

# Highlights

Christmas 2024



itv itvX

## Out There



**County lines drug-dealing and an escalating and insidious crime wave sweeping the British countryside are the subject of this drama starring Martin Clunes as a farmer confronted with dark forces seeping into his rural community.**

The drama will depict the stealthy and surreptitious invasion of the land our farmer cherishes with devastating consequences as his livelihood, homestead and family life are threatened by local county lines drugs dealers who are essentially urban gangs using the British countryside as a field of operations and moving drugs and money between their inner-city hubs and provincial areas.

Written by screenwriter Ed Whitmore (Steeltown Murders, Grace, Manhunt, Silent Witness, Safe House) and director Marc Evans (Steeltown Murders, Manhunt, The Pembrokeshire Murders, Grav), and produced by Buffalo Pictures (Manhunt, Doc Martin, Arthur & George), the series is set in the beautiful Welsh countryside.

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### Production Details

Director: Marc Evans

Writer: Ed Whitmore

Buffalo Pictures.

## Playing Nice



**A psychological thriller adapted by Malpractice writer Grace Ofori-Attah from the best-selling novel by British thriller author JP Delaney, with Kate Hewitt (One Day) directing all episodes.**

BAFTA-nominated James Norton (Happy Valley, A Little Life, Nowhere Special), BAFTA-nominated Niamh Algar (Mary and George, The Virtues, Raised By Wolves, The Wonder, Calm With Horses), Olivier-nominated James McArdle (Sexy Beast, The Mare of Easttown, Life After Life) and BIFA-nominated Jessica Brown Findlay (The Flatshare, Life After Life, Black Mirror, Downton Abbey) all take leading roles in the limited series.

Set against a sweeping Cornish landscape, two couples discover that their toddlers were switched at birth in a hospital mix-up and face a horrifying dilemma: do they keep the sons they have raised and loved or reclaim their biological child?

Living a waking nightmare, Pete (James Norton) and Maddie (Niamh Algar) are jettisoned into the world of the other couple Miles (James McArdle) and Lucy (Jessica Brown Findlay). At first it seems all four are agreed on a solution, but it soon becomes clear that hidden motives are at play - how far can each couple trust the real parents of their child or even each other? As Pete and Maddie are stretched to breaking point, they realise that they will stop at nothing to keep their family together.

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### Production Details

Executive producers are Kitty Kaletsky, James Norton, Kate Crowe and STUDIOCANAL's Joe Naftalin, with Isobel Carter overseeing for STUDIOCANAL. Grace Ofori-Attah and author JP Delaney also executive produce and Nick Pitt is series producer.

**Playing Nice will be distributed globally by STUDIOCANAL.**

**STUDIOCANAL and Rabbit Track Pictures.**

## Vera Series 14



**Renowned film, theatre, and television actress Brenda Blethyn OBE makes an emotional return for the 14th and final series of ITV's popular crime drama.**

Spanning two epic feature-length episodes, these new stories entitled *Inside* and *The Dark Wives*, intertwine gripping murder mysteries with the heartfelt narrative of Vera's personal journey.

Filmed in and around the North East, the strong ensemble cast reunited with Brenda includes David Leon as DI Joe Ashworth, Jon Morrison as DC Kenny Lockhart, Riley Jones as DC Mark Edwards, Sarah Kameela Impey as pathologist Dr Paula Bennett, and Rhiannon Clements as DC Steph Duncan.

In the first episode, DCI Vera Stanhope is called to the banks of the Tyne where the body of a young man has been discovered by some anglers. A tangled web of a broken relationship, secret love, grudges, regret, and fraud begins to emerge - has our former inmate been served cold justice, or does his death run deeper?

The final episode brings Vera back to a familiar place when a body is found at the foot of legendary local stones *The Dark Wives* - with memories of childhood in the background, Vera must work hard to uncover the mystery of why a bright young student would be violently attacked and left so far from home. This poignant episode weaves together past and present and makes for a compelling and emotional farewell.

