

Celestial launches Philippines channel

CTE, Viva, Cignal partner on movie channel

Celestial Tiger Entertainment (CTE) is partnering with Philippines' producer/distributor Viva Communications and direct-to-home satellite platform Cignal TV to launch a first-of-its-kind movie channel.

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GMA, now TV tie up on Pinoy OTT for Hong Kong

PCCW's now TV & CSL to carry Pinoy TV app

Philippines' free-TV broadcast network GMA is expanding its Hong Kong footprint in a mobile deal that puts its new app on PCCW's now TV OTT platform as well as on telco CSL.

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Stingray fast-tracks Asia investment with MCA stake

New push into specialist services, Creevey says

Multiplatform music provider, Stingray Digital Group Inc, is fast-tracking its Asia-Pacific plans in a new tie up with Gregg Creevey's Singapore-based Multi Channels Asia (MCA).

Story on page 7

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**AXN greenlights
Cash Cab Philippines**

Sony Pictures Television Networks Asia has green lit the first Asian in-country version of all3media format *Cash Cab*.

Production kicks off in Manila this week. The 13-episode show premieres in December.

Cash Cab Philippines is produced by Michael McKay's activeTV, which acquired rights from the U.K.-based all3media. activeTV also produced the regional version of *Cash Cab* for AXN in 2011.

Local actor Ryan Agoncillo hosts the show as the faux-cab driver. The format involves passengers agreeing to answer general knowledge questions to win cash prizes. If they get three answers wrong, they are booted out wherever they are.

**Business as usual for Nat Geo Asia
Ward Platt exits FIC channels for new role**

It's business as usual for National Geographic Channels in Asia as the new National Geographic Partners leadership structure in the U.S. takes shape, the company said on Tuesday morning following the overnight announcement out of the U.S.

The announcement said U.S. channels head, Courteney Monroe, had been appointed chief executive of National Geographic Global Networks. The role covers channels' global programming, operations and marketing.

Monroe also takes over National Geographic Studios, the in-house television production studio previously part of National Geographic Ventures.

Former Fox International Channels (FIC) Asia head, Ward Platt, takes a new post as chief operating officer of National Geographic Partners. Platt is currently FIC's chief operating officer and chief executive of National Geographic Channels International.

Word that central command for both channels and production was being consolidated under Monroe in the U.S. started circulating about a week ago.

Naysayers warn of a potential loss of programming relevance in Asia.

Monday night's announcement was made by National Geographic Partners chief executive, Declan Moore. Additional appointments are expected soon.

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Dragon Ball Super heads for Toonami Asia 1st and exclusive rights for SEA, India



Dragon Ball Super

Toei Animation's new *Dragon Ball Super* heads for Turner's kids channel Toonami in South and Southeast Asia in mid 2016.

Turner acquired first and exclusive rights for the 52-part half-hour series, the first new *Dragon Ball* production in almost two decades.

Mark Eyers, chief content officer for Turner's Kids Networks in Asia Pacific, called *Dragon Ball* "a cornerstone" of Toonami's programming strategy since the channel launched in 2012. The channel previously aired *Dragon Ball Z* and *Dragon Ball Z Kai*.

Reuniting iconic characters, *Dragon Ball Super* follows the aftermath of Goku's battle with Majin Buu as he attempts to maintain earth's fragile peace.

Dragon Ball's original creator, Akira Toriyama, is involved in the new season, produced with Fuji Television.

SCTV greenlights Turkish drama Screenplay to make local version of *Elif*



Elif

Indonesian free-TV broadcaster SCTV has greenlit a local version of Turkish daily drama *Elif* following ratings success with the first two seasons of the original series.

The deal is the first announced by Swedish distributor Eccho Rights under new Asia Pacific head Nixon Yau Lim after the exit of Gary Pudney to join Keshet International.

The local version is being produced by SCTV sister company Screenplay Productions. Production is scheduled to begin later in November for broadcast in January 2016.

