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Published Thu 08 Apr 2021



## Drama

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ITV has commissioned a third series of popular, contemporary detective drama McDonald & Dodds, produced by leading independent production company, Mammoth Screen.

Starring Tala Gouveia (*Cold Feet*) as DCI McDonald and BAFTA award winning actor Jason Watkins (*Des, The Crown*) as DS Dodds, the third series will comprise of three new murder mysteries for the pair to solve. The first two films of series two achieved consolidated ratings of 6.7m.

Jason Watkins commented about the new run: "I'm delighted to be returning to Bath for the third series of McDonald & Dodds. Tala and I are so thrilled to be in a partnership which the audience seem to have affection for. It's gratifying that we've been able to bring a little sunshine in these difficult times. I look forward to filming in the beautiful city of Bath and to Dodds solving more puzzles with Lauren McDonald. I'm bracing myself for more chips in butter!"

Tala Gouveia added: "I can't wait to start filming again and to see what adventures writer Robert Murphy takes us on next! It's always a pleasure to work with Jason and our wonderful casts. Bring on series three!"

Damien Timmer (The Serpent, Endeavour), CEO of Mammoth Screen, commented: "We're delighted to be returning to Bath for more ingenious crime mysteries with DCI McDonald and DS Dodds - working with Tala Gouveia, Jason Watkins and showrunner Robert Murphy is a proper pleasure!"

Creator Robert Murphy (Vera, Shetland, DCI Banks) added: "It's a real privilege to for me to return to Bath to re-engage with the world of McDonald & Dodds and our other regular characters. I'm delighted to be cooking up more mystery puzzles as well as exploring the deepening and fun relationship between our two leads."

The first and second series are available to view via streaming platform Britbox. ITV Studios will distribute the drama internationally. Filming will begin on the third series during the summer of 2021.

Mammoth Screen is one of the UK's leading production companies. Current and forthcoming shows include *The Serpent* for BBC/Netflix, *Noughts + Crosses*, *World on Fire* and *Grime Kids* for the BBC, and *Endeavour* and *The Tower* for ITV. Mammoth Screen is an ITV Studios Company.

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