



## A pair of films with Okie grit

By MICHAEL SMITH  
World Scene Writer

The artistry of Woody Guthrie and demoralizing dust storms are the focus of a pair of Circle Cinema Centennial Celebration events being staged this week at the theater.

Both presentations come in the form of intelligent PBS documentaries that capture how hardships shaped the music and writings of Guthrie as well as the spirit of Oklahomans during troubled times.

After a decade of witnessing dust storm refugees from his native state escape, only to find other nightmares of the Great Depression — like migrant farming in California — Guthrie penned his most well-known song.

Considering the calamities of the era, he didn't view America as being all that blessed, and he wrote "This Land Is Your Land" in response to what he saw as the complacency of Kate Smith's "God Bless America" on the radio, we learn in "Ain't Got No Home" (★★★), the PBS "American Masters" documentary.

The Okemah-born musician, painter and writer — prodigious in each of these pursuits — is well-documented here for his genius as well as his faults, a complex man who sang for the common man, a rural icon during a burgeoning industrial age.

The Circle Cinema presents the film free to students on Monday and Tuesday in addition to a Monday night showing at which Guthrie's youngest sister, Mary Jo Edgmon, will introduce the documentary.

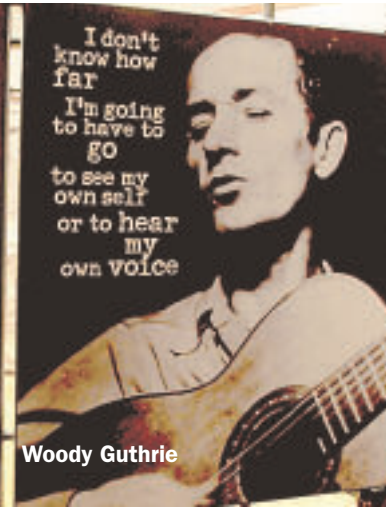
While Guthrie's works can be discovered anew by those intrigued by the man who influenced artists such as Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen, the Circle's second documentary event should be required viewing for young people because of its rare imagery of black blizzards.

"Surviving the Dust Bowl" (★★★½) was the first documented film experience that truly resonated and brought to life the eight dry, windy years that members of my own family — farmers in Coal and Pontotoc counties — lived through. They didn't see the worst of this natural disaster, as the Dust Bowl consisted of the panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas, western Kansas and eastern portions of New Mexico and Colorado.

The photos here of enormous black clouds covering vast expanses of land are evidence of why seven wheat crops failed in eight years and of what Oklahomans like the Joad family depicted in "The Grapes of Wrath" were leaving behind.

Imogene Glover, who appears in the film and recalls her years as a child growing up in western Oklahoma during the dust storm events, will bring history to life for students seeing free showings of "Surviving the Dust Bowl" this week.

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**Woody Guthrie**  
**Centennial Celebration**  
At the Circle Cinema, 12 S. Lewis Ave. Free admission to both events; no reservations accepted and limited seating available. Call 585-3456.

**Woody Guthrie: Ain't Got No Home**  
**When:** 7 p.m. Monday  
**Note:** Guthrie's sister, Mary Jo Edgmon, introduces this 90-minute PBS "American Masters" documentary; local musician Greg Klaus performs Guthrie songs and answers questions following the screening.

**Surviving the Dust Bowl**  
**When:** 7 p.m. Thursday  
**Note:** Imogene Glover, an Oklahoman featured in this 55-minute PBS "American Experience" documentary, will take part in a question-and-answer session after the film.



CRAIG BLANKENHORN / HBO

His Tony Soprano was to die for: James Gandolfini is up for an Emmy. The show will air 7 p.m. Sunday on Fox, channel 23 and cable channel 5.

# Small screen sheen

## TV's big night lets stars twinkle with Emmy gold

By RITA SHERROW  
World Television Editor

This year's Emmy Awards nominations are a series of hits and misses. The hits tend to come in the form of worthy nominations for shows that are audience and critics' favorites, while the misses are deserving but overlooked performances, oftentimes in low-rated shows.

Then there are the shockers. Among the series snubbed by this year's voters were the likes of NBC's "Friday Night Lights" and HBO's "The Wire." Both quality shows and both unexplainedly ignored.

The record books may well dub 2007 as the year of "The Sopranos," but critics and fans alike are hoping for some surprises.

Sunday night's show could delight viewers if the Emmy statues are awarded to those series, writers and stars who have brought us back to our television sets week after week to view the likes of "House's" Hugh Laurie.

Fans are rooting for freshmen series such as "Ugly Betty" and "Heroes" that survived and thrived to become sophomores.

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### On the air

TV literally rolls out the red carpet for pre-Emmy shows Sunday night.

TV Guide channel has "Countdown to the Emmy Awards" at 2 p.m. At 5 p.m., "TV Guide Live at the Emmy Awards" features "Dancing With the Stars" hosts Joey Fatone and Lisa Rinna, who replace mother-daughter commentators Joan and Melissa Rivers. Both shows air on cable channel 2.