Guest stars for this final series include Amanda Root, William Houston, Shobna Gulati, Clinton Blake, Joshua Sher, Michelle Holmes, Kevin Whately, Cathy Tyson, Jacoba Williams, George Beach, Alexandra Hannant, Victoria Elliott, Bryan Moriarty, Chelsea Halfpenny, Yazmin Kayani, Stevie Raine, Jonathan Icton, Freya Parks, Graeme Hawley, Charlotte Bradley, Sarah Priddy, Christopher Connel, Daren Morfitt, Anthony Flanagan, Kate Marvan, Tiegán Byrne, Gassan Abdulrazek, Sennia Nanua, Olwen May, Derek Thompson, Jacquetta May, Angela Bain and Jada Langley.

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### Production Details

Executive Producer: Kate Bartlett

Producer: Will Nicholson

Directors: Claire Winyard and Paul Gay

Writer: Phil Mulryne

Silverprint Pictures.



**A four-part drama depicting the life of Cary Grant, Hollywood's greatest leading man, and starring Jason Isaacs in the leading role.**

Born in Bristol in England in 1904 to parents Elsie and Elias, Archie tells the story of a young Archibald Alexander Leach's troubled childhood and how extreme poverty, his father's adultery and the loss of his older brother John tore the family apart and sent his loving mother into a downward spiral of grief and depression - Jeff Pope's scripts reveal how deceit, cruelty, and one overpowering lie shaped Archie's life.

At 14, Archie auditioned for the music hall act the Bob Pender Troupe - a band of acrobats, stilt walkers, clown and comedians - after seeing them perform at the Bristol Hippodrome. Lean and athletic, he learned the art of stilt walking - when the troupe went on tour to the US, teenage Archie was intoxicated by the land of opportunity.

Believing he had no family to return to in the UK, Archie decided to stay in the US to try to make his way in showbusiness - with no thoughts of acting, a chance meeting with the comedian George Burns helped him find his first footing on the acting ladder and a contract with a movie studio who felt he needed to change his name, and Cary Grant was born.

The drama intercuts with scenes from 1961 when at the height of his fame living in Benedict Canyon, Los Angeles, the legendary actor was breaking all box office records but desperately unhappy in his private life. With two failed marriages behind him, he began to woo a young actress he'd seen on a TV show called Dyan Cannon.

33 years his junior, Dyan didn't initially fall for his charms turning down his attempts to meet because she didn't feel they could ever be a match. Dashing handsome, suave and sophisticated, Cary continued to pursue her, with introductions to his famous friends, until they eventually wed in Las Vegas in 1965.

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#### Production Details.

Etta Pictures, BritBox  
International.



**Award-winning playwright and BAFTA-nominated screenwriter Nancy Harris (Dates) - and acclaimed director Paddy Breathnach (Viva, Rosie) - return to helm the second series of this acclaimed comedy-drama starring Roisin Gallagher.**

Roisin returns as recovering alcoholic Shiv Sheridan, alongside regular cast members from the first series, as the storyline picks up seven months on and we now meet the Sheridans in their new normal - to all outward appearances it seems like the family is relatively content as Shiv's been sober, celibate and solvent for six months, Ant has hung onto his job at the estate agent and his relationship with Max, and Caroline's making up for a lost time by having sex with everyone she meets on Tinder.

So far, so normal... or is it? After all, how normal is it for three grown adults to still be living at home with their parents, and are the Sheridans really happy with this new status quo, or have they just rearranged their dysfunction and found another groove of denial to fit into?

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### Production Details

Element Pictures.



Drama

## Culprits



**This crime thriller centres on family man Joe Petrus, who is living the American dream with his fiancée and stepkids.**

However, unbeknownst to them is that Joe was involved in a mysterious crime three years ago - and that his dangerous past is about to catch up with him.

When a killer starts targeting the crew behind the crime, Joe realises that it's only a matter of time before his family is targeted, returns to London to track down his old gang, and finds out who is coming after them.

The stellar British cast includes Nathan Stewart-Jarrett, Niamh Algar, Gemma Arterton, Eddie Izzard and Kirby.

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### Production Details

Character 7.



Horror

NOS4A2



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**Production Details**

AMC Studios.

**A supernatural horror series, based on Joe Hill's bestselling 2013 novel of the same name and starring Zachary Quinto, about Charlie Manx, a seductive immortal who feeds off of the souls of children.**

Manx then deposits what remains of them into Christmasland, an icy and twisted Christmas village of Manx's imagination where every day is Christmas Day and unhappiness is against the law.

However, Manx finds his whole world threatened when Vic McQueen, a young woman in New England, discovers that she has a dangerous supernatural ability - and sets out to defeat Manx and rescue his victims without losing her mind or falling victim to him herself.





Comedy  
**Scrubs**



**All 182 episodes of the popular US comedy series starring Zach Braff.**

Braff plays medical intern John 'J.D.' Dorian, who embarks on a healing career in a surreal hospital crammed full of unpredictable staff and patients.

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**Production Details**

Doozer Towers Productions,  
ABC Signature, Touchstone  
Television.

## Royal Variety Performance



**Amanda Holden and Alan Carr will host the world's longest-running entertainment show as it returns to the magnificent Royal Albert Hall in London for a spectacular evening in the presence of members of the Royal Family.**

The show will feature singer Sydnie Christmas, the winner of this year's Britain's Got Talent, and more stellar performances from the worlds of music, theatre, comedy and variety.

The event is staged in aid of the Royal Variety Charity - the money raised from the show helps those people from the world of entertainment in need of care and assistance.

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### Production Details

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**itvX** **itv1** Entertainment  
**National Lottery**  
**New Year's Eve Concert**



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**Production Details**

TBI Media.

**The National Lottery's New Year's Eve Big Bash is back!**

Recorded in front of 10,000 people at Wembley Arena, the Big Bash will again feature bespoke performances from the worlds of pop, theatre and TV, and guests helping us look back on 2024 - it's simply the best party to help get the nation in the mood for the big countdown.



**The game show is back on ITV with cricketing legend Freddie Flintoff at the presenting helm.**

Bullseye is one of the UK's most successful and best-loved family game shows - in this brand-new Christmas special, each playing team will be made up of an amateur dart player known as the 'thrower' and their team partner the 'knower'. They will combine their skills and throw darts at different game boards while answering questions correctly for 'points and prizes'.

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**Production Details**

12 Yard Productions.

# I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! The Coming Out Show



**This special will give viewers exclusive behind the scenes access into the latest series of I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!**

We'll see how each campmate left the jungle, how they celebrated their first night free of Bushtucker, what they ate and how quickly they jumped into a nice soft bed.

It's a chance for the celebrities to finally find out what viewers and their fellow campmates have been saying about them before coming back together in the 'real world' for one last party - a reunion - and we also see them in emotional scenes as they're reunited with their much-missed family and friends.

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## Production Details

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ITV Studios).

# The Masked Singer



The BAFTA-winning show is back, but this time with a new panel as broadcaster and entrepreneur Maya Jama will be joining the panel for the highly-anticipated series which returns to ITV1 and ITvX in 2025.

Following another successful stint hosting the ultimate love game - the award-winning Love Island - Maya is now set to play the ultimate guessing game alongside Jonathan Ross, Davina McCall and Mo Gilligan who all resume their celebrity detective roles.

The affable Joel Dommett returns as host as the hit BAFTA-winning show that continues to grip the nation returns for its sixth series - since bursting onto TV screens in 2020, The Masked Singer UK has reached a staggering 37 million viewers who have tuned in to guess who is hiding behind the mask.

A fresh batch of famous faces will don a line-up of extraordinary and elaborate costumes in a bid to disguise their identities as they sing in front of a studio audience and our celebrity judging panel - this year's cast follow in the footsteps of an array of superstars including Dionne Warwick, NeYo, Richie Sambora, Michael Owen, Daisy May Cooper, Sophie Ellis-Bextor, Sue Perkins, Glenn Hoddle, Pat Cash, Lorraine Kelly, Jason Manford, Jake Shears, Sir Lenny Henry, Joss Stone and more.

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## Production Details

Bandicoot Scotland (part of Argonon).

**itvX** **itv1** Entertainment  
**The Masked Singer**  
**Christmas Special**



**Celebrating this festive season is a brand-new one-off special of TV's favourite guessing game.**

The special will see four well-known celebrities compete undercover in elaborate Christmas-themed costumes and keep their true identities hidden with all four famous faces unmasked in one episode.

Host Joel Dommett will be presiding over the show which sees each celebrity perform to our superstar panel of detectives who are each trying to unwrap their festive faces and unlock TV's best-kept secret.

