

NEWS: For immediate release

**SET AND FILMED IN BRISTOL: NEW BBC ONE DRAMA SHOWTRIAL
BEGINS 31ST OCTOBER**

***Production team based at The Bottle Yard Studios whilst filming on location
assisted by Bristol Film Office***

BRISTOL, 29 October 2021: **Showtrial**, a brand new Sunday night BBC One drama set in Bristol, made by the producers of Vigil and Line of Duty, begins on 31st October after filming in the city earlier this year.



Tracy Ifeachor & Celine Buckens in Showtrial (credit World Productions/Joss Barrett/BBC)

The production team behind the gripping new drama made by World Productions (Vigil, Line Of Duty, Bodyguard) based production offices and prop stores at The Bottle Yard Studios beginning pre-production for the five part series in January 2021. Filming took place on location with support from Bristol Film Office between March and June 2021.

City locations included St George's Hall which provided the location for courtroom scenes and St Thomas's Street in Redcliffe where a police station exterior was created near The Fleece pub.

Filming for a student ball took place at the University of Bristol's Ivy Gate area near to Royal Fort House and the Physics Building in the Main campus, which hosted fairground equipment. Filming also took place outside Bristol Cathedral, at Ashton Court, Berkeley Square, the Corn Street area, Gloucester Road and nearby Cambridge Road. The production used numerous locations on or near the harbourside, including Avon Crescent, Nova Scotia Place, Cottage Inn landing and Brunel Lock.

Showtrial Producer Christopher Hall says: "Showtrial was shot in its entirety in and around Bristol. We benefitted from the huge variety of available locations in and in close proximity to this very photogenic city. Bristol is extremely film friendly; terrific crews, a great production base at The Bottle Yard Studios, a thriving technical and creative community and easy access to a wide range of locations. It is no wonder that so many productions are finding their way to Bristol. I for one want to return as soon as possible."

Laura Aviles, Senior Bristol Film Manager responsible for The Bottle Yard Studios and Bristol Film Office says: "It was a pleasure to support World Productions during the making of this compelling new drama earlier this year. Given the company's impressive track record in delivering drama sensations like Vigil and Line of Duty, we expect Showtrial to be an extremely gripping watch set against Bristol's visually striking backdrop. Bristol continues to attract the highest calibre of High-End TV dramas like this to its studio facilities at The Bottle Yard and versatile locations supported by our specialist Film Office team."

Showtrial is a five-part drama written by Ben Richards (Cobra, The Tunnel, Strike) and directed by Zara Hayes (Poms, Dian Fossey: Secrets In The Mist) which explores how

prejudice, politics and the media distort the legal process, in a timely drama full of dark humour.

When Talitha Campbell (Celine Buckens), the estranged daughter of a wealthy property developer, is charged with conspiring to murder a fellow university student, the trial that follows places victim and accused - and their families - in the eye of a media storm. Into that storm enters Cleo Roberts (Tracy Ifeachor), the duty solicitor on the night of Talitha's arrest. Refusing her father's help, Talitha wants Cleo to lead her defence against a prosecution that is weaponising Talitha's gender and social privilege against her. From arrest to verdict, Cleo and the defence team vie with the prosecution to convince us of the truth about Talitha: damaged scapegoat? Or cold-blooded killer?

Showtrial's cast includes Tracy Ifeachor (Quantico, Treadstone, The Originals), James Frain (Star Trek: Discovery, True Detective, Gotham), Sharon D Clarke (Rocks, Doctor Who, