Critical Acclaim for P.O.V.'s "ELECTION DAY"
By Katy Chevigny

“All that slick, heavily financed campaigning at the top of the ticket in a presidential election year makes it easy to forget that the whole democratic system sinks or swims on mundane things like this: ‘E, F, G, J, H.’ . . . The overall collage [of Election Day] is interesting.”

“In Election Day, filmmaker Katy Chevigny combines 11 stories – all shot simultaneously on Nov. 2, 2004 – into a single revealing portrait of democracy.”
— Frazier Moore, Associated Press

“Let others prepare to poll the voters and lobby for votes. P.O.V. examines the process of voting itself in Election Day.”
— Robert Bianco, USA Today

“Democracy is a messy business and few places illustrate that better than the polls. On November 2, 2004, director Katy Chevigny set out to capture a cross-section of American voters, in hopes of moving beyond the horse race and red-state-blue-state debates.”

“Election Day follows a jumble of activity at 11 polling places during Election Day 2004, showing that the promise of universal suffrage is still uneven in practice.”
— Lisa Gulya, Utne Reader

"Election Day is unique largely because it's not about politics so much as the act of voting and what voting means to people of various walks of life . . ."
— Chris Vognar, Dallas Morning News

“This film will shame anyone who ever failed to vote. . . . Through all the frustrations, we see glimmers of idealism.”
— Mike Hughes, Gannett News Service

“Tell me you created a season pass for [P.O.V.]. Tell me you . . . will see Election Day on your PBS station.”
— Aaron Barnhart, Kansas City Star

A remarkable, winning patchwork . . . Refreshing to anyone who tires of a constant stream of pie charts, graphs and exit-poll punditry, the film refocuses political coverage to the myriad gears that turn it: about 122 million people, each with their own story, who cast a ballot for the leader of the free world. . . . Footage runs the gamut from touching to hilarious to frustrating
— John Ross, Columbus Dispatch

“When the results roll in on shiny electronic displays, it's easy to forget how haphazard and literally fly-by-night many of the nation's polling places are at the grass-roots level.”
— Roger Catlin, Hartford Courant

“A bracing, insightful documentary. . . . Each story resonates in its own way.”
— Cynthia Fuchs, PopMatters.com
“On election night, we see the big broadcast and cable news studios filled with . . . statisticians galore to break down voting groups. . . . What we don’t see are the faces, hopes, dreams and disappointments of those who line up to have their say. . . . P.O.V. brings those people to vivid life in a profile of Election Day 2004 from tiny little towns to great metropolitan areas.”

— Tom Dorsey, Louisville Courier-Journal

“You don’t need to be told that we need serious election reform in this country. What you might need, though, is a refresher on how badly our voting system is damaged. For that, turn to Election Day.”

— Marc D. Allan, Orlando Weekly

“As the Fourth of July draws near . . . P.O.V. will show citizens across the United States truly how to exercise their independence [in] the eye-opening Election Day.”

— Karen Shade, Tulsa World

“The cumulative effect is [like] a multi-character, multi-tracking drama by the late director Robert Altman (Nashville) — only it's non-fiction, and it was all filmed simultaneously by an organized cadre of camera crews. . . . with a cast of colorful characters and natural story arc.”

— Mark Hinson, Tallahassee Democrat

“Chevigny’s well-established vérité style reveals the profound stake that citizens across the country have in the voting process.”

— Pat Aufderheide, In These Times