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**Production Details**

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itvX **itv1** Entertainment  
**Deal or No Deal  
Celebrity Special**



Following the hugely successful series is a celebrity special which will see not one, but two of TV's most popular stars join forces as they attempt to take on the banker and win a huge cash prize for charity.

Host Stephen Mulhern will also be joined by the celebrity players' family and friends as they take their place in front of the iconic red boxes, but will it hold a big cash prize?

Standing in their way is the Banker ready to unnerve, entice and outwit our players - with tensions running high in the studio, will they have what it takes to beat the Banker and win money for their chosen charity?

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**Production Details**

Remarkable Entertainment (a  
Banijay UK company).



# Wheel of Fortune Christmas Special



**The Wheel of Fortune is back with a celebrity Christmas Special and BAFTA winner Graham Norton as host as three celebrities spin to win money for their chosen charities.**

Produced by Whisper North - part of the Sony Pictures Television-backed Whisper Group - the epic game show will once again be centred around a giant carnival wheel. The pressure is on as they pick a letter to solve the puzzle, but who has what it takes in this thrilling game of skill and luck?

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## Production Details

Whisper North.

# Who Wants to Be a Millionaire Celebrity Special



**Who Wants to Be a Millionaire is back with a series of brand-new celebrity specials for the New Year - with some wonderful surprises for Millionaire fans, this promises to be the best celeb series yet.**

Each brave celeb is playing for their chosen charity - who will crumble, who will shine when they face Jeremy Clarkson and the hot seat, and can anyone better Richard Madeley's £125,000 from the last series?

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## Production Details

Stellify Media.

# Ant & Dec's Limitless Win Series 4



Fronted by Britain's favourite duo Ant & Dec, the primetime entertainment quiz show returns for its fourth series.

After a life-changing one-million-pound win last series- the highest cash prize in Limitless Win history- the stakes are higher than ever before as new contestants prepare to take on the limitless ladder and climb their way to a fortune.

Airing in primetime, the groundbreaking format with a never-ending money ladder allows contestants to win the world's first unlimited jackpot.

## Press Contact

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## Production Details

Created by Hello Dolly and co-developed by Hello Dolly and Mitre Studios.

# M&S at Christmas



**This programme provides viewers with an inside look at the retail world and the challenges faced by M&S during their busiest time of the year.**

The show offers a behind-the-scenes look at the opening of their store in Bristol, the creation of this year's experimental Christmas Sandwich, and the world's first snowing chocolate box.

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## Production Details

South Shore.

## The 1% Club Christmas Special



The award-winning hit ITV game show hosted by BAFTA-nominated Lee Mack and produced by Magnum Media is to return for a Christmas special full of festive questions.

The show's format sees 100 contestants begin every show, but to make it to the end and win the top prize of up to £100,000, contestants must correctly answer a question that only 1% of the country would get right.

Contestants of all ages and backgrounds can take part because, unlike most quizzes, no swotting up on general knowledge is required to do well and logic and common sense are the key to success.

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### Production Details

Magnum TV.

# For the Love of Dogs Christmas Special



## It's Christmas at Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, but not everyone is feeling festive...

Luckily, pantomime queen Alison Hammond is on hand to spread some seasonal magic and help give some of the animals of Battersea the ultimate Christmas present - a forever home... oh, yes she will!

With the help of a very special Secret Santa, Alison will tell the stories of some of Battersea's newest arrivals and follow the expert staff and volunteers as they prepare the good boys and girls for their potential new owners.

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### Production Details

MultiStory Media.

# TikTok Top 100 2024



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## Production Details

Minnow Films.

**This programme is ITV's countdown curation of the funniest, maddest, most extreme, rudest and most epic viral videos of the year.**

This end-of-year special will organise and count down our 100 best TikTok and other social media clips of 2024 - the show also estimates the money clips can make for creators.

# Gino & Fred: Emission Impossible



**Gino D'Acampo and Fred Sirieix are off on an epic eco-friendly trip to explore the cuisine and culture of Austria and Croatia.**

Along the way, the firm friends find themselves rowing through spectacular glaciers, taking part in a traditional Austrian dance, trying their hand at water polo in Croatia and milking donkeys.

