



Today's top stories in, around and about Asia, from ATF and everywhere else, are...

- Talpa's "It Takes 2" heads for Vietnam in first Asia deal
- NBCUni's 1st "Real Housewives" for Asia + "Top Chef" heads to Thailand
- Movies, drama, entertainment top Asia's acquisition agenda
- Italy's RAI picks up Korean format "Grandpas Over Flowers"
- 1st original comedy series under way at HBO Asia
- Aurora Media, Kathy Morgan Int'l close multi-deal financing agreement
- Discovery, TVB, JEI TV boost kids slates
- Tencent picks up BBC's "The Collection" China/Taiwan/HK
- Bangla's Dhaka Broadband ventures into OTT
- Vietnam's BHD pushes a legal access agenda with new OTT platform
- BeachTV debuts, backed by Aurora and Goshen
- Endemol Shine seals Singapore deal for "Cash Struck!"
- Turner's TABI Channel wins Japanese award for 4K original
- ContentAsia's ATF Programming Picks...



Talpa's "It Takes 2" heads for Vietnam in first Asia deal

Vietnam's Vietcom Film Production has acquired Talpa's celebrity singing format "It Takes 2". The deal is a first in Asia for "It Takes 2", which is scheduled to premiere in Vietnam in early 2017. The format launched on RTL4 in the Netherlands earlier this year. The Talpa sale rides Vietnam's insatiable appetite for adaptations from a range of formats, including game shows, big-budget reality and scripted/drama. Vietnam is Asia's biggest market for formats by volume, with at least 66 formats on air in 2016 or commissioned for 2017, according to ContentAsia's new **Formats Outlook**, published for the ATF in Singapore this week. Vietnam accounts for 20% of all formats sold/produced in Asia in 2016.



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Movies, drama, entertainment top Asia's acquisition agenda

92% of buyers in Asia are interested in adding movies to their schedules in 2017, according to ContentAsia's analysis of buying habits across the region. The new survey puts drama second and entertainment third on acquisition agendas for next year. 66 of the 72 buyers included in the survey said they would be buying movies. 57 acquisition/programming execs are looking for drama and 54 are interested in entertainment programming. About half have animation on their lists. Digital/online rights is a key theme. The breakdown of who is looking for what is [here](#).



Italy's RAI picks up Korean format "Grandpas Over Flowers"

Korean reality format "Grandpas Over Flowers" has been picked up by Italian broadcaster RAI, which will premiere the local version on RAI 2 in 2017. This is the first time the format has been sold in Europe. In a statement out of Los Angeles today, format distributor Small World IFT said the show would be produced by Endemol Shine Italy. In the U.S. NBC has ordered a second season of the series, which premiered earlier this year as "Better Late Than Never".



1st original comedy series under way at HBO Asia

HBO Asia has started production on its first original comedy drama series, "Sent", with a cast from Singapore and Thailand. The eight half-hours are directed/co-produced by Singaporean comedian Alaric Tay in his TV series directing debut. "Sent" is the story of an unremarkable financial compliance officer who inadvertently sends out drafts of emails no one was ever meant to see, setting off a backlash that changes his life. The show will air exclusively on HBO Asia's on-air, online and on-demand platforms in 2017. The cast includes Haresh Tilani ("Ministry of Funny"), Alan Wong ("Tanglin") and Adrian Pang ("The Blue Mansion").



Aurora Media, Kathy Morgan International close multi-deal financing agreement

Southeast Asian investment vehicle, Aurora Media Holdings, has signed a multi-picture development and production financing agreement with Los Angeles-based global sales and marketing agency, Kathy Morgan International (KMI). The long-term deal will match Aurora's **recently established US\$30-million content fund**, Aurora Global Media Capital, with KMI's slate of international projects in development and the company's worldwide distribution network. Aurora will serve as executive producer on a roster of upcoming projects with KMI, including "Stano", helmed by John G. Avildsen ("Rocky", "The Karate Kid"). The film, scheduled to begin principal photography in Spring 2017, is an inspirational story about a young rising baseball star who lands himself in prison for a terrible accident and after years of being behind bars trying to stay alive, he returns to society and must fight to reclaim his career, his friendships, and his love. The financing slate also includes OmniLab Media's remake of "Storm Boy", directed by Malaysian/Australian award-winner Shawn Seet. Rounding out the initial roster is the East-West creature feature, "Mogwai", set in Hong Kong.



Discovery, TVB, JEI TV boost kids slates

Discovery Kids Asia, TVB Hong Kong and JEI TV Korea have picked up a slate of kids education shows from Singapore-based distribution/production agency Bomanbridge Media. Discovery Kids Asia acquired multiple titles, including seasons one and two of "Odd Squad", a live-action comedy about two kids who work for a government agency run by kids in suits who are equipped with the world's most advanced and unpredictable gadgetry. TVB Hong Kong bought two seasons of "Giver" and JEI TV in South Korea picked up Earthtree Productions "Box Yourself".

Tencent picks up BBC's "The Collection" China/Taiwan/HK

Chinese streaming platform Tencent Holdings has acquired rights to BBC Worldwide's eight-episode drama "The Collection" for China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The series, set in the world of French haute couture after the Second World War, will air exclusively on Tencent's QQ platform in January 2017. Today's announcement comes two days after BBC said it had sold almost 360 hours of "Top Gear" to the Shanghai Media Group's (SMG) streaming platform, BestTV, in BBC's biggest licensing deal ever for a single title in China. Content will be streamed on BestTV, which has more than 26 million subscribers, from early 2017.



Bangla's Dhaka Broadband ventures into OTT

Bangladesh's broadband internet solution and content provider Dhaka Broadband Network is expanding its offering to include OTT. The aim is to launch BCL Go (working title) by the first quarter of 2017. The service will be available to all users via telco and ISP in Bangladesh. Packages/rates and other details are still in discussion, says Saad Mobarak, Dhaka Broadband Network's managing director, who is attending the ATF this week to source content for the new platform.

Vietnam's BHD pushes a legal access agenda with new OTT platform

Vietnamese production house BHD celebrates its 20th anniversary this year with new streaming platform Danet, and turbo-charged cineplex ambitions built upon two decades worth of film/television production and distribution. BHD co-founder and managing director, Bich Hanh Ngo, says Danet fulfills "a need to deliver the product directly to the end consumer". The platform will offer 2,000 movie hours in year one, ramping up to 5,000 in year two. Hollywood movie TVOD output deals have been signed with Disney, Warner Bros, NBCUniversal, 20th Century Fox and Paramount Pictures. Movies cost between US\$0.50 and US\$1.10. "It's important for audiences to pay for what they want to watch," Bich Hanh says, adding that she realised it will take time and that the effort to convert illegal to legal access continues.



BeachTV debuts, backed by Aurora and Goshen

Beach-focused lifestyle channel, BeachTV, debuted at the ATF in Singapore today, backed by investment from Aurora Media Holdings and Indonesia's Goshen Media Group. BeachTV is helmed by events/entertainment veteran Jevan Wong, who says the service caters to a "growing appetite for experiential content". BeachTV will offer a mix of acquired, original and user-generated content, along with beach-related events and merchandising. Expansion plans in 2017 focus on content investment and acquisition, IP generation, and mobile/OTT partnerships.



Endemol Shine seals Singapore deal for "Cash Struck!"

Endemol Shine Asia is co-producing a new 26-episode game show with Singapore's government-backed monopoly broadcaster. The English-language series, "Cash Struck!", premieres on 6 February 2017 at 7.30pm and will run on Mondays for six months. The hour-long game show pits teams of two contestants against each other to guess a word that links two pictures, earning tokens on the giant digital screen. Each team stands to win up to S\$10,000 in cash. "Cash Struck!" was originally devised by Endemol Shine Israel and Create It Studio Ltd.

Turner's TABI Channel wins Japanese award for 4K original

Turner Asia Pacific's Japanese travel and lifestyle TABI Channel has won the Grand Award at the 4K Tokushima Movie Festival for factual show "Biei, Hokkaido: Seasons in Color". The two-part original production, broadcast on TABI Channel in May 2016, was filmed on location in the town of Biei in Kami-kawa-gun, Hokkaido, and is part of Turner's library of 2,000 hours of Japanese content. TABI, along with Turner's MondoTV channel in Japan, develops about 300 hours of original content a year, with about 10 hours in 4K produced this year.



