

Premieres

April 3, 2015

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1030-1100 ET, HD03

Program Notes:
Closed Captioned, Stereo

Corporate Underwriters:
Pocket Protein



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CHICAGO

Curious Traveler

With Host Christine van Blokland

Ever walk by a statue, an old building or a painting, and wonder, what does that mean?

A statue is never just a statue. A pretty building is never just that. All those carvings, faces, swords, olive branches, pieces of fruit you see symbolize some important history, ideology, religion, political upheaval or famous person. It could be a Freemason secret symbol, a subversive joke slipped in by the artist or a proud signature of the really rich person who paid for it all.

There's always a reason why that's there, and *Curious Traveler* is going to find out what it is. *Curious Traveler* goes to incredible European and North American destinations, like Paris, Rome, Florence, New York City and Asheville, North Carolina, and explores the hidden histories in their art, architecture, museums, monuments, houses of worship and city parks.



6 ALL-NEW HALF HOUR EPISODES

Contact:

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Season 1 Episode Descriptions – Premieres April 3, 2015

#101 – Curious About ... New York City

Why are the constellations backwards in Grand Central? Why are there acorns all over the place? Why does the Great Hall at the Met look like the Baths of Caracalla? Why is there a golden Diana statue in the middle of the Met, and what does that have to do with the General Sherman statue by The Plaza? Why is Rockefeller Center's Atlas statue permanently grimacing at St. Patrick's Cathedral? And what does he have to do with the Pieta inside?

(#101, 4/03/15, 1030-1100, HDTV, Stereo)

#102 – Curious About ... London

Why is St. Paul's Cathedral such an iconic symbol of London? And why doesn't it face due East? And what does St. Paul have to do with the City of London crest? What is the City of London and why can't the Queen come in? Why do so many London neighborhoods end in -gate? Why is Temple Church round? And what did those secretive Knights Templar do here? And what does all of this have to do with Magna Carta - and why has a copy remained at Salisbury Church for 800 years?

(#102, 4/10/15, 1030-1100, HDTV, Stereo)

#103 – Curious About ... Wales

Why is there a dragon on the Welsh flag? Why does the man next-in-line for the British throne hold the title the "Prince of Wales"? What are the Walls of Constantinople doing all the way over here? Who is King Longshanks? And how is he related to King Vortigern and Magnus Maximus? Where is Britain's smallest church? I can't see it! And how the heck do you pronounce the second longest place name in the world: Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwlllantysiliogogoch???

(#103, 4/17/15, 1030-1100, HDTV, Stereo)

#104 – Curious About ... Montreal

Why did the French settle here? And why is French still the official language here (as well as English)? Why is there a Paris Metro Stop in the middle of the city? Why is Notre-Dame Basilica bathed in blue? And why does it slope downwards towards the altar? Why does the Hotel de Ville look like DC's Eisenhower Building and why does the Bank of Montreal look like the Pantheon? And is there really an ongoing archaeological dig going on under your feet at Place Royal?

(#104, 4/24/15, 1030-1100, HDTV, Stereo)

#105 – Curious About ... Asheville, North Carolina

Why is there a French Loire Valley castle in the middle of the American Deep South? Did you know that the name "Biltmore" is completely made up? Why did the architects of the Statue of Liberty, the New York Subway and Central Park put their stamp on this small town? Why did Henry Ford, F. Scott Fitzgerald and Thomas Edison all stay in a hotel where it looks like the roof is melting? And how did Scots-Irish immigrants create American country music?

(#105, 5/01/15, 1030-1100, HDTV, Stereo)

#106 – Curious About ... Vancouver & Victoria

Who is "Gassy" Jack & why is there a Vancouver historic district named after him? Who was "A.B.C. Architect" and why did he design such a grand Parliament Building in Victoria? Why isn't there a sign above the main entrance to The Empress Hotel? And why is High Tea such a big deal here? How did an 11th and 12th century French, Spanish and Italian Romanesque-style castle, built for a Scottish self-made millionaire, become 'Canada's Castle'? And how did a turn-of-the-20th century female chemist turn a quarry into one of the most famous gardens in the world?

(#106, 5/08/14, 1030-1100, HDTV, Stereo)