



SENATOR JOHN HEINZ

HISTORY CENTER

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Media Contacts:

Brady Smith, Director of Marketing

412-454-6459

bmsmith@heinzhistorycenter.org

Kim Roberts, Communications Coordinator

412-454-6382

kmroberts@heinzhistorycenter.org

**“The Current War” Filmmakers to Join Andy Masich for Special Event
at History Center**

- For this special edition of his annual “President’s Lecture,” History Center President and CEO Andy Masich will welcome screenwriter and Pittsburgh native Michael Mitnick, director Alfonso Gomez-Rejon, and co-producer Jayne Sullivan -

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 9, 2019 – The Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center will host filmmakers from the “The Current War” – the recently-released film about the efforts of George Westinghouse, Thomas Edison, and Nikola Tesla to electrify the world – as part of the **President’s Lecture: War of the Currents** event on **Monday, Dec. 30 at 3 p.m.**

Written by Pittsburgh-born screen writer and Fox Chapel High School graduate Michael Mitnick, “The Current War” features a star-studded cast that includes Hollywood actors Benedict Cumberbatch, Michael Shannon, Katherine Waterston, and Tom Holland.

Mitnick will join History Center President and CEO Andy Masich, director Alfonso Gomez-Rejon, and co-producer Jayne Sullivan for an engaging conversation about the history and myths associated with the famous “War of the Currents” – the struggle for superiority between direct current (DC) versus alternating current (AC).

The panel discussion will also explore the challenges of making a major motion picture involving complex historical characters and Pittsburgh’s role in the story. It will be followed by an enlightening Q&A session.

Light refreshments provided by **The Common Plea, Eat’n Park, and Sarris Candies** will be available.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$5 for History Center members, and can be purchased online at Showclix.com.

Please note: this is not a film screening, but short clips from the film may be shown.

The History Center’s Westinghouse Collection, on display within the museum’s **Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation** exhibit, preserves and showcases the legacy of George Westinghouse and his impact on the world.

The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region’s remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city’s Strip District, and are open every day

from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center's museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.



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