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MIPCOM CANNES TO HOST INTERNATIONAL PREMIERE OF ALICE & JACK FEATURING ANDREA RISEBOROUGH & DOMHNALL GLEESON



Paris/London, 28 September 2023 – MIPCOM CANNES and Fremantle today announced that the international premiere of *Alice & Jack*, the highly anticipated original drama series created and written by award-winning writer and film director Victor Levin (Mad Men, Mad About You), and starring Academy Award-nominated actress and producer Andrea Riseborough (To Leslie, Birdman) alongside actor, director and screenwriter Domhnall Gleeson (Brooklyn, The Revenant) will be staged on the first night of the forthcoming 39th International Co-Production & Entertainment Content Market (16-19 Oct) in Cannes.

Alice & Jack is an independent production from Fremantle in partnership with the BAFTA and Emmy award-winning company Me + You Productions (I Am Ruth, Close to You), Academy award-nominated Groundswell Productions (Snowfall, Milk), De Maio Entertainment, and MASTERPIECE in collaboration with Channel 4 which will air the series exclusively in the UK. Fremantle is handling global sales of the series.

The special screening will take place on *Monday 16 October at 18.00* in the world-famous Grand Auditorium in Cannes' Palais des Festivals. Open to all market delegates, it will be followed by a Q&A session with the team behind the project.

Alice & Jack is a love story for the ages. When Alice (Andrea Riseborough) and Jack (Domhnall Gleeson) first meet they're bound by a connection so powerful it seems nothing can break it, but will their path lead them to a place of happiness and togetherness? Or will life and their own emotional complexities get in the way? Honest, intimate, and surprisingly funny, the series shows love in all its unexpected, technicolour, kaleidoscopic beauty.

Finnish film director and screenwriter Juho Kuosmanen, who co-wrote and directed the 2021 Cannes Grand Prix co-winner Compartment 6, is the lead director on the series and Hong Khaou (Lilting) directs the second block. Executive producers on the project include Victor Levin, Andrea Riseborough, Domhnall Gleeson, Juho Kuosmanen, Richard Yee and Krishnendu Majumdar for Me + You Productions, Michael London and Shannon Gaulding for Groundswell, Lorenzo De Maio for De Maio Entertainment, Rebecca Dundon and Hilary Martin for Fremantle. Tracy O'Riordan produces for Me + You Productions.

"Alice & Jack promises to be very special." said Lucy Smith, Director of MIPCOM CANNES and MIPJUNIOR. "An extraordinary line up of international talent in front of and behind the camera, collaborating on a story about the most universal of themes and (rightly) highly anticipated. It bears all the hallmarks of a premiere we are proud to present to the global industry in Cannes."

Jens Richter, CEO Commercial & International at Fremantle said: "We're thrilled to premiere Alice & Jack to the international market in the headline slot at MIPCOM. This is an ambitious, emotive and cinematic series that features mesmerizing performances from leading global actors Andrea Riseborough and Domhnall Gleeson. From a talented creative team including award-winning writer Victor Levin, this seminal series is reflective of the calibre of dramas that we are excited to present at this year's market."

Along with *Alice & Jack*, Fremantle is showcasing a line-up of world-class, powerful English-language content featuring leading global talent at MIPCOM CANNES 2023; *Big Mood* is a vivacious and contemporary comedic drama starring Nicola Coughlan and Lydia West, *Domino Day* stars BAFTA-nominated Siena Kelly in an irresistible new supernatural drama, *Nightsleeper* features Alexandra Roach and Joe Cole in a modern twist on the classic runaway train genre and Natalie Dormer stars in *White Lies*, a dynamic investigative thriller set against the ugly underbelly beneath the picturesque beauty of Cape Town;

In all, 11,000 global buyers, commissioners, creatives and producers, from over 100 countries, are set to attend this year's MIPCOM CANNES - the world's greatest gathering of TV and entertainment executives. Riviera exhibition halls and outdoor Croisette beach exhibition areas are sold out with a line-up comprising major studios, production and distribution groups.

MIPJUNIOR also returns to the JW Marriott at the weekend heading into MIPCOM CANNES (Oct 13-15) with a brand-new half-day pre-opening program beginning at 14.00 on Friday (Oct 13).

The week-long MIPCOM CANNES conference programme helps define the TV industry year with keynotes from leading global players and thought leaders in addition to screenings of highly anticipated series and exclusive insight presentations. An overview of the Conference Programme schedule can be found <u>here</u>.

Note for editors:

Alice & Jack is an independent project shot in the UK and parts of Spain in 2022 and all of the performer's services are covered under the PACT/Equity Agreement.