Living 'la dolce vita' comes at a cost to the planet, so Gino and Fred are greening up their act and shaking off the eco-sceptic attitude on a journey of environmental discovery while meeting people and visiting locations that inspire them on a rip-roaring food odyssey.

They start their journey in the Zillertal Alps in western Austria surrounded by beautiful but tragically melting glaciers - despite Austrian beef being some of the most sustainable in the world, one of the biggest factors of climate change is the production of meat. In their quest to find alternatives, Gino and Fred start with vegetarianism and end with some innovative culinary options in the Austrian capital of Vienna.

Heading to Croatia for the second episode, Gino and Fred are shocked by the 'over-tourism' in holiday hotspot Dubrovnik - as they continue their journey as 'conscientious travellers', they head out of the city to Mali Ston, a bay with world-renowned shellfish, before road testing Croatia's answer to sustainable travel in the form of Agrotourism.

Finally, Gino and Fred cross the Adriatic for an off-grid adventure, but will the pair cope without their luxuries and each other's company?

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group

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## Production Details

Betty TV.



# Fletcher's Farm Christmas



**Kelvin, Liz and the family are back for a seasonal special where they venture to Finland and visit another family farm thriving in the harsh conditions of the Arctic Circle.**

It's not all work, though, as the Fletchers dive into the magic of a Nordic winter by enjoying traditional activities and meeting the animals that flourish in this frosty wilderness to make their Finnish adventure one the family will never forget.

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## Production Details

Daisybeck Studios.

# Martin Lewis: How to Win at Board Games



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## Production Details

MultiStory.

**Presenter Martin Lewis loves board games - he even proposed to his wife using a Scrabble set! So this Christmas he wants to take you through the winning formulas that will give you the best chances of beating your family and friends.**

Being Martin, there's obviously more to it than just games - across this festive hour, Britain's most trusted man will give us the kind of top information we expect, but this time about board games.

He'll spotlight the top tactics and game-winning tricks behind the UK's most popular board games including Monopoly, Scrabble and Connect 4 - in the process he will try to take on the toughest of competitors and learn a thing or two himself not only to increase his winning odds, but also to learn about the joy that can come from getting together to play a board game.



Factual

# AMC: An Accidental Studio



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## Production Details

AMC UK.

**The remarkable story of HandMade Films - featuring never-before-seen interviews with key players, this documentary captures an extraordinary moment in film history through the eyes of filmmakers, actors, and its founder George Harrison.**

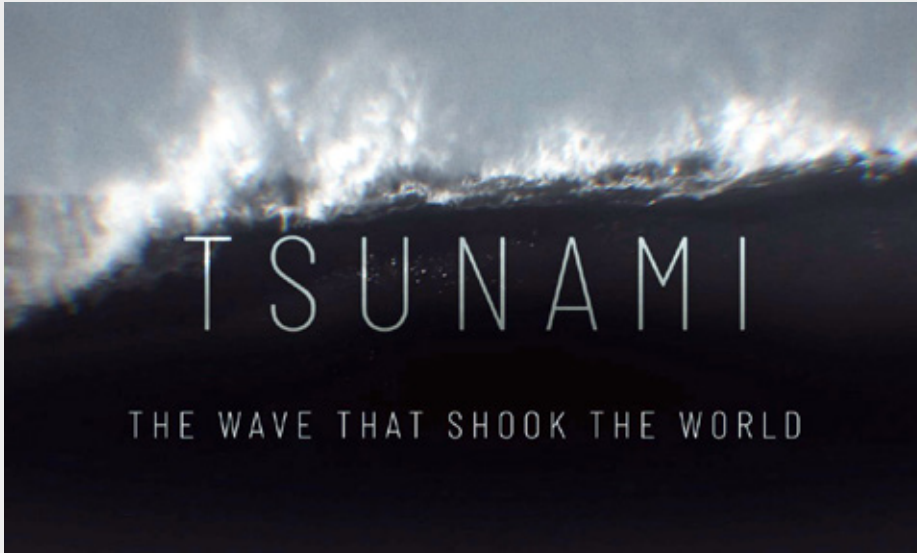
Coming to the rescue of *Life of Brian* when money fell through at the last minute, George Harrison offered to fund the entire film by mortgaging his house and his office to do so - as a huge fan of Monty Python, he credited their humour with saving his sanity while he was a Beatle and now it was his turn to pay them back. The film was a massive hit - so successful, in fact, that they decided to set up a company and HandMade Films was born.