SCTV's general manager for acquisitions, Banardi Rachmad, says the Turkish series "turned around our daytime pro-



Nixon Yau Lim

gramming and had such an unforeseen impact on our audiences. We now want to remake the show to give it more of a local flavour in order to widen the appeal of the show here in Indonesia".

Elif, produced in Turkey by Green Yapim for Kanal 7, more than doubled SCTV's audience share when it aired earlier this year.

The series is the story of a girl whose mother sends her away to live on a farm to protect her from her dangerous stepfather. Only the head of the household staff knows where Elif comes from, but not even she knows that Elif is the daughter of the son of the rich farming family. As time goes by Elif's secrets start to unravel.

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Philippines' GMA goes mobile in HK

PCCW's now TV & CSL to carry Pinoy TV app



24 Oras

Philippines' free-TV broadcast network GMA is expanding its Hong Kong footprint in a mobile deal that puts its new app on PCCW's now TV OTT platform as well as on telco CSL.

The now Pinoy TV app, developed by now TV, is scheduled to be available on CSL mobile before the end of the year.

now TV rolled out the app on its OTT platform on 19 October.

The app's subscription tier will be available via pre-paid cards for HK\$48/US\$6 a month.

Other markets are being explored as GMA looks at additional ways to reach Philippines' nationals living abroad, says Joseph T. Francia, GMA first vice president and head of international operations.

"We intend to roll this out in other markets, specifically where we have substantial unserved or underserved segments of our target subscribers in the Asia Pacific, MENA and Europe," Francia says.

Hong Kong is home to about 200,000 Filipinos, most of whom have some access to broadband/wifi.

Francia says GMA currently reaches

about 10% of Filipinos in Hong Kong via traditional channels. "We want to reach the other 90%," Francia says.

In addition to access to the GMA Pinoy TV channel, the app offers 16 hours of catch-up video on demand a month.

now TV carries three GMA-branded linear channels – GMA Pinoy TV, GMA Life TV and GMA News TV International – on its pay-TV service and has just launched its own OTT platform.

"The launch of this new now Pinoy TV app further demonstrates our commitment to providing even more flexible content access for Hong Kong's Pinoy community," says Loke Kheng Tham, PCCW's executive vice president of pay TV.

The now Pinoy TV app is available for Android and iOS users.

The app offers access to GMA Pinoy TV shows such as *Beautiful Strangers*, *My Faithful Husband*, *The Half Sisters*, *CelebrityTV*, *Wowowin*, *Sunday PinaSaya* and *Eat Bulaga*, along with flagship news programme 24 Oras, late night newscast *Saksi*, and hourly news bulletins through *Flash Report*.



Celestial launches Philippines channel

CTE, Viva, Cignal partner on movie channel



Lady of the Dynasty

Celestial Tiger Entertainment (CTE) is partnering with Philippines' producer/distributor Viva Communications and direct-to-home satellite platform Cignal TV to launch a first-of-its-kind movie channel.

Celestial Movies Pinoy (CM Pinoy) debuts in January 2016 with exclusive carriage on Cignal TV's basic tier, reaching more than one million subscribers.

The channel, offered in a mix of Tagalog and English, is the first fully localised Chinese movie channel in the Philippines.

The launch schedule includes the latest hits such as *Lady of the Dynasty*, an epic drama with Fan Bingbing; *Little Big Master*, 2015's highest-grossing Chinese film in Hong Kong; and romantic drama *Paris Holiday*, starring Hong Kong's Louis Koo and Taiwan's Kuo Tsai Chieh.

CM Pinoy will also showcase classic favourites such as Jackie Chan's *New Police Story*, *Rob-B-Hood*, *The Medallion* and *The Myth*.

The channel will feature special thematic programming every month centered around superstars or popular genres. Beyond movies, CM Pinoy will present behind-the-scenes movie specials and interviews with Chinese stars and directors.

Local Philippines movies are not part of the schedule to begin with, but the possibility is not being ruled out for future

schedules.

CTE isn't saying how many additional titles it has acquired only for the Philippines. "Like with all of our Celestial Movies feeds, we are actively acquiring to cater to local tastes while utilising our economies of scale for regional acquisitions," said Ofanny Choi, CTE's executive vice president, TV networks.

Choi said the Philippines was one of Asia's most dynamic markets on both a macro-level and for pay TV.

"We wanted to launch a Chinese movie channel there that had mass-appeal so localisation was key. We had to find the right partner to create a fully localised Celestial Movies and we found such a partner in Viva," she added.

"Filipinos, in general, love movies and are now beginning to appreciate Asian productions and actors," says Viva Communications' chairman and CEO, Vicente del Rosario Jr.

He added that Tagalog-dubbed content "is much easier to understand and enjoy which will expand its appeal to a much wider audience".

CM Pinoy TV is the third CTE channel Cignal TV will carry after Kix and Thrill. Rival SkyCable carries Celestial Classic Movies, which is distributed to the provinces by Creative Program Inc (CPI).

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IFA wins Int'l Golden Panda for China doc



Singapore production house IFA Media's *How China Works* won an International Golden Panda for Best Documentary Series (Society) at this year's Sichuan TV Festival. *How China Works*, made for CICC and Discovery Channel, looks at China's most ambitious projects and technological innovations.

Stingray takes the brakes off Asia plans
MCA stake heralds new push into audio services

Multiplatform music provider, Stingray Digital Group, is fast-tracking its Asia-Pacific plans in a new tie up with Gregg Creevey's Singapore-based Multi Channels Asia (MCA). The decision to invest in Asia follows Stingray's IPO in Montreal in June this year, and comes after at least three years of flirting with the region.

The multi-year agreement involves Stingray providing MCA with growth capital in exchange for an expanded foothold in the Asia region. The deal includes a provision for Stingray to become a shareholder in MCA.

This is the eight-year-old MCA's first outside investment.

Speaking shortly after the announcement, Creevey said the investment would be used to expand MCA's presence in the specialist channels space and to take ad-

vantage of opportunities opening up with digital/media fragmentation. This includes a greater focus on factual, sports/outdoor lifestyle and services targeting millennials.

"It makes sense to bring in a company that shares our view of the world and can provide growth capital to go with it," he said.

Creevey said consumers were driving demand for specialist, relevant and carefully curated content, and that the exit from set-top boxes could be slowed by providing experiences that kept audiences engaged.

"We need to invigorate the shop mix," he said.

Stingray, based in Canada, reaches an estimated 135 million pay-TV homes in 127 countries with its B2B customised music services.

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China online rights rush escalates *Movies, kids lead in new distribution deals*

China streaming gold rush continues, with Canadian kids/family distributor DHX Media adding library content to both LeTV and iQiyi this week.

The new AVOD/SVOD deals, announced in the run up to this year's ATF in Singapore, involve about 350 hours of content.

iQiyi acquired non-exclusive AVOD and SVOD rights to more than 400 half-hours of content, including *Teletubbies*, *Paddington* and *Caillou*. iQiyi had five million paying subscribers as of 15 June 2015.

LeTV acquired OTT TV (smart TV and set-top box) and web broadcast rights to 313 half-hours of *Teletubbies* in English and Mandarin.

DHX's announcement comes a little more than a month since Sesame Workshop started talking about its collaboration with three of China's top digital platforms: Baidu's iQiyi, Tencent Video, and Alibaba's Tmall Box.

Over the next two years, Sesame Workshop will provide the international version of its classic preschool show, *Sesame Street*, along with other spin-offs, dubbed in Mandarin, to all three platforms.

Sesame Workshop has also signed its first video streaming deal in the territory with BesTV, the largest IPTV platform in China.

The kids deals follow major licensing agreements between China's powerful video platforms and U.S. studios.

Earlier this month, CBS Studios International and PPTV signed an exclusive, multi-year licensing agreement for streaming rights to CBS and Showtime series in China.

The new deal provides PPTV's 400 million users with access to current hit shows and exclusive premieres in China of selected new series from both CBC and Showtime.

Details of the titles or number of hours involved in the latest deal were not disclosed. CBS has also not said what the streaming release window is.



Caillou, DHX Media

The new deal is the latest in the escalating rights rush, with thousands of hours of content sold in the past few months.

Although distributors say they're getting real licensing money out of China, some say rates are still well below what they should be.

The upside is some progress in the battle against piracy, although observers say illegal access is still rampant.

Recent deals include Sony Pictures Television's licensing agreement extension for feature films with Baidu-owned iQiyi.

The new multi-year deal, announced at the end of October, covers SVOD rights to hundreds of Sony Pictures titles a year. The exact number of titles has not been disclosed.

Sony Pictures titles include *Men In Black* and *Spider-Man* trilogies, thrillers *Resident Evil* and *Underworld*, as well as family friendly titles such as *Stuart Little* and *Jumanji*. The deal also gives iQiyi VOD rights to the studio's current film slate, including *Pixels*, *The Walk* and *Goosebumps*.

iQiyi senior vice president, Xianghua Yang, said the platform's cooperation with major global studios meets "growing demand and helps prevent online piracy".

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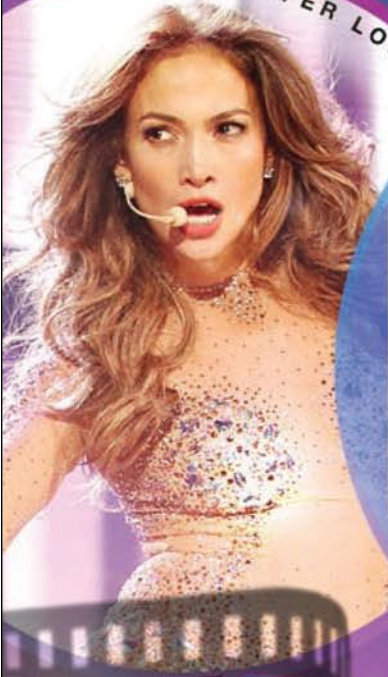
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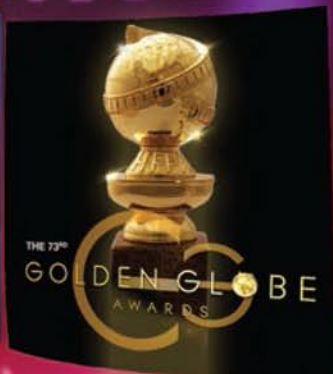


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10 features head for S'pore in Dec *1st SEA Film Financing initiative kicks off*



The Long Walk

Ten feature-length projects go before financiers, distributors, programmers and potential co-production partners during the first Southeast Asian Film Financing (SAFF) Project Market.

The three-day market will be held in Singapore (2-4 December) at the same time as the Asia TV Forum and ScreenSingapore.

The top 10 projects were chosen from 148 submissions from 23 countries, and include films from Singapore, Laos, Malaysia, Bhutan, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar and the Philippines. Two of the projects have European partners.

The line-up includes a mix of feature-length documentaries, animation and live-action fiction projects from both established and emerging filmmakers.

Four of the projects involve Singapore companies. Three of these are co-productions, including director Ong Chao Hong's *A Small Place*, a co-production between Singapore's Daoyu Pictures and

Malaysia's HomeGreen Films; and *Chaplin in Bali*, a France-Singapore co-production directed by Raphael Millet.

Lao Art Media Co's *The Long Walk*, directed by Mattie Do, flies the flag for Laos on the list of projects chosen.

Cambodia is represented by Sok Visal's *In the Shade* from 802AD Production, and Vietnam by Vo Thach Thao's *Lonely Fish* by Vblock Media.

The pitch days will be preceded by the Asia leg of the Ties That Bind co-production workshop (30 November-4 December), which links 10 additional projects from Europe and Asia to the SAFF Project Market. The extra 10 films will also be part of the pitching process.

