

Adam Price's (creator of *Borgen*) new series RIDES UPON THE STORM to be produced by DR (Denmark) and co-produced by ARTE (France) and SAM Productions

Copenhagen/Paris, May 4 – RIDES UPON THE STORM (working title), a new, one-hour drama series, created by BAFTA award-winning writer Adam Price (*Borgen*), will be produced by public broadcaster DR (Denmark), in co-production with ARTE (France), SAM Le Francais (France) and SAM Productions Aps (Denmark). Produced by Camilla Hammerich (*Borgen*), two seasons, each comprised of 10 episodes, will start shooting in the Spring of 2016 and will premiere in 2017. STUDIOCANAL handles worldwide distribution.

"At DR Fiction, we want to create TV dramas that are entertaining and thought provoking while astonishing the audience," says Piv Bernth, DR's Head of Drama. "We wish to ask both the big and small questions, without giving away all the answers. We want the audience to reflect and discuss the issues with each other, and we believe that there is a good opportunity for this to happen; when faith is the theme and key point in this new drama series. Faith and spirituality play an important role in contemporary society. Faith is a subject of fierce debate because it engenders strong feelings and beliefs and means a lot to so many of us. It takes courage to make this theme into a drama series, but it seems like an obvious task for a Public Service Broadcaster such as DR to be doing this. This is a task we believe Adam Price is the perfect person to do."

"In 2007, DR produced the hugely successful drama series *The Killing / Forbrydelsen*, which ARTE began to broadcast soon after. Then came *Borgen* (DR), another great success for our channel, created and written by Adam Price and a remarkable depiction of the Danish political arena," says Olivier Wotling, Head of Drama at ARTE France. "Our drama department has been groundbreaking in promoting Danish and Scandinavian TV series, and one of our main goals today is to support the production of European fiction and to engage in international co-productions with prestigious partners such as DR. It was only natural that we wanted to work again with such a talented author as Price in his new project, exploring a world of spirituality and personal quests – two themes which are at the heart of ARTE's Drama department."

Adam Price, a principal of SAM Productions, is the award-winning creator and writer of many critically acclaimed TV series and plays. Earning a BAFTA, Prix Italia, the Peabody Award, a Golden Nymph in Monte Carlo and Fipa d'Or, *Borgen*, his most recent series, has been sold to more than 80 countries.

"I have always been fascinated by the concept of faith as a catalyst for human's actions," says Price. "In the last 10-15 years, we have seen an intensification of the situation between the great world religions, which affects international politics and everyone's daily life. Just as politics was the starting point for a very personal story for the main characters in *Borgen*, the concept of faith will serve as the backdrop of the drama in RIDES UPON THE STORM. "We will see both the very big picture and very personal stories in what is going to be a dramatic, character-based story about two brothers and what happens when war and a number of personal conflicts hit a so-called 'ordinary' family."

"We are very excited SAM's first project, RIDES UPON THE STORM, from Adam Price, has already received a two season order from DR," says STUDIOCANAL COO Romain Bessi. "Clearly, they have great appreciation for Adam's enormous talent, as evidenced from *Borgen*, his most recent series, sold to more than 80 countries."

ABOUT SAM PRODUCTIONS

SAM Productions is a new screenwriter-based production company and is named after its three principals: Søren Sveistrup, Adam Price, and Meta Louise Foldager – three of the Scandinavian region's most acclaimed writers and producers.

SAM was founded in May 2014 through a partnership with STUDIOCANAL to produce high-end, ambitious, drama projects for local broadcasters and international networks.

Sveistrup is best known as the creator and writer of the original Danish crime drama *The Killing* – the series which started the international success of Nordic noir drama. He has also Executive Produced the popular U.S remake of the series.

Price's credits include creator and writer of the international hit and critically acclaimed drama *Borgen*, while Foldager has produced a number of hit box-office feature films including *A Royal Affair* and *Melancholia*.

The fledgling production company has been set up to develop original premium television content and create new stories with a strong Nordic foundation that appeal to an international audience.

ABOUT STUDIOCANAL

STUDIOCANAL is a subsidiary of the CANAL+ Group and one of Europe's leading distributors and producers of feature films and TV content as well as being experts in international co-production. STUDIOCANAL is the only studio operating simultaneously in the three main European territories – France, the United Kingdom and Germany – as well as in Australia and New Zealand. Additionally, STUDIOCANAL owns one of the most important libraries in the world, with more than 5,000 international titles.

STUDIOCANAL has most recently financed some of the most acclaimed, award-winning films including *TINKER, TAILOR, SOLDIER, SPY*; *INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS*; *NON STOP*; *PADDINGTON*; and *SHAUN THE SHEEP*.

STUDIOCANAL is actively developing and distributing high-end TV series through its network of acclaimed, award-winning production companies; RED Production Company (*Happy Valley*, *Last Tango in Halifax*) in the UK, TANDEM Productions (*Crossing Lines*, *Spotless*) in Germany and SAM Productions ApS. in Denmark

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