In a rare moment in film history, HandMade dominated the British film scene with its ethos of making and releasing maverick films that others had rejected, from *Life of Brian*, *The Long Good Friday*, *Time Bandits* and Alan Bennett's triple BAFTA winner *A Private Function* to *Withnail and I* and the Oscar®-nominated *Mona Lisa* - Harrison's generosity in helping others fulfil their dreams and his hands-off approach allowed filmmakers to shine in their work. As its films won awards and launched careers, HandMade became more than a happy accident - it became a celebration of integrity and collaboration.

With unreleased archive interviews and footage with Harrison, new and exclusive interviews with BAFTA winner Michael Palin, Golden Globe® and Oscar® nominee Terry Gilliam, Oscar® nominee Richard E. Grant and Oscar® winner Neil Jordan, and unseen interviews with Golden Globe® and BAFTA winner Bob Hoskins, *An Accidental Studio* explores HandMade's baptism of fire and the risks it took in producing uniquely crafted and intelligent films.

Additional interviewees in the film include Bruce Robinson, Ray Cooper, Dick Clement & Ian La Frenais, Cathy Tyson, Brenda Vaccaro, A Martinez, Richard Loncraine and Jonathan Lynn.

# Tsunami: The Wave that Changed the World



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## Production Details

Arrow Media.

**This powerful documentary commemorates the 20th anniversary of the devastating Indian Ocean Boxing Day tsunami and charts the moment-by-moment eruption of one of the biggest disasters in natural history.**

The film tells the human story of how the catastrophic events unfolded during the morning of Boxing Day 2004 as powerful survivor stories are told through raw and personal testimony. A British holidaymaker remembers the desperate search for his brother in makeshift beachside morgues in Thailand; an Australian skipper describes his experience trying to control his boat off Phuket, with his three children on board, as it spins out of control on top of a gigantic tsunami wave; a Sri Lankan woman recalls being trapped inside an overturned railway carriage - with her parents and younger sister - hit by a wave and submerged in water.

Never-before-seen archive and reimagined visual effects show how trauma and resilience have defined a generation 20 years on - the documentary also combines gripping storytelling with groundbreaking GFX technology used as a powerful visual tool to help tell each stage of the story and bring the events of the 26th of December, 2004 to life.

Tsunami: The Wave That Shook The World features first-hand accounts from survivors and rescuers, providing a personal and emotional narrative of the events that unfolded on that fateful day while showcasing some of the most profound human attributes of fear, despair, grief, courage, hope, and ultimately redemption.

Contributors share photographs, diary extracts and artefacts recovered from the tsunami which have never been seen before, with some going back to the tsunami location and reuniting with others whose lives powerfully intersected in 2004 - but who have not seen each other for decades - in powerful and emotional reunions.

# Vera... Farewell Pet



**A special celebratory documentary marking the end of the beloved TV detective drama Vera.**

With exclusive behind-the-scenes access to the final series, viewers will discover the enduring appeal of the show and its profound impact on the cast, crew, and fans alike.

Featuring heartfelt interviews with cast members including David Leon, Jon Morrison and Riley Jones - plus author Ann Cleeves - the programme shares their cherished memories of working alongside Brenda Blethyn and reflect on the unique bonds formed throughout the years.

As DCI Vera Stanhope prepares to hang up her iconic hat with the last two thrilling episodes, this documentary will capture the extraordinary journey of Vera and its lasting influence on British crime drama - set against the stunning backdrop of Northumberland, where the landscape became a character in its own right, this celebration honours the show's remarkable legacy.

This documentary offers fans a final chance to say 'farewell pet' to Vera, one of television's most beloved detectives.

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## Production Details

Produced and directed by Iwan Roberts - the executive producer is Mike Blair, MultiStory Media.

MultiStory Media.



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**Users can enjoy an exceptional selection of blockbuster films this festive season.**

They include the original Star Wars trilogy, Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (2016), Jurassic World: Dominion (2022), Fast & Furious 9: The Fast Saga (2021), and Dame Maggie Smith's penultimate film; Downton Abbey: A New Era (2022) amongst many others.