The event culminates in ScreenSingapore's film financing conference with speakers from across Asia and Europe talking about media investment trends and the outlook for producers.

The SAFF Project Market is a new part of this year's ScreenSingapore.



Viacom sells 1,000 hours to China *People's Video boosts animation content*



Shimmer and Shine

Viacom has sold 1,000 hours of animated content to China Mobile partner, People's Video, the online platform operated by People's Daily. The three-year deal includes titles such as *Dora the Explorer*,

SpongeBob and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*.

Elsewhere in Asia, Nickelodeon premieres new pre-school title *Shimmer and Shine* in Malaysia and the Philippines on 1 December, followed on 21 December on Nick Jr in Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia.

The 20-episode series follows twin genies-in-training, Shimmer and Shine, who grant wishes for their friend Leah.

Outdoor backs women's Siberia trek *WOAM raises awareness for war/abuse survivors*



WOAM founding partner, Christine Amour-Levar

Regional adventure lifestyle channel, Outdoor Channel (Asia), has signed on as the official supporting broadcaster for Women on a Mission's (WOAM) trek across Siberia to raise awareness and money for women survivors of war and abuse.

Outdoor Channel will air highlights and

short films from the 12-day trek with the Nenets reindeer herders, who make the 60-kilometre journey across the Gulf of Ob in Northern Russia twice a year.

The Siberia trek starts on 24 November. WOAM is a non-profit based in Singapore. The three previous treks were in Nepal and Jordan.

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ContentAsia's regular section, ContentAsia Production, looks at original content development in Asia and the productions and coproductions breaking new ground across different genres in the region.

Ku Tinggalkan Cinta di Okinawa

Malaysia-Japan drama production, *Ku Tinggalkan Cinta di Okinawa* (Leaving love in Okinawa), takes tourism board-backed content to a new level, sidestepping the usual travel format in favour of a 26-episode tale of love, family, friendship, passion and sacrifices.

The series, designed to promote Okinawa to Malaysians, follows 21-year old karate enthusiast Alisa (Hanis Zalikha) and her search for her long-lost mother. When Alisa falls in love with Shun (Shogen Itokazu), she has no idea of the shocking places to which her quest will lead.

Mimi Lana plays Riana, Shun's girlfriend. Sharnaaz Ahmad stars as Alisa's friend, Raykal, who keeps his feelings for her hidden because of her affection for Shun.

The RM1.1 million/US\$252,000 *Ku Tinggalkan Cinta di Okinawa* is the first Malaysian TV drama series with a Japanese lead. 12 episodes were shot in Okinawa and the rest in Malaysia.

Ku Tinggalkan Cinta di Okinawa is the second co-production between Malaysia's Double Vision and Okinawa-based Mabui Stone. The show is backed by the Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The first Double Vision-Mabui Stone production was *Ryujin Juwara*, Malaysia's first Tokusatsu (live-animated/special effects) TV drama series based on the original Ryujin Mabuyer Japanese format. The series premiered in January 2014 on



Ku Tinggalkan Cinta di Okinawa



Lim Siu Min

national free-TV channel TV3. Double Vision's head of production, Lim Siu Min, said Mabui Stone suggested working together on a show for the Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau.

"They had wanted a show to promote Okinawa to Malaysians but instead of doing a traditional travel show, we thought that it would be a better idea to do this via a drama series, half set in Okinawa and the other half set in Malaysia," Lim says.

"The idea was to set a show around karate – something that originated from Okinawa – and to use it as a backdrop for our story," she adds.

The series, directed by Double Vision's Amor Rizan, targets Malay viewers aged 15-40. Production started in June 2014 and completed in February 2015. The series premiered on 5 August on Astro Mustika HD and Astro Bella, airing Wednesdays.9.30pm-10.30pm. The last episode is scheduled to air on 23 January 2016.

Communication between cast and crew members from Malaysia and Japan was the greatest challenge, Lim says. Scripts were in three languages (English, Malay, Japanese).

