

NEWS: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MADE IN BRISTOL: 'THE WHITE PRINCESS' BEGINS ON UKTV  
DRAMA CHANNEL THIS WEEKEND**

**Begins Saturday 18 November 2017, 9pm**

[<< Watch the official trailer >>](#)

BRISTOL, 16 November 2017: STARZ Original Limited Series *The White Princess* will premiere on British TV this weekend, after filming at The Bottle Yard Studios and across Bristol last year.



Kicking off with a double bill on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 9pm on the UKTV Drama Channel**, *The White Princess* is the follow-up to the STARZ/BBC's 2013 Golden Globe and Emmy award-nominated *The White Queen*.

Made by Company Pictures and Playground, the drama filmed in purpose-built sets at The Bottle Yard Studios and across Bristol in 2016.

*Rebecca Benson, Suki Waterhouse, Jodie Comer, Joanne Whalley, Essie Davis, Michelle Fairley on set at The Bottle Yard Studios - image (c) Starz*



Coordinating the entire shoot from production offices at The Bottle Yard Studios, the production team also used additional build space, stores and costume areas on site.

Bristol Film Office provided unit bases for filming at locations across the city, facilitating location liaison and organising holding areas at City Hall for around 100 cast extras during a large-scale shoot at Bristol Cathedral.

*Jacob Collins-Levy (King Henry VII) & Michelle Fairley (Lady Margaret Beaufort) film at Bristol Cathedral - image (c) Starz*

**Karen Bailey, SVP Original Programming, STARZ**, said: "We knew from the early location scouts that the natural scenic beauty of the area was a good fit for the production, but seeing the facilities at The Bottle Yard and discovering there was such a strong infrastructure already in place made the decision to shoot in Bristol an easy one."

**Fiona Francombe, Site Director of The Bottle Yard Studios**, said: "Every aspect of this production was expertly crafted and beautifully detailed. The crew created a rich period world with their amazing set build, enhanced by stunning and authentic costume and make up design. After the excellent reception *The White Princess* received in the US, UK fans of

expertly made royal Tudor drama are in for a real treat. Shows like this, made for a worldwide audience, are a great illustration of what can be achieved in Bristol and at The Bottle Yard.”

**Natalie Moore, Bristol Film Office said:** “Our role in large-scale historical productions like these is to make sure the right support is given to achieve a smooth shoot in the city centre. We had assisted Company Pictures and Playground to film at Bristol Cathedral for the making of *Wolf Hall* in 2014, so it was a pleasure to have them back for *The White Princess* last year. It’s always fantastic to see the city’s impressive architectural and historical landmarks like Bristol Cathedral shining on screen when a show begins to air.”

Based on Philippa Gregory's 2013 novel of the same name, *The White Princess* picks up as the tumultuous War of the Roses comes to an end and a new generation ascends to the throne in a tale of power, political clashes, family, love and betrayal. A fragile peace is achieved when former king, Richard III, is defeated at the Battle of Bosworth. The victor, Henry Tudor, soon to be King Henry VII (Jacob Collins-Levy), is married to Elizabeth (Jodie Comer) - a princess from a rival house and Richard III's former lover.

With her sister, Cecily of York (Suki Waterhouse), Elizabeth matches wits and wills with Lady Margaret Beaufort (Michelle Fairley), King Henry VII's mother. They each manoeuvre to gain his trust. Meanwhile Lizzie's mother, Dowager Queen Elizabeth Woodville (Essie Davis), struggles with rumours that her long-lost son Prince Richard (Ned Elliot) is alive. Elizabeth is forced to choose between her new Tudor husband and the boy who could be her own blood and the rightful York King.

*The White Princess* is helmed by returning Showrunner and Writer Emma Frost (*The White Queen*, *The Man in the High Castle*, *Shameless*), also on board as Executive Producer, alongside Executive Producer and Director Jamie Payne (*Legends*, *Quantico*). Lachlan MacKinnon (*Burton and Taylor*) is Producer for the series, with Playground's Colin Callender (*The White Queen*, *The Dresser*, *Wolf Hall*) and Scott Huff (*The Missing*) serving as Executive Producers along with Company Pictures' Michele Buck (*Parade's End*, *Hornblower*, *Sex Traffic*).

*The White Princess* premiered in the US on STARZ to critical acclaim and averaged 4.8 million multiplatform viewers per episode.

UKTV Drama is available to watch on Freeview 20, Sky 158, Virgin 128, BT, TalkTalk 020 and on demand via UKTV Play.

**– ENDS –**

For further information about The Bottle Yard Studios and Bristol Film Office, please contact Tara Milne on [taracmilne@gmail.com](mailto:taracmilne@gmail.com) / 07532134020.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **The Bottle Yard Studios**

The Bottle Yard Studios is the largest dedicated film and TV studio facility in the West of England. It is a Bristol City Council initiative.

The site, which operated for more than 50 years as a former winery and bottling plant, is now an established base for film and television production in the West of England, attracting major UK and overseas productions of all sizes.

The Bottle Yard Studios has 300,000 sq. ft. available at competitive rates, just 15 minutes from Bristol city centre. It offers internal build spaces, a large back lot, workshop areas, production offices, private roadways and parking, storage and locations.

Recent productions made at The Bottle Yard Studios include: Starz Original Limited Series *The White Princess*, ITV's *Broadchurch*, BBC One drama *Poldark*, Emmy award-winning BBC One drama *Sherlock: The Abominable Bride*; E4/Netflix comedy horror *Crazyhead*; BBC One drama *The Living and the Dead*; upcoming feature film *We Can Be Heroes* (directed by Claire Downes); BAFTA-nominated CBeebies series *Andy's Prehistoric Adventures*; *Golden Years* (directed by John Miller); Disney/ABC Studios' US musical comedy *Galavant*; Emmy-nominated and BAFTA-winning BBC Two drama *Wolf Hall*; BAFTA-winning ITV drama *The Lost Honour of Christopher Jefferies*; Sky 1 comedy *Trollied*.

