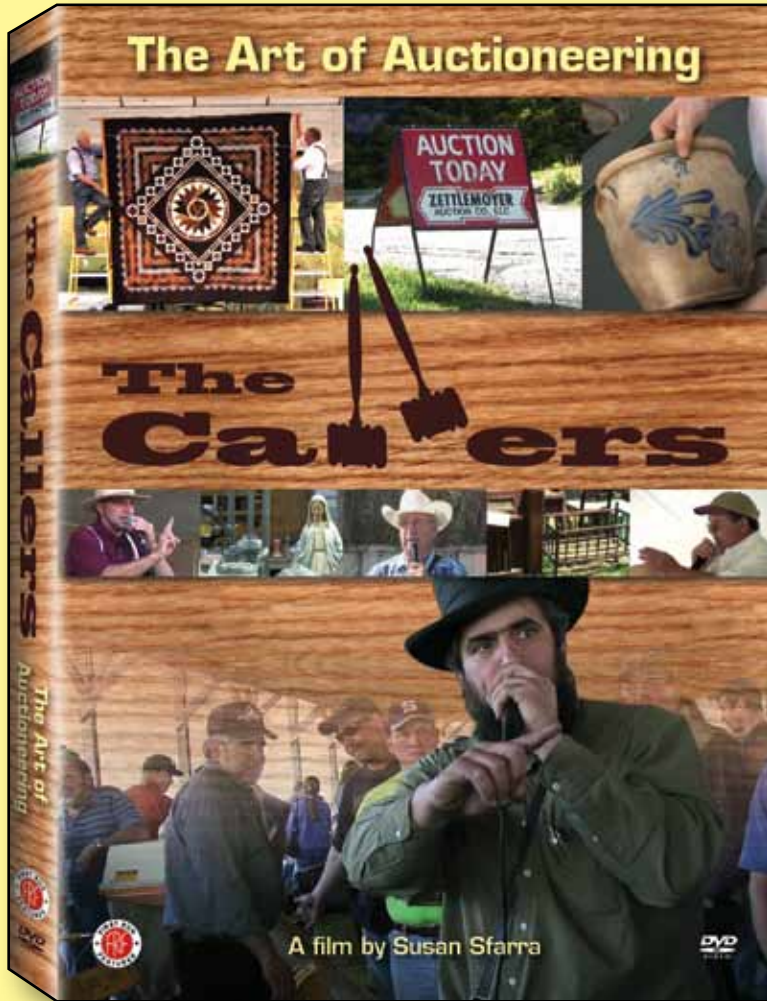




# FIRST RUN FEATURES PRESENTS



**THE CALLERS** explores the world of auctions with a group of Pennsylvania auctioneers who move mounds of merchandise to eager buyers, year-round.

Through its portrayal of several experienced auctioneers and a host of curious buyers, this new feature documentary reveals our complex relationship with stuff – with consuming, collecting, and hoarding.

An antiquated profession, auctioneering is as relevant today as it's ever been. People across America who were fooled by bankers and brokers can go to the local auction house and decide for themselves how much something is worth through the auction method – arguably the fairest method. And when you're elbow to elbow with a crowd of bidders, adrenaline coursing through your veins, your heart pounding as you flick your card, wiggle your nose, scratch your ear in time to the auctioneer's call, it is undeniably a most entertaining one.



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Leroy van Dyke was serving in the Korean War when he wrote a song with Buddy Black called "The Auctioneer" based on his own experience as an auctioneer. Leroy first performed the song for troops on the same bill as Marilyn Monroe and after discharge entered the song into a talent contest. Soon after he was catapulted to fame, and his song ultimately sold 2.5 million copies.

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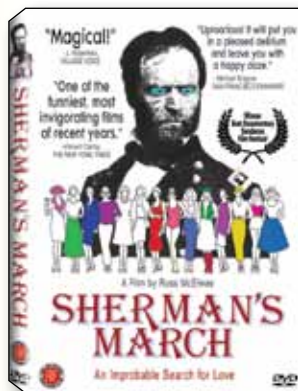
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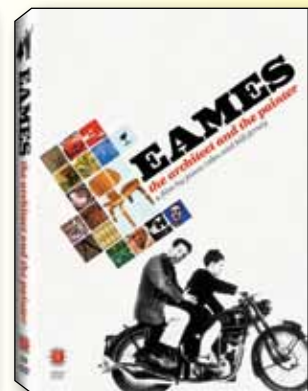
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