Lim says drama, especially stories of love, relationship and family, continue to trend on Malaysian TV. Another notable trend in Malaysia is comedy, she adds.

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Scripps closes 2015 on an original production high *AFC, HGTV originals lead strong slate for 2016*

Scripps Networks Interactive gets an early start on original production for 2016 with season two of *Food Wars* on Food Network premiering on 11 January 2016 in a prime time 10pm slot.

The show, produced by Endemol Shine's Singapore-based production unit, is part of an original slate Scripps has green-lit for 2016 as the network continues to ramp up original productions commissioned and funded in-house.

The slate also includes the first local version of long-running U.S. format *House Hunters* for HGTV Asia, which Scripps started talking about at the ContentAsia Summit in September this year. Details are expected to be announced in the next few weeks.

The new format commissions keeps Scripps on the list of top three regional entertainment broadcasters out of the gate so far with original Asia productions/formats for 2016.

The top five (by budget) in the space in 2015 were Sony Pictures Television Networks with *Asia's Got Talent* (FremantleMedia Asia), Fox International Channels with *Asia's Next Top Model* season three (Beach House Pictures), A+E Networks' *MasterChef Asia* (Endemol Shine Asia), NBCUniversal Channels with *How Do I Look? Asia* (Matchbox Pictures Asia) and Scripps with *Food Wars* (Endemol Shine) season one.

Fox International Channels leads for 2016 so far. The Hong Kong-based regional network started production on *Asia's Next Top Model* season four this month.

2015's other big regional players have not showed their hands yet, with no confirmation on second seasons of *Asia's Got Talent* (Sony Pictures Television Networks Asia) or *How Do I Look? Asia* (NBCUniversal Channels).

Sony Pictures Television Networks has, however, green lit a Philippines' version of *Cash Cab* by activeTV.



Food Hero 2015 winner Debbie Wong

A+E Networks Asia premiered the first season of *MasterChef Asia* in early September. The show ran for 15 episodes, with the finale on 10 December. A+E hasn't announced season two yet.

HBO Asia, which premieres this year's original series *Halfworlds* on 29 November, is expected to continue to add high-end drama to its schedules. No announcements on 2016's originals have been made yet.

Scripps' *Food Wars* showdown show, hosted by Food Hero 2015 winner Debbie Wong, pits food establishments in different cities against each other to find best of the best dishes.

Countries covered in the second season are Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

Food Wars follows a strong end to 2015, with two original productions – *Must Try Asia* season two and *Wonderful Indonesia Flavours* – running on Asian Food Channel through November and December.

The six-part half-hour *Must Try Asia* returned on Tuesday, 10 November, in a

10pm slot. The show, produced by Singapore-based Freeflow Productions, is hosted by Food Hero 2014 winner Sarah Benjamin, who goes in search of favourite dishes across six new destinations.

Scripps sponsor-funded content creation initiative in partnership with tourism boards around the region includes Asian Food Channel series, *Wonderful Indonesia Flavours*.

The show, a first partnership with Tourism Indonesia, premieres on 23 November, and will run Mondays to Thursdays at 7pm (6pm in Jakarta and Bangkok).

The eight half hours, produced by Malaysia's Wild Snapper, follow Australian chefs Tobie Puttock and Darren Robertson and Indonesian celeb chef Rinrin Marinka across Indonesia in their quest to discover and recreate local Javanese dishes.

Wonderful Indonesia Flavours follows content creation partnerships earlier this year with Tourism Philippines (*The Amazing Food Challenge* season three), Jakarta Tourism (*Back to the Streets Jakarta*) and Penang Tourism (*My Penang*).

