

February 6 - 8, 2015

W E E K E N D



BETTY AMES/STERN/LOSON

amNY PICKS

Hannibal Buress
 The hilarious Comedy Central and "Broad City" regular presents his stand-up show "Comedy Camisado." Sun., 8 p.m., BAM Peter Jay Sharp Building, 30 Lafayette Ave., Fort Greene, 718-636-4100

Women of Letters
 This Australian storytelling series comes to New York monthly at Joe's Pub. Friday's event has actress Molly Ringwald, writer Kambri Crews and photojournalist Deborah Copaken in its all-female lineup. Fri., 7 p.m., \$20, Joe's Pub at the Public Theater, 425 Lafayette St., 212-539-8778

Athena Film Festival
 The fifth annual Athena Film Festival presents women in leadership, both onscreen and off. Documentaries, features and short films will be shown at Barnard College. Fri.-Sun., multiple times, \$5-\$12, Diana Center at Barnard College, 3009 Broadway, athenafilmmfestival.com

D'Angelo
 The R&B star is back on the Apollo stage, following the December release of his album, "Black Messiah." Sat., 8 p.m., \$70.85-\$144.20, Apollo Theater, 253 W. 125th St., 212-531-5300

Fleetwood Mac
 The iconic rockers bring their "On With The Show" tour to town, performing over the Hudson for a night of hits. Sun., 8 p.m., \$59.40-\$227.65, Prudential Center, 25 Lafayette St., Newark, New Jersey, 973-757-6000

Capturing the Dursts



HBO

HBO doc series a fascinating look at a murder mystery

BY VERNE GAY
 verne.gay@newsday.com

Several years ago, Andrew Jarecki ("Capturing the Friedmans") got a call, and on the other line was Robert Durst, the scion of the New York real estate empire, accused or suspected in the murder of three people, including his wife, Kathleen. Never charged in his wife's disappearance (she is presumed dead), Durst had just seen Jarecki and his partner Marc Smerling's fictionalized big-screen movie ("All Good Things") about his life and supposed crimes. Would Jarecki like to interview him?

That's your starter kit for "The Jinx: The Life and Deaths of Robert Durst," a six-part series — two episodes were made available for review — although the details are vastly more complicated. Durst had been charged (later acquitted) in the Galveston, Texas, death of a neighbor, while a close friend of his was later found slain.

This series promises to pick up all the pieces and put them into a coherent whole.

Jarecki, Smerling and HBO insist that by the end of this series, the truth about Durst's involvement in his wife's disappearance will be absolutely — and irrefutably — known.

Did Robert Durst kill his wife on or about the night of Sunday, Jan. 31, 1982?

Therein lies a six-part series, when a simple "yes"



HBO

Top: Kathleen and Robert Durst in the 1970s. Above: Robert in "The Jinx: The Life and Deaths of Robert Durst."

or "no" would suffice. But Durst has never made it that simple, and he's not about to begin. His strange, treacherous trail of crumbs has been followed obsessively for years by the New York media and law enforcement in several states. The case received even more notice in 2010 when the film starring Ryan Gosling and Kirsten Dunst arrived. At the end of both trail and movie lay only ambiguity, or more questions.

My hunch is we'll get more of the same by the end of this ride, too, despite what the producers or network say. Durst, after all, probably isn't using HBO to turn himself in.

That doesn't mean "The Jinx" isn't fascinating — it

is — or compulsively watchable. It's absolutely that, too. Not only do Jarecki and Smerling bring great storytelling skill to the enterprise, but they have Exhibit A sitting right in front of them.

But are there ethical considerations here? Sure. Big ones, including the most obvious: What's HBO's obligation to law enforcement and the families involved in the off-chance that Durst does confess by chapter six?

Legally, the answer may be "nothing." Morally, the answer is "everything." Do HBO, Jarecki and Smerling have real dynamite here? Did he or didn't he? Yes or no?

Guess we'll have to wait until chapter six to find out.

ON TV

'The Jinx: The Life and Deaths of Robert Durst' ★★★★★
 Premieres Sunday at 8 p.m. | HBO