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Note for editors:

About FREMANTLE

Fremantle is one of the world's largest and most successful creators, producers and distributors of Entertainment, Drama & Film and Documentaries. Operating in 27 territories we are a proudly independent group of content creators. We produce and deliver high-quality multi-genre IP including some of the biggest entertainment formats, most watched international dramas, award winning films and hard-hitting documentaries, amplifying local stories on a global scale. From Idols to The Mosquito Coast, The Price is Right to The Hand of God, The Farmer Wants A Wife to Arctic Drift, Family Feud to My Brilliant Friend and Bones & All to Planet Sex our focus is simple – we create and deliver irresistible entertainment. We are also a world leader in digital and branded entertainment with more than 470 million fans across 2,000 social channels and over 34 billion views per year across all platforms. Fremantle is part of RTL Group, a global leader across broadcast, content and digital, itself a division of the international media giant Bertelsmann.

For more information, please visit www.fremantle.com, follow us on Twitter @FremantleHQ and Instagram @fremantle or visit our LinkedIn page.

About DE MAIO ENTERTAINMENT

De Maio Entertainment is an independent premium content company specializing in production, sales, and strategic advisory, backed by Fremantle. The company is led by Lorenzo De Maio, former Partner and EVP at Endeavor Content who was instrumental in the launch and success of Endeavor Content, working on multiple award-winning shows including KILLING EVE, THE NIGHT MANAGER, and NORMAL PEOPLE.

De Maio has spearheaded several partnerships for Fremantle including deals with Nicky Weinstock (SEVERANCE, ESCAPE AT DANNEMORA), award-winning journalist Afua Hirsch, Element Pictures (THE FAVOURITE, NORMAL PEOPLE), and Angelina Jolie. The partnership with Jolie is across film, television, and documentaries and is currently in post-production on the film WITHOUT BLOOD starring Salma Hayek and Demián Bichir.

The company also works on projects across Fremantle's US and international eco-system, including FERRARI from The Apartment and Steven Knight, which was greenlit to series at Apple, Luca Guadagnino's film BONES AND ALL, which won two major awards at the 2022 Venice Film Festival, and THE LEHMAN TRILOGY to be directed by Florian Zeller.

About GROUNDSWELL PRODUCTIONS

Groundswell Productions is an independent production and financing company founded by Michael London in February 2006 and headquartered in Los Angeles. Shannon Gaulding is President of Production.

Groundswell is in post-production on Searchlight Picture's "Greatest Hits," written and directed by Ned Benson and starring Lucy Boynton; and recently wrapped the sixth and final season of the hit FX series "Snowfall."

London received an Academy Award nomination for best picture for SIDEWAYS directed by Alexander Payne and won the Golden Globe for Best Picture in the Comedy category. He was Golden Globe-nominated for Showtime's

SMILF, created by and starring Frankie Shaw; and Emmy-nominated for HBO Films' CONFIRMATION, starring Kerry Washington as Anita Hill.

In addition to six television series, Groundswell has produced 16 films since its inception including TRUMBO directed by Jay Roach and starring Bryan Cranston, who was nominated for an Academy Award; MILK starring Sean Penn and THE VISITOR written and directed by Tom Mccarthy, both of which were nominated for Academy Awards in 2008; and THE INFORMANT!, directed by Steven Soderbergh and starring Matt Damon.

About ME + YOU PRODUCTIONS

Me + You Productions is an award-winning UK based independent film and television production company founded by BAFTA and EMMY winning filmmakers Richard Yee and Krishnendu Majumdar. They develop and produce cinematic, authored drama and comedy with the very best writing and directing talent and have a track record in making global hit series.

Their feature film CLOSE TO YOU starring Elliot Page from writer and director Dominic Savage recently premiered at TIFF. Me + You's critically acclaimed anthology drama series I AM for Channel 4 written and directed by Dominic Savage, starring Kate Winslet, Samantha Morton, Letitia Wright and Vicky McClure won two BAFTAs (Single Drama, Leading Actress – Kate Winslet), won a Royal Television Society Award (Leading Actress – Kate Winslet), and was nominated for two Baftas (Single Drama – I AM VICTORIA, Leading Actress - Samantha Morton).

They produced two series of the critically acclaimed 6-part scripted comedy drama series SICK OF IT, written by Karl Pilkington and Richard Yee for Sky One and Royal Television Society winning THE DALI AND THE COOPER, a single film for Sky Arts / Showtime written by Roger Drew & Ed Dyson, directed by Iain Forsyth & Jane Pollard, and starring David Suchet & Noel Fielding with music by Jarvis Cocker & Richard Hawley.