Agatha Christie's Partners in Crime

A classic whodunit with a contemporary twist, *Partners in Crime* is a new crime thriller series, produced by Hilary Bevan Jones' Endor Productions alongside Agatha Christie Productions. The success of Agatha Christie television adaptations are world-renowned with her works now managed by Agatha Christie Ltd (an RLJ Entertainment company). *Partners in Crime* is based on two of Christie's Tommy and Tuppence novels: *The Secret Adversary* and *N or M?* David Walliams and Jessica Raine star as the titular "partners", amateur detectives Tommy and Tuppence, who stumble into a world of murder, undercover agents and Soviet conspiracy. Length: 6x60 mins **all3media international Berkshire House, 168-173 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7AA, U.K. T: +44 (0) 20 7845 4350**



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Fish: The Dish

Fish: The Dish aims to prove that cooking delicious seafood dishes isn't as complicated as it seems. Each episode follows chef Spencer Watt as he develops accessible, tasty fish recipes for his new sustainable seafood cookbook and demystifies a variety of seafood dishes. Throughout the series he explains how to clean, cook, present, and serve whole fish, fish fillets, fish steaks, a variety of shellfish, and different kinds of roe. He answers commonly asked questions and concerns in an approachable and casual manner and shows that meals that taste and look gourmet can actually be quick and easy. Length: 15x30 mins **Gusto TV 66 Muriel Street, Suite 203, Ottawa, ON, K1S 4E1, Canada T: +1 613 730 1728**



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Ready Jet Go!

Ready Jet Go! follows two neighbourhood kids: Sean and Sydney as they befriend the new kid on their street, Jet Propulsion, whose family members happen to be aliens. Together, they embark on adventures, exploring the solar system, learning about space and



science, but always back in time for dinner. Aimed at 3-8 year olds, *Ready Jet Go!* was created by Craig Bartlett, (*Dinosaur Train, Hey Arnold!*) and produced by Wind Dancer Films, (*What Women Want, Home Improvement, Roseanne*). The show premieres nationwide on PBS Kids in the U.S. next year. Length: 40x30 mins **CAKE 76-78 Charlotte Street, London, W1T 4QS, U.K. T: +44 (0)20 7307 3230**

ATF Booth # K32 (U.K. Indies)



The Dengineers

The Dengineers rips up the blueprints of traditional makeover programmes and instead presents a kid-focused transformation show. *The Dengineers* are an elite team dedicated to making out-of-this-world dens for deserving children. *The Dengineers* travel throughout the U.K. making children's den dreams become a reality. Presenters Mark Wright and Lauren Layfield lead the show, along with the build trio: Sege Rosella, builder extraordinaire and the mastermind behind some truly awe-inspiring worlds; Olga Skumial, TV and theatre set designer and creator of magical atmospheres; and Dee Saigal, digital genius and a technology queen. This visually exciting series aims to inspire, inform and educate. There are jaw-dropping surprises, celebrity twists, amazing feats of engineering and (of course!) the kids are in charge! Length: 11x30 mins HD **Beyond Distribution 109 Reserve Road, Artarmon, Sydney, New South Wales 2064, Australia T: 61 2 9437 2000**

ATF Booth # E28 (Australia Pavilion)



Beowulf: Return To The Shieldlands

A tale of fantastical creatures of battles, politics, power, loyalty and love. This epic drama follows Beowulf as he strives to be a man as well as a hero while defending those he loves from a hostile world. Length: 13x60 mins **ITV Studios Global Entertainment Rooms 517-520, 5th Floor, Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong T: +852 2511 9700 ATF Booth # D21**

Cleverman

Cleverman is a new genre drama starring Iain Glen (*Game of Thrones*) and Frances O'Connor (*The Missing*). This drama for ABC Australia and SundanceTV is set in the near future, where a species from ancient mythology must live among humans and battle for survival in a world that wants to silence, exploit and destroy them. The drama is directed by Wayne Blair (*The Sapphires, Septembers of Shiraz*) and Leah Purcell, with creatures and effects by Jacob Nash (Bangarra Dance Company) and the Oscar-winning Weta Workshop (*The Hobbit trilogy, Avatar*). Length: 6x60 mins **Red Arrow**

International 701, 7/F Tower 2 Silvercord, 30 Canton Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong

ATF Booth # H21



Who's On Top

Money isn't the only thing that goes up and down in this show. *Who's on Top?* has three contestants suspended in "air pods" that are scaling in-studio towers five stories high, faced with fun trivia questions to which only two answers apply – "more" or "less" and "true" or "false". If answered correctly, the contestant's air pod springs to life and quickly ascends to the next level of the tower accumulating money as it goes, but if wrong, they plummet all the way to the basement level. Length: Format (60 mins) **Keshet**

International Hong Kong Office: 11-12/F, BOC Group Life Assurance Tower, 134-136 Des Voeux Road, Central, Hong Kong T: +852 3956 7168

ATF Booth # C21



Thomas and Friends season 20

Thomas and Friends are back and it is the year of racing. The series is full of humour and drama and focused on themes



of friendship, participation, determination and teamwork. Length: 20x10 mins **Mattel Inc. Rm 504-512, 5/F, North Tower, World Finance Centre, Harbour City, Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong**

ATF Booth # F20

Blood and Water

The one thing Josephine "Jo" Bradley knows for certain is that she's a good cop. She's ambitious and tough (or thinks she is) and has just been assigned her first case as lead detective following her promotion to Vancouver's Homicide Division. Born in China and abandoned by a family she never knew, Jo was adopted as a toddler and relocated to Vancouver.

When Charles Xie goes missing, Jo is forced to reveal a long-held secret in order to solve a murder. Length: 4x60 mins/8x30 mins HD

Breakthrough Entertainment 35 Britain Street, Toronto, Ontario M5A 1R7, Canada T: +1 416 766 6588

Annedroids

A live-action/CGI series following the adventure of kid scientist Anne, her fun-loving friends and her android creations as they perform experiments in Anne's junkyard laboratory. Together they learn about friendship and each other, one experiment at a time. Length: 52x30 mins **Picture Box Distribution Inc. 141 East 23 Avenue, Vancouver BC, V5V 1X1, Canada T: +1 604 783 1745**



ITV Choice unveils holiday line-up *Ant & Dec back in Asia for I'm a Celebrity S15*



I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!

Season 15 of U.K. reality show *I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!* returns to Asia on Tuesday, 17 November, first and exclusive on ITV Choice within 48 hours of the U.K. broadcast.

The show's minimised broadcasting window is part of ITV's ongoing express windowing strategy in Asia, an initiative U.K. ITV channel director Nic van Zwanenberg has called ITV's Asia priority for this year.

This kicked off in June 2015 with U.K. dramas *Coronation Street* and *Emmerdale*, both which aired in Asia within 24 hours of the U.K. (*ContentAsia*, 15 June 2015).

The new season of *I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!*, hosted by Ant and Dec, will run through Tuesday, 8 December with daily episodes airing 9.30pm Monday-Friday and 8pm on weekends.

This season's 10 celebs, who will head to a remote part of Australia to compete for title of King or Queen of the Jungle, include entrepreneur Duncan Bannatyne OBE, aristocrat and writer Lady Colin Campbell, British pop singer Tony Hadley and TV host Yvette Fielding.

The series leads into ITV's holiday season broadcasting that includes a number of one-off Christmas specials as well as first and exclusive drama series.

Season one of six-part drama series *Grantchester*, starring James Norton and Robson Green, will air first and exclusive in Asia and the Middle East on Fridays from 18 December.

Season three of drama series, *The Syndicate*, starring Anthony Andrews (*Brideshead Revisited*), returns to ITV Choice first and exclusive on 9 December as part of the holiday season.

The channel will air two exclusive one-off Christmas Eve specials, the two-hour *Murdoch Mysteries* and one-hour entertainment game show *Keep It In The Family Christmas Special*.

The holiday programming culminates with game show *Big Star's Little Star Christmas Special* featuring celebrity kids hosted by Stephen Mulhern. The one-time 60-minute broadcast will air first and exclusive in Asia and the Middle East within 24 hours of the U.K.

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