Netflix), and THE WOLFPACK (Netflix, Sundance Grand Jury Prize Winner), OZARK (Netflix), THE OA (Netflix), CHEF'S TABLE (Netflix), FEAR THE WALKING DEAD (AMC), AMERICAN GODS (STARZ), FOR HONOR (Ubisoft), BOY ERASED, THE WOLF HOUR.

PROTAGONIST BIOGRAPHIES

Patrisse Cullors (Co-founder, *Black Lives Matter Global Network*) is an artist, organizer, educator, and popular public speaker. Patrisse is a Los Angeles native, and in addition to the Black Lives Matter Global Network, she founded the grass roots *Dignity and Power Now* and is a senior fellow at MomsRising where she is working on ending Maternal Mortality and Morbidity.

In 2013, Patrisse co-founded the global movement with the viral Twitter hashtag #BlackLivesMatter which has since grown to an international organization with dozens of chapters around the world fighting anti-Black racism. In January 2018 Patrisse Cullors published her memoir, "When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir." Her memoir became an instant New York Times Bestseller.

Patrisse has been honored with various awards including: The Sydney Peace Prize Award (2017), Black Woman of the Year Award (2015) from The National Congress of Black Women, Civil Rights Leader for the 21st Century Award (2015) from the Los Angeles Times, Community Change Agent Award (2016) from BLACK GIRLS ROCK!, Inc., Women of the Year Award for the Justice Seekers Award (2016) from Glamour, and ESSENCE' first-ever Woke Award. Patrisse is currently a 2019 MFA candidate at the University of Southern California.

FUNDERS

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Bergman Family Fund
Peg's Foundation
Greenburger Center For Social And Criminal Justice

among many other generous supporters

Directed, Produced and Written by KENNETH PAUL ROSENBERG

Produced and Written by
PETER MILLER

Edited by JIM CRICCHI

Cinematography JOAN CHURCHILL, A.S.C.

Location Sound ALAN BARKER

Cinematography BOB RICHMAN

Additional Cinematography BUDDY SQUIRES, A.S.C.

Original Music DANNY BENSI SAUNDER JURIAANS

Executive Producers
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LOIS VOSSEN

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BATTISTE FENWICK
BILL MEGALOS
PETER MILLER
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BOB ZITIN

DAVID ZITIN

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"Spiegel Im Spiegel" Composed by Arvo Pärt Courtesy of Universal Edition AG

Performed by Benjamin Hudson and Jürgen Kruse Courtesy of Naxos of America

"#BLMHere" Written and performed by Damon Turner

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Special Thanks HBO

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WILLOW POND FILMS

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CAST LIST (in order of appearance)
Kenneth Paul Rosenberg, MD
Dr. McGhee
Dr. Mirkovich Johanna
Dr. Lacsina
Daryl
Dr. Dias
Richard Friedman, MD

Bob Zitin Paul Appelbaum, MD

Paul Fink, MD E. Fuller Torrey, MD Robin, Nurse Practitioner Monte Patrisse Cullors Cherisse Rodney Zev Yaroslavsky Gov. Gavin Newsom bboT Dr. Epstein Stephen Mitchell Delilah Gloria Rep. Patrick Kennedy D.J. Jaffe Timothy McDermott

PRESS AND REVIEWS

Praise for BEDLAM

"A damning indictment and a call to action – lucid, harrowing and urgent."

- The Hollywood Reporter

"May be the most powerful film on serious mental illness in 20 years!"

-Healing Minds NOLA

"Partially a wake-up call and partially a somber reminder of how much we've failed people over the last century."

- RogerEbert.com

"Should be required viewing for all Americans, not just those affected by illnesses of the mind."

- Black Girl Nerds

"Like a stick of dynamite thrown into the dark and troubled history of mental health care for those with serious mental illness"

- Psychology Today

"By turns harrowing and heartwarming, director Kenneth Paul Rosenberg's documentary 'Bedlam' exposes deep flaws in the way America handles the mentally ill - mixing history, anecdote and personal survival story."

