

Filming underway in Bristol for season two of **Alex Rider**, assisted by Bristol Film Office

BRISTOL, 4 February 2021: Filming for season two of Amazon Prime's teen spy thriller **Alex Rider** is underway in Bristol, with assistance from Bristol Film Office.

Eleventh Hour Films is producing the second season of the hit title based on the best-selling novels written by Anthony Horowitz, which is shooting on location across the city with unit base, permits and locations support provided by Bristol Film Office.



Otto Farrant & Vicky McClure in Alex Rider (image credit Amazon Prime Video)

The series stars **Otto Farrant** (Mrs Wilson) as Alex Rider, a London based teenager who has unknowingly been trained since childhood for the dangerous world of espionage. Otto will once again be joined by season 1 co-stars **Vicky McClure** (Line of Duty), **Stephen Dillane** (Game of Thrones), **Brenock O'Connor** (Game of Thrones) and **Ronke Adekoluejo**.

Season two will be based on Eagle Strike, the fourth novel in the best-selling Alex Rider franchise, and like series one, will stream exclusively as an Amazon Original on Prime Video in Australia, Canada, Ireland, Italy, Germany, Latin America and U.K., and as an IMDb TV Original in the U.S. Anthony Horowitz, the author of the book franchise, will once again serve as an Executive Producer alongside Jill Green, Eve Gutierrez, and series writer Guy Burt.

This week it was confirmed that stage and screen actor **Toby Stephens** (Die Another Day, Jane Eyre, Lost In Space, Black Sails), **Rakie Ayola** (Jimmy McGovern's Anthony and Noughts and Crosses) and newcomer **Charithra Chandran** are among the names joining the cast of season two.

Toby Stephens said: "I'm really thrilled to be part of Alex Rider season 2 and working with Eleventh Hour Films again. My son loves the Alex Rider books so it's lovely to be a part of something that he recognises and enjoys – and it's been a while since I played a good nemesis, so I'm really look forward to being the bad guy and going toe to toe with Alex Rider.'

Stephens will be playing energetic tech billionaire Damian Cray who is poised to launch a new version of his best-selling computer game: Feathered Serpent. Ayola appears as Jo Byrne, the tough new Deputy Director of the CIA who is brought to the UK ahead of a visit by the US President. Newcomer Chandran, recently graduated from the University of Oxford with a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, plays smart and confident teen Sabina Pleasance whose journalist father is writing a book on Cray and

becomes entangled with Alex while on holiday in Cornwall. Alex Rider is Chandran's first major screen credit.

With a blockbuster launch in 2020 on Amazon Prime Video in the UK and IMDb TV, Amazon's free streaming service, in the U.S., Alex Rider season one has aired in over 100 territories worldwide.

The Alex Rider series has sold over 20 million copies worldwide. Anthony Horowitz is best known for other young adult fiction series, The Power of Five and The Diamond Brothers, and has previously written for TV series including Foyle's War, Collision, New Blood, Poirot and Midsomer Murders.

Other productions currently filming in Bristol with assistance from Bristol Film Office include Stephen Merchant's The Offenders for BBC One and Amazon Prime Video starring Christopher Walken and Sky Original series Extinction starring Paapa Essiedu.

– ENDS –

For information about Bristol Film Office, contact Tara Milne taracmilne@gmail.com.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Bristol TV & film production during lockdown

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of further national restrictions to operate throughout England from 5th January 2021, the Secretary of State for DCMS confirmed that whilst you should work from home unless you cannot, exemptions are in place for the creative sector which includes film & TV production. Additionally, filming can continue to take place in the premises of businesses that are closed which is set out on page 20 of the published Government Guidance [here](#). Therefore, both the British Film Commission and Creative England have advised that all Covid-secure film and TV production operating under published industry guidance can continue in England under the new restrictions thanks to the rigorous and comprehensive Covid safety industry protocols. A full list of guidance documents can be found [here](#).

Bristol Film Office continues to permit Covid-secure filming on location in Bristol on a case-by-case basis during this time.

Bristol Film Office

Bristol Film Office, a division of Bristol City Council, is dedicated to making film, TV or commercial photography shoots run as smoothly as possible when on location in Bristol. It is the one-stop-shop for all filming enquiries, providing assistance at all stages of production, from initial location and crewing advice to recces and logistical support. Bristol Film Office recorded more than £16 million inward investment generated by TV and film productions using The Bottle Yard Studios and/or Bristol locations 2018/19

Working with partners across the city, Bristol Film Office is leading the UNESCO City of Film programme of activity delivered under the internationally respected status awarded to Bristol in 2017. www.filmbristol.co.uk