[www.thebottleyard.com](http://www.thebottleyard.com)

### **Bristol Film Office**

Bristol Film Office, a division of Bristol City Council, is a free service to all productions planning to film in the city. Dedicated to making film, television or commercial photography shoots run as smoothly as possible when on location in Bristol, it is the one-stop-shop for all filming enquiries. It can assist at all stages of production, from initial location and crewing advice to reces and logistical support.

In 2015-16, Bristol Film Office issued 370 filming permits and recorded a total of 943 filming days (up by 65% from 2014 -15) in the city. Inward investment from productions working in Bristol continued to remain high with a total figure of £16,674,000 continuing the strong levels recorded in 2014-15 (£17.5 million).

Bristol Film Office's inward investment figures are calculated using national average production spend figures that have been compiled by Creative England with contribution from all national Film Offices' data.

[www.filmbristol.co.uk](http://www.filmbristol.co.uk)

### **About Starz**

Starz ([www.starz.com](http://www.starz.com)), a Lionsgate company (NYSE: LGF.A, LGF.B), is a leading global media and entertainment company that provides premium subscription video programming on domestic U.S. pay television networks and produces and distributes content for worldwide audiences, including its investment in the STARZ PLAY Arabia OTT service. Starz is home to the flagship STARZ® brand with 24.3 million subscribers in the United States as of December 31, 2016, with the STARZ ENCORE<sup>SM</sup> network at 31 million subscribers. Starz provides high-quality, entertaining premium subscription video programming with 17 premium pay TV channels and associated on-demand and online services, including the STARZ app. Sold through U.S. multichannel video distributors, including cable operators, satellite television providers, telecommunications companies, and other online and digital platforms, Starz offers subscribers more than 5,000 distinct premium television episodes and feature films every year and up to 1,500 every month, including STARZ Original series, first-run movies and other popular movie and television programming.

### **About Playground**

Playground is a New York and London based television and theatre production company that was founded in 2012 by Emmy, Golden Globe, BAFTA and Tony award winning producer Colin Callender. It is committed to producing quality drama for the screen and the stage bringing together the finest US and UK talent from the worlds of theatre, film, and television. Callender won his first Emmy for the television adaptation of the RSC's "The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby" and, as president of HBO Films, was responsible for an unprecedented award-winning slate of movies and miniseries.

Playground has produced over 50 hours of prime time television drama garnering 15 Emmy nominations, 20 BAFTA nominations, including 7 wins, and 11 Golden Globe nominations, including a Golden Globe win for Best Miniseries. Recent productions include the Emmy-nominated and Golden Globe, BAFTA and Peabody Award winning six-part miniseries adaptation of Hilary Mantel's "Wolf Hall" starring Mark Rylance, Damian Lewis, Claire Foy and Jonathan Pryce for the BBC and Masterpiece, the television adaptation of Ronald Harwood's "The Dresser" starring Ian McKellen and Anthony Hopkins and directed by Richard Eyre for the BBC and Starz, and Ken Lonergan's upcoming four-part adaptation of E.M. Forster's *Howards End* for the BBC.

Playground's recent Broadway productions include: Nora Ephron's Tony nominated *Lucky Guy* directed by George C. Wolfe starring Tom Hanks in his Broadway debut, Harvey Fierstein's Tony nominated *Casa Valentina* directed by Joe Mantello, the Tony award winning revival of musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Jez Butterworth's *The River* directed by Ian Rickson starring Hugh Jackman, and Kenneth Branagh and Rob Ashford's critically acclaimed production of *Macbeth* at The Park Avenue Armory in New York. Playground, in

partnership with Sonia Friedman Productions, is producing John Tiffany's two-part *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* written by Jack Thorne which is currently in previews at the Palace Theatre in London.

### **About Company Pictures**

Company Pictures is one of the UK's largest independent film and television producers. Founded in 1998, we have produced hundreds of hours of critically acclaimed, award winning drama.

Company has produced major drama series for the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Sky, WGBH, HBO, Starz and other leading broadcasters all over the world. Company was responsible for period drama Elizabeth (winner of three Golden Globes), eleven series of the multi award winning Shameless, the much loved long running family series Wild at Heart and the hugely popular teen drama Skins.

Recently, Company produced a big budget six part adaptation for the BBC of Hilary Mantel's prize winning "Wolf Hall" (recent winner of a Golden Globe®), written by Peter Straughan (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*), directed by BAFTA nominated Peter Kosminsky and starring Mark Rylance and Damian Lewis. "Wolf Hall" won a Golden Globe® for Best Television Limited Series and two BAFTAS for Best Drama Series and Best Leading Actor for Mark Rylance.

From seminal drama "The Lakes" in the 1990s to "The White Queen," "Inspector George Gently" and "The Village" today, Company Pictures continues to produce and deliver high quality, distinguished drama that attracts the best talent the UK has to offer.

Since October 2004 Company has been part of All3Media.

### **About All3Media**

All3Media is a leading independent television, film and digital production and distribution companies. The All3Media group is comprised of 21 production and distribution companies from across the UK, Europe, New Zealand and USA including Apollo20, Bentley Productions, Company Pictures, IDTV, John Stanley Productions, Lime Pictures, Lion Television, Little Dot Studios, Maverick Television, MME Movement, Neal Street Productions, New Pictures, North One Television, Objective Productions, Optomen, One Potato Two Potato, Seven Stories, South Pacific Pictures, Studio Lambert, All3Media America and All3Media International. All3Media is owned jointly between Discovery Communications and Liberty Global.