

STUDIOCANAL AND NICKELODEON ANNOUNCE GLOBAL DEAL FOR ALL-NEW "PADDINGTON" TELEVISION SERIES

BEN WHISHAW RETURNS AS BELOVED VOICE OF PADDINGTON

FIRST LOOK IMAGE REVEALED



PARIS/LONDON – FEB. 14 2019 – STUDIOCANAL, Nickelodeon and award-winning producer David Heyman today announced a global deal for a brand-new "Paddington" (working title) television series for pre-schoolers. Actor Ben Whishaw (*Paddington 1 & 2*) will reprise his role as the beloved voice of the title character in the new CG-animated series, which follows the adventures of a younger Paddington. "Paddington" will air on Nickelodeon's networks worldwide in 2020, while local broadcast partners will be secured in France, Canada, China and Japan.

Fully animated in 3D, the new "Paddington" series sees a younger Paddington writing to Aunt Lucy from Windsor Gardens. Each episode will open and close with Paddington's letters as he tells Aunt Lucy what he has learned about life through the day's new exciting adventure. The series will invite a new generation of fans into Paddington's world full of heart, kindness, slapstick humour, fun and generosity.

Currently in production, "Paddington" is a Heyday Films and STUDIOCANAL production in association with Copyrights. "Paddington" is helmed by Adam Shaw of Blue Zoo (*Go Jetties, Digby Dragon, Miffy, Q Pootle 5*), and developed for television and written by Jon Foster and James Lamont (*The Amazing World of Gumball, Cuckoo, Paddington 1 & 2*).

The much-anticipated "Paddington" television series will be produced by multi-award-winning David Heyman (producer of all eight of the *Harry Potter* films, *Gravity*, *Paddington 1 & 2*), Karen Davidsen (formerly with Disney and HIT Entertainment) and Simon Quinn (*Isle of Dogs*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*). The series is executive produced by Rosie Alison (*Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, *Paddington 1 & 2*) and co-produced by Rob Silva.

Executive Producer David Heyman comments: "It is a joy to bring this uniquely life-enhancing bear to a whole new audience of younger children. We are thrilled that the inimitably brilliant Ben Whishaw will continue to voice Paddington. And we are excited to be collaborating with the vibrant and dynamic animation team at Blue Zoo, working from scripts by the wonderfully talented screenwriting team Foster and Lamont. With producers Karen Davidsen and Simon Quinn, we're all set for a glorious new chapter for Paddington."

STUDIOCANAL CEO Didier Lupfer adds: "Paddington is such a beloved character for all of us at STUDIOCANAL. We are incredibly happy to be back in his world introducing new generations to his kindness, generosity and spirit. We are inspired by the talented animation team at Blue Zoo partnering once again with our friends at Heyday. Foster and Lamont's writing is so beautifully crafted we can't wait for Nickelodeon and our local broadcast partners to premiere the series."

"We can't wait to welcome Paddington, one of the world's most beloved characters, to our global Nickelodeon family with a series that will take him on fun and exciting new adventures, while staying true to his original heartfelt charm and spirit," said **Layla Lewis, SVP Global Acquisitions and Content Partnerships, Nickelodeon**.

"I am absolutely delighted to see Paddington back on TV. The series will engage a whole new generation of Paddington-lovers across the world thanks to the bear's inherent kindness and generosity," stated **Simon Gillham OBE, Chairman of Copyrights**.

Director Adam Shaw (Blue Zoo) confirms: "We're honoured and excited to be working on such an iconic and well-loved character, and Paddington couldn't be in better hands. It's what Blue Zoo does best - understanding the character and nuances in the storytelling and successfully translating it into outstanding animation that kids and parents will love."

A first look of Paddington is also released today.

The story of "Paddington 3" is currently in development with STUDIOCANAL and Heyday.

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ABOUT PADDINGTON

For 60 years, British-born writer Michael Bond has delighted children and families all over the world with his stories about Paddington, the bear from Darkest Peru famous for his love of marmalade. Paddington is popular with both children and adults who feel affectionate and warm towards him and the charm and humour of the Paddington stories is the key to their enduring popularity.

Paddington's adventures have been adapted several times for television and at the end of 2014 Paddington made his debut onto the big screen. The movie, produced by STUDIOCANAL, part of the international content and media group Vivendi, is the best-selling non-Hollywood family movie ever released. A second Paddington movie, *Paddington 2*, launched globally at the end of 2017.

In 2016, Vivendi took full ownership of the Paddington brand worldwide, with the exception of the classic publishing rights.

Michael Bond died in June 2017, leaving a legacy of one of the best loved children's characters in the world. 2018 marked the 60th Anniversary of the first book, A Bear Called Paddington, which was published by William Collins on 13th October 1958.

Follow Paddington on Twitter at @paddingtonbear

Like Paddington's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PaddingtonBear/>

ABOUT STUDIOCANAL

STUDIOCANAL, a 100% affiliate of CANAL+ Group held by Vivendi, is Europe's leader in production, distribution and international sales of feature films and TV series, operating directly in all three major European markets - France, the United Kingdom and Germany - as well as in Australia and New Zealand.

STUDIOCANAL owns one of the most important film libraries in the world, boasting more than 5,500 titles from 60 countries. Spanning 100 years of film history, this vast and unique catalogue includes among others the iconic *Terminator 2*, *Rambo*, *Breathless*, *Mulholland Drive*, *The Pianist* and *Belle de jour*.

STUDIOCANAL has fully-financed box office hits *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*, *Paddington 1 and 2*, *The Commuter* and *Shaun The Sheep*. Upcoming films backed by STUDIOCANAL include Marjane Satrapi's *Radioactive* featuring Rosamund Pike, *The Secret Garden* produced by David Heyman starring Colin Firth, Aardman Studios' stop-motion film *Shaun the Sheep 2*.

STUDIOCANAL is actively developing and distributing high-end TV series through its network of award-winning European production companies, including TANDEM in Germany (*Take Two*) and the UK's RED Production Company (*Years and Years*). STUDIOCANAL is also an associate of Danish-based SAM Productions founded by Søren Svestrup and Adam Price (*Ride Upon The Storm*) as well as of UK-based GUILTY PARTY PICTURES; Benedict Cumberbatch's production company SUNNYMARCH TV (*Patrick Melrose*); URBAN MYTH FILMS (*War of the Worlds*) and Spain's BAMBÚ PRODUCCIONES (*Instinto*). In 2018, STUDIOCANAL launched a new label in France, STUDIOCANAL ORIGINAL.

ABOUT NICKELODEON

Nickelodeon, now in its 39th year, is the number-one entertainment brand for kids. It has built a diverse, global business by putting kids first in everything it does. The company includes television programming and production in the United States and around the world, plus consumer products, digital, recreation, books and feature films. Nickelodeon is one of the most globally recognized and widely distributed multimedia entertainment brands for kids and family, with 1.2 billion cumulative subscriptions in more than 500 million households across 170+ countries and territories, via more than 100+ locally programmed channels and branded blocks. Outside of the United States, Nickelodeon is part of Viacom International Media Networks, a division of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIAB, VIA), one of the world's leading creators of programming and content across all media platforms. For more information or artwork, visit <http://www.nickpress.com>. Nickelodeon and all related titles, characters and logos are trademarks of Viacom Inc.

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For further information please contact:

Antoine Banet-Rivet, EVP Communications STUDIOCANAL

antoine.banetrivet@canal-plus.com

Suzanne Noble, Head of Global Publicity and Communications STUDIOCANAL

Tel: +44 201 534 2700 / Suzanne.Noble@studiocanal.com