



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

Incendo successfully completes production of **VERSAILLES**

Montreal, September 24th, 2015 – **Jean Bureau**, CEO of Incendo, is proud to announce, together with **Zodiak Media, Canal+ and Capa Drama**, the completion of shooting and production of **VERSAILLES**, the **10x52'** drama series developed for **Canal+ Original Creation, Super Channel and Bell Media**. **VERSAILLES** was shot over 6 months in Versailles and the Paris area.

The international cast attached to **VERSAILLES** included **George Blagden** (*Vikings*), starring as Louis XIV, and **Alexander Vlahos** (*Merlin, Privates*), as Monsieur, his brother. Three Canadian actors were also part of the international cast: **Tygh Runyan**, in the role of Fabien, secret police; **Steve Cumyn** as Colbert and **Evan Williams** in the role of Chevalier. Two French actresses participated in the production: **Dominique Blanc** as Anne of Austria and **Amira Casar** as Beatrice, a courtesan, as well as **Stuart Bowman, Noémie Schmidt, Anna Brewster, Lizzie Brocheré, Evan Williams** and **Sarah Winter**.

This ambitious period drama was created by Simon Mirren (*Without a Trace, Criminal Minds*) and David Wolstencroft (*MI-5, The Escape Artist*). Showrunners Simon Mirren and David Wolstencroft wrote the bible as well as the first 5 episodes of **VERSAILLES** and were executive producers of the series along with Anne Thomopoulos (executive producer of *Rome, The Borgias and Camelot*), Claude Chelli and Jean Bureau. Jalil Lespert directed the first two episodes of the series. Other directors included Daniel Roby (3 episodes), Christoph Schrewe (3 episodes) and Thomas Vincent (2 episodes). The Canadian producer of **VERSAILLES** is Ian Whitehead.

VERSAILLES is a Zodiak, Capa Drama, CANAL+ and Incendo co-production, which will premiere in English exclusively on Super Channel and in French on Super Écran in November 2015.

VERSAILLES, 1667. Louis XIV is 28 years old. To tame the nobility and win absolute power, he launches the construction of Versailles. A trap is set.

VERSAILLES introduces Louis as the young King and solitary commander of France following his mother's death. Louis is plagued by insecurity brought on by ambitious government ministers and traumatic childhood memories of a bitter and deadly coup attempt known as the "*Fronde*".

To win absolute power, he creates a trap at Versailles. Using the palace and its entertainments as bait, Louis ensnares and dis-empowers the nobles who threaten his monarchy. Amongst his targets is his younger brother, Monsieur, an openly gay warrior for whom Louis' hatred is matched only by his love.



The first season sees Louis evolve from a young King into an absolute Monarch; a 17th century rockstar with the mind of Machiavelli. A calculating predator, Louis is determined to drag France out of the dark ages, and transform her into a supreme global power.

Revealing a world of betrayal, lust and political schemes, **VERSAILLES** takes the viewer behind the scenes of courtly pomp and ceremony. In this intriguing arena, the humble and wealthy find themselves all sharing the same ambition: to win the King's favour. And they would do anything for their own brief moment in the Sun...

About CANAL +

CANAL+Group is the leading broadcasting company in France. It is at the forefront of providing premium-content and themed networks, as well as in bundling and distribution of pay-TV offerings.

CANAL+Group is the leader in premium-content. Since its launch in 1984, CANAL+Group has provided six premium-content networks with modern, entertaining and committed programming. CANAL+ offers a unique generalist network format featuring cinema, sports, news, drama, documentaries and entertainment, especially on the newly launched CANAL+ SERIES.

About Capa Drama

CAPA DRAMA, the TV fiction division of the Capa Group, was created in 1993 with the aim of modernizing French TV drama by introducing innovative ground-breaking films and series. In twenty years it has asserted its own tone, style and identity on French TV by exploring all genres and styles of storytelling, as demonstrated by its series of political films such as *SAC*, *Des Hommes Dans L'Ombre* or *L'école du Pouvoir* and with police series like *Police District* and *Braquo* (International Emmy Award for best series 2012). **VERSAILLES** is Capa Drama's first international co-production series. It is also Capa's first venture into historical drama, maintaining the same quality and ambition as with its other productions.

About Zodiak Media

Zodiak Media is the leading independent producer of entertainment, factual, drama and children's programming, with 45 companies operating in 17 countries and \$800m in annual revenues. Creating, producing, and selling content across all key genres and broadcast platforms, Zodiak Media owns major properties such as *Millennium*, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, *Wife Swap*, *The Secret Millionaire*, *The Inbetweeners*, *Totally Spies*, *Fort Boyard* and *Being Human*. Zodiak Rights, the international rights entity of Zodiak Media, boasts a growing catalogue of over 15,000 hours of content.

www.zodiakmedia.com

About Bell Media

With passion and an unrelenting commitment to excellence, Bell Media creates content and builds brands that entertain, inform, engage, and inspire audiences through the platforms of their choice. Bell



Media is Canada's premier multimedia company with leading assets in television, radio, out-of-home advertising, and digital media. Bell Media owns 30 local television stations led by CTV, Canada's #1 television network; 34 specialty channels, including TSN and RDS, Canada's most-watched specialty channels in English and French; and four pay TV services, including The Movie Network and Super Écran. Bell Media is also Canada's largest radio broadcaster, with 106 licensed radio stations in 54 markets across Canada. Bell Media owns Astral Out of Home, one of Canada's most dynamic and innovative out-of-home advertising companies with a network of more than 10,500 advertising faces in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Québec, and Nova Scotia. Bell Media also operates more than 200 websites; delivers TV Everywhere with premium subscription on-demand streaming service CraveTV, as well as its innovative GO video streaming services including CTV GO, TMN GO, and TSN GO; holds an equity stake in digital startup Hubub; is partners in Cirque du Soleil Media, a joint venture with Cirque du Soleil; and owns Dome Productions Inc., a multi-platform production company. Bell Media is part of BCE Inc. (TSX, NYSE: BCE), Canada's largest communications company. For more on Bell Media, please visit www.bellmedia.ca.

About Incendo

Incendo is a Canadian company that specializes in the production and international distribution of high quality television programming for the worldwide marketplace. Since its inception in 2001, the company has produced compelling movies, television series as well as documentaries that have been sold throughout the world. Through its joint venture with Twentieth Century Fox International Television (Fox/Incendo), Incendo is the leading television distribution company in Canada and also handles theatrical distribution in Québec for Paramount Pictures.

For more information, visit www.incendo.ca.

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