Asia in 2017: The Big Issues | Asia originals: Who's winning the formats race
Blockbuster buyers: Who they are | Asia's stream fest: the players
All in the December issue of ContentAsia...in print+online

OUT NOW! ATF Stand # M17

Just in case you missed anything yesterday, you can find our ATF Daily from 7 December [here](#).

ContentAsia's ATF Programming Picks...

MacGyver

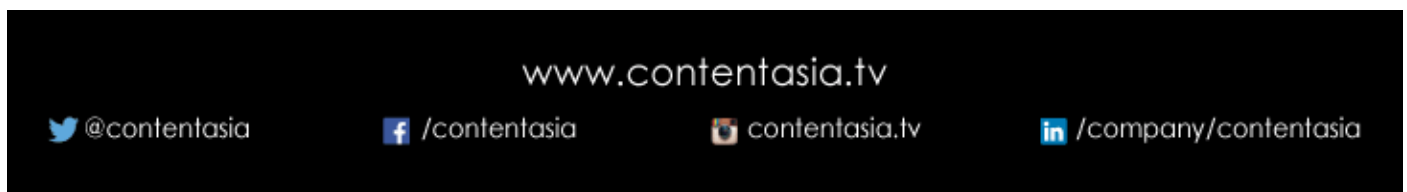
MacGyver, a reimagining of the classic series, is an action-adventure drama about 20-something Angus "Mac" MacGyver, who creates a clandestine organisation within the U.S. government where he uses his extraordinary talent for unconventional problem solving and vast scientific knowledge to save lives. Under the aegis of the Department of External Services, MacGyver takes on the responsibility of saving the world, armed to the teeth with resourcefulness and little more than bubble gum and a paper clip. CBS Studios International **ATF Suite # 5202**

800 Words

After the death of wife Laura, George Turner made the very big call to move his family from Sydney to the small New Zealand seaside town of Weld. He wanted his kids, Shay and Arlo, to have a fresh start, to heal and to find a new love of life in the beautiful place he had loved as a child. This did not go according to plan, and in the second series of 800 Words George is battling to reunite his splintered family; to bring his girl Shay home from her self-appointed exile back to Australia. all3media International **ATF Stand # K08**

Burning Questions!

The ultimate true or false quiz show where there's no shortage of intriguing, bizarre and sometimes risqué questions. The questions alone are enough to leave the players wondering and debating. But two cunningly eloquent representatives, Mr. True and Mr. False, join in to sway their answers. This game show is all about good fun and new discoveries, where celebrity contestants see who can rack up the highest number of points and win a fabulous prize. Nippon Television Network Corporation **ATF Stand # A24**



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Space Ranger Roger

Space Ranger Roger is a brave little alien sent to explore a strange, faraway world...Earth! His mission? Help Earth friends in need! Each day, Roger scans the surface of our small blue planet from his home base, the Friend Ship. If he picks up a distress signal from an Earth creature, it's his job as a Space Ranger to identify the problem and gear up his team of rambunctious Ranger Bots to fix it. Though his alien point of view and the bots' enthusiasm often lead to more trouble, Roger's determined spirit and creative thinking will save the day. DHX Media **ATF Stand # H29**

Molang

Molang, follows the adventures of a joyful, eccentric and enthusiastic rabbit and his best friend, a shy, discreet and emotional little chick named Piu Piu. The over the top cuteness of the lead characters defines this unique property. Happiness, friendship, mutual respect and solidarity are key elements of the episodes. Millimages **ATF Stand # E10F10**

Victoria

This eight-part series is the start of a landmark account of the life of British history's most significant monarch. It is a saga of interlocking circles – the circuits of power in Westminster, the fast-growing family of Victoria and Albert, the intermarrying European royal houses and the sometimes scandalous palace staff. Series two coming in 2017. ITV Studios **ATF Stand # D21**



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