- The Movie Cricket

"Powerful in its depiction of the suffering of people left adrift by our system of care... makes clear that change is long overdue for a nation neglecting its most vulnerable citizens."

- Science

Press Clippings

Radio/Broadcast

KALW - 'Bedlam' Sheds Light On America's Mental Health Crisis

KCRW - <u>Scheer Intelligence: We're Having the Wrong Conversation About Mental Health</u>

KTLA: <u>An Intimate Journey into America's Mental Health Crisis With Psychiatrist,</u> <u>Author & Filmmaker Dr. Kenneth Rosenberg</u>

SDPB- Dr. Rosenberg: America's Mental Health Crisis

Print/Online

CriterionCast: DOC NYC 2019 PREVIEW: TEN FILMS TO SEE AT THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL

Los Angeles Times - Opinion: Mental illness was my family's secret — and America's great shame (op-ed)

Los Angeles Times - <u>Americans increasingly fear violence from people who are mentally ill. They shouldn't</u>

New York Daily News - <u>Speak up about how mental illness impacts you and your family (op-ed)</u>

New York Post: The best books of the week
New York Times - When Mental Illness Is Severe

SCREENINGS

Screenings and Events

November 12 - New York, NY - DOC NYC film festival - 5:30pm - IFC Center

October 25 - Hot Springs, AK - Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival

October 18 & 19 - New Orleans, LA - Healing Minds Conference

October 16 - Toronto, ON - Rendezvous with Madness Film Festival

October 13 - Washington, DC - Double Exposure Film Festival

October 10 - Columbus, OH - National AOT Symposium and Learning Collaborative

October 7 - Los Angeles, CA - UCLA Friends of the Semel Institute: Open Mind

October 5 and 6 - Nashville, TN - Nashville Film Festival

October 4 and 8 - Chesapeake Bay, MD - Chesapeake Film Festival

October 4 - New York, NY - American Psychiatric Association: International Presidential Symposium

September 27 - Des Moines, IA - Mental Health for US: Unite for Change

September 18 - Vancouver, BC - Vancouver Cinematheque Film Festival

September 11 - Pittsburgh, PA - ReelAbilities Pittsburgh

August 14 - Martha's Vineyard, MA - Martha's Vineyard Film Festival

July 2 - Chautaqua, NY - Everett Jewish Life Center Special Screening

May 29 - 31 - Nashville, TN - PBS Annual Meeting Announcement and Presentation

May 22 - Los Angeles, CA - WeRise LA 2019

May 8 - San Diego, CA - MacArthur Foundation screening, National Meeting: Safety and Justice Challenge

March 26 - Nashville, TN - National Council for Behavioral Health NATCON 2019

January 28 - February 3 - Park City, UT - Sundance Film Festival

INFORMATION ABOUT THE BOOK

BEDLAM is also a critically acclaimed book, now available from Penguin Random House

BOOK SYNOPSIS:

Dr. Rosenberg gives readers an inside look at the historical, political, and economic forces that have resulted in the greatest social crisis of the twenty-first century. The culmination of a seven-year inquiry, BEDLAM is not only a rallying cry for change, but also a guidebook for how we move forward with care and compassion, with resources that have never before been compiled, including legal advice, practical solutions for parents and loved ones, help finding community support, and information on therapeutic options. Jane Brody of the New York Times recently cited BEDLAM as the authoritative guide for accessing effective mental health care.

"Brutal and beautiful. Finally, a book that explains serious mental illness to the public and deciphers the madness of America's mental health care delivery system."

- Linda Rosenberg, President, CEO, National Council for Behavioral Health

"The definitive book on serious mental illness and how we treat it."

- Peter D. Kramer, author of *Listening to Prozac* and *Ordinarily Well*

"Bedlam captures the nuance and tragedy of America's current mental illness crisis better than any book I know."

- E. Fuller Torrey, MD, author of *Surviving Schizophrenia and American Psychosis*