

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

# Incendo begins principal photography of the second season of VERSAILLES

Montreal, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016 – Following resounding worldwide success of Season 1, principal photography of the second season of *VERSAILLES* commenced in Paris today, announced **Jean Bureau, CEO of Incendo.** Once again, the series is being co-produced in partnership with Capa Drama, Zodiak Fiction, Canal+, Super Channel and Super Écran. Principal photography is scheduled to end on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Writing for the Season 2 episodes began more than six months ago and is once again being led by British showrunners David Wolstencroft and Simon Mirren. Other writers include Andrew Bampfield and Tim Loane. The series will be directed by Thomas Vincent (*The Tunnel, Borgia*) (ep.1 to 4), Mike Barker (*Broadchurch, The Tunnel, Outlander*) (ep. 5 to 7), and Canadian Louis Choquette (19-Two; Rumours; Le Gentleman) (ep. 8 to 10).

Leading roles include **George Blagden** starring as Louis XIV and **Alexander Vlahos** as Monsieur, the King's brother. Also returning for season 2 of **VERSAILLES** are the three Canadian actors: **Tygh Runyan**, in the role of Fabien; **Steve Cumyn** as Colbert and **Evan Williams** in the role of Chevalier.

Other recurring cast members for Season 2 include: **Stuart Bowman, Anna Brewster, Elisa Lasowski, Lizzie Brocheré** and **Maddison Jaizani**.

New to international cast for Season 2 are Canadians **Mark Rendall** (*Hannibal, Transporter*) and **Suzanne Clément** (*Mommy, Unité 9*) in the role of Madame Agathe.

**VERSAILLES** is an ambitious period drama created by Simon Mirren (*Without a Trace and Criminal Minds*) and David Wolstencroft (*MI-5 and The Escape Artist*) who are executive producers of the series along with Claude Chelli (*Braquo*), Anne Thomopoulos (*Rome, The Borgias* and *Camelot*) and Jean Bureau. As for Season 1, the second season of **VERSAILLES** is being produced by Canadian producer, Ian Whitehead (*Kept Woman, The Good Sister*).

Zodiak Rights holds the international rights to **VERSAILLES**.

Season 2 of VERSAILLES will continue to be presented on Super Channel and Super Écran in Canada.



# VERSAILLES, 1671

Louis has completed the first phase of his project the building far from Paris, of the most beautiful palace in Europe where he will effectively lock up the nobility to exercise absolute control over them. Unexpectedly, his project turns against him.

Versailles is riddled with corruption. Louis has created a new civilization, where the courtesans are desperate to get close to the Sun. Behind the rules of etiquette imposed on the court, they dream of elevating their social status, wealth and power. Any and all means of doing so are utilized which inevitably results in the deterioration of morality and the spread of dangerous and poisonous behaviour...

Blinded by the love for his favorite courtesan, Madame de Montespan, Louis remains deaf to the Church's injunctions. The greatest enemy that stands before Louis is no longer the nobility, nor Guillaume d'Orange, it is God who now threatens the Sun King.



### **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.

### **About Capa Drama**

CAPA DRAMA is the TV fiction department of the Capa Group. It was created in 1993 with the aim of producing innovative and ground-breaking TV dramas and series.



Over the past twenty years, the company has established its own original style and identity in France... mostly by tackling fiction stories based-on reality. Its productions range from political films such as « SAC » (the French mafia and French politics) or « L'Ecole du Pouvoir » (a famous school for future political leaders) to hard-edged police series such as « Police District » and « Braquo » (International Emmy Award for best series, 2012).

« Versailles » is Capa Drama's first internationally co-produced series. It is also Capa Drama's first venture into historical drama, maintaining the same high-end quality and ambition of its previous productions.

#### **About Zodiak Fiction**

Zodiak Fiction is a subsidiary of Zodiak Media, the leading independent in entertainment, factual, drama and kids, with over 45 production brands operating in 15 countries. Creating, producing, and selling content across all key genres and broadcast platforms, Zodiak Media owns major properties such as *Versailles, Occupied, 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 business of Zodiak Media, boasts a growing catalogue of around 20,000 hours of content. Zodiak Rights represents both Zodiak Media programming and formats, and a substantial catalogue of third-party independent content. Zodiak Rights specialises in worldwide television and home entertainment distribution and all aspects of licensing, with highly experienced sales teams in London and Paris, offering a tailored service for producers with the benefit of scale.

Headquartered in Paris and with other key offices in London, Los Angeles, Milan, Stockholm and Moscow, Zodiak Media, majority-owned by giant Italian conglomerate De Agostini, operates across the world as a leading independent studio combining creative flair with financial strength.

## 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 Super Channel**

<u>Super Channel</u> is Canada's only national English pay television network, consisting of four HD channels, four SD channels, and Super Channel On Demand. Super Channel's vision is to expand the Canadian premium TV experience by offering a broad range of fresh, entertaining movies, series, documentaries and concerts. Super Channel is owned by Allarco Entertainment 2008 Inc., an Edmonton-based media company. **Super Channel** is currently available on BellTV, Shaw Direct, Rogers Anyplace TV, Shaw Cable, Cogeco Cable, Access Communications, Bell Aliant TV, Source Cable, SaskTel, MTS, Novus, Eastlink, TELUS, Videotron and other regional providers. <a href="https://www.superchannel.ca">www.superchannel.ca</a>



#### **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.

- 30 -

Source: Incendo

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