Me + You's other output includes two series of INTERNATIONAL EMMY winning comedy HOFF THE RECORD (starring David Hasselhoff, Brett Goldstein & Asim Chaudhry) for UKTV and Netflix. They are the co-creators and show runners of three series of the BAFTA-nominated global hit AN IDIOT ABROAD starring Ricky Gervais, Stephen Merchant and Karl Pilkington.

Their work has won two BAFTA's, two Royal Television Society awards, an International EMMY, a C21 International Drama award, a MIND Media Award and a WFTV award in addition to being nominated for three BAFTAs, a National Television Award, three Royal Television Society Awards and multiple Broadcast Awards.

Diversity is in the DNA of Me + You: the company is owned and creatively led by two people of colour. Krish has an Indian (Bengali) heritage and was born in Wales. Richard has Chinese heritage and was born in Scotland. Krish is the former Chair of BAFTA (2020-23). He is the first person of colour to be appointed to the role in BAFTA's 76year history and the youngest chair in nearly 40 years. He has personally led BAFTA through seismic changes and a cultural shift, from passive to proactive and progressive in tackling inequality. He has a long history of leading on diversity issues across the Industry for PACT and Directors UK.

Me + You is committed to reflecting and representing the diversity of the UK and beyond. They ensure that diversity and Inclusion is hardwired into everything they do – how they work with their audiences, their people and their partners and especially the types of stories they tell. They're passionate about championing diverse voices and talent in front of and behind the camera.

About MASTERPIECE

Winner of 83 Primetime Emmys® and 18 Peabody Awards, MASTERPIECE has been essential Sunday night viewing for millions of fans for over 50 years. Susanne Simpson is the executive producer. Series funding for MASTERPIECE is provided by Viking Cruises, Raymond James, The MASTERPIECE Trust, and public television viewers. Produced for PBS by GBH Boston, MASTERPIECE is known for hits such as All Creatures Great and Small, Sherlock, Downton Abbey and Wolf Hall, and beloved classics such as Upstairs Downstairs, Prime Suspect, The Forsyte Saga and Poldark. For more information, please visit pbs.org/masterpiece and follow us on social media @masterpiecepbs.

About CHANNEL 4

Channel 4 exists to create change through entertainment. Publicly owned yet commercially funded, Channel 4 generates significant and sustainable cultural, economic and social impact across the UK

– at no cost to the taxpayer. The broadcaster's distinctive remit is set by Parliament, and it has a role to represent unheard voices, challenge with purpose and reinvent entertainment. For 40 years, it has been a British success story, engaging generation after generation of young people. Through a unique publisher-broadcaster model, Channel 4 commissions its content from the UK independent production sector. Working with around 300 creative companies every year, Channel 4 makes a major contribution to the local, regional and national economy, creating and supporting thousands of jobs and businesses across the country. In 2020, Channel 4 launched its Future4 strategy to become a digital-first public service media company and to continue to deliver significant impact for UK audiences and investment into the UK creative economy. Across its bases in London, Leeds, Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow, Channel 4 is turbocharging its efforts to find, nurture and develop talent across the UK. Through its training and development initiative 4Skills, Channel 4 is opening up opportunities in broadcasting, with a particular focus on disadvantaged young people, and addressing skills gaps across the Nations and Regions. Channel 4 has the UK's biggest free streaming service, All 4, plus 11 television channels including: Channel 4, E4, E4 Extra, More4, Film4, 4Seven and The Box Plus Network. Through Film4 Productions, Channel 4 also invests in British filmmakers to huge critical acclaim, producing 37 Oscar wins and 84 BAFTA wins in its history. https://www.channel4.com

About MIPCOM CANNES

MIPCOM CANNES leads a portfolio of markets and conferences from RX France's Entertainment Division staged for the international television distribution and production community year-round alongside MIPTV (featuring MIPDOC and MIPFORMATS), MIP CANCUN and MIPJUNIOR.

About RX and RX France

RX is in the business of building businesses for individuals, communities and organisations. We elevate the power of face-to-face events by combining data and digital products to help customers learn about markets, source products and complete transactions at over 400 events in 22 countries across 43 industry sectors. RX France manages a portfolio of world-class, French and international face-to-face, virtual and hybrid events covering 20 industry sectors including MIPIM, MAPIC, Batimat, Pollutec, EquipHotel, SITL, IFTM Top Resa, MIPCOM, MIPTV, Paris Photo, Maison&Objet*... and many more.

RX is passionate about making a positive impact on society and is fully committed to creating and inclusive work environment for all our people. RX is part of RELX, a global provider of information-based analytics and decision tools for professional and business customers. <u>www.rxglobal.com</u> *Organised by Safi, a subsidiary of Reed Expositions and Ateliers d'Art de France.





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