E! will "Countdown to the Red Carpet" with interviews, predictions, etc. from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday. At 5 p.m., Ryan Seacrest, host of the actual awards show, with Giuliana DePandi (the new Mrs. Bill Rancic) and Kristin Veitch will be "Live From the Red Carpet." Both shows air on cable channel 60.

Fox has its own "Countdown to the Emmys" at approximately 6 p.m. Sunday (following NFL football). "ET's" Mark Steines and "The Insider's" Lara Spencer will host the live pre-show on channel 23 and cable channel 5.

The big show "The 59th Primetime Emmy Awards" will air from 7 p.m. until everyone stops talking on Fox, channel 23 and cable channel 5.

### OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES

James Gandolfini, "The Sopranos"  
Hugh Laurie, "House"  
Denis Leary, "Rescue Me"  
James Spader, "Boston Legal"  
Kiefer Sutherland, "24"

**Will win:** James Gandolfini, "The Sopranos"

**Should win:** Gandolfini. Winning would be a fitting reward for a job well done in HBO's most significant series since its launch in January 1999. His Tony Soprano was to die for and many did. But I'd be happy with Laurie, too. He's the doctor you wouldn't want to meet in a waiting room, but he has waited long enough for his reward.

### OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES

Kyra Sedgwick, "The Closer"  
Patricia Arquette, "Medium"  
Minnie Driver, "The Riches"  
Sally Field, "Brothers & Sisters"  
Eddie Falco, "The Sopranos"  
Mariska Hargitay, "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit"

**Will win:** Kyra Sedgwick. This Golden Globe winner keeps its interesting by playing a character who makes criminals want to sing like a canary. Thank yew very much.

**Should win:** Oscar winner Sally Field. We still like her, we really, really like her as the strong and funny mom who centers the family on "Brothers & Sisters."

### OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR IN A COMEDY SERIES

Charlie Sheen, "Two and a Half Men"  
Steve Carell, "The Office"  
Tony Shalhoub, "Monk"  
Ricky Gervais, "Extra"  
Alec Baldwin, "30 Rock"

**Will win:** Alec Baldwin for "30 Rock." Baldwin has received Emmy nominations in 2002 (for supporting actor in a miniseries or a movie for "Path to War"), 2005 and 2006 (both for guest starring shots on "Will and Grace." In 2007 it's his turn. His portrayal of network honcho Jack Donaghy is the poster child for network interference. This Oscar-nominated actor has racked up the awards with the Golden Globe for Best Actor in a TV Musical or Comedy, the Screen Actors Guild for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Comedy Series and the Television Critics Association Award for Individual Achievement in Comedy. He's an absolute hoot as the worst boss in history.

**Should win:** Tony Shalhoub, "Monk." He didn't win this Emmy category three times in a row for nothing. He'll be tough to beat.

EMMY ME!  
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America Ferrera is "Ugly Betty." BOB D'AMICO / ABC

### OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTRESS IN A COMEDY SERIES

Mary-Louise Parker, "Weeds"  
America Ferrera, "Ugly Betty"  
Julia Louis-Dreyfus, "The New Adventures of Old Christine"  
Tina Fey, "30 Rock"

**Will win:** Tina Fey. She paid her dues at "Saturday Night Live." She writes, acts and turned an awful pilot into an entertaining series week after week. She earned it.

**Should win:** America Ferrera. Her series is a newbie but her character (and the show) is fresh, funny, uplifting and totally endearing. She's a winner whether she gets the trophy or not.

### OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A COMEDY SERIES

Kevin Dillon, "Entourage"  
Jeremy Piven, "Entourage"  
Neil Patrick Harris, "How I Met Your Mother"  
Rainn Wilson, "The Office"  
Jon Cryer, "Two and a Half Men"

**Will win:** Jeremy Piven. There's no Ari like his Ari. He's brilliant (and unbelievably energetic) as the proverbial Hollywood agent on fire. Burn, baby, burn.

**Should win:** Piven.

### OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A COMEDY SERIES

Jaime Pressley, "My Name Is Earl"  
Jenna Fischer, "The Office"  
Holland Taylor, "Two and a Half Men"  
Vanessa Williams, "Ugly Betty"  
Elizabeth Perkins, "Weeds"

**Will win:** Elizabeth Perkins, "Weeds." This film and TV actress has been a standout in every project she has ever done and her PTA mom Celia Rhodes is one more creative role she has tackled with gusto.

**Should win:** Perkins.

### OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES

William Shatner, "Boston Legal"  
T.R. Knight, "Grey's Anatomy"  
Masi Oka, "Heroes"  
Michael Emerson, "Lost"  
Terry O'Quinn, "Lost"

**Will win:** Michael Imperioli, "The Sopranos." He did death well in "The Sopranos."

**Should win:** It may be the year of "Sopranos," but I need a "Hero" and it's Masi Oka. Nice guys need to finish first once in a while and he's been a favorite of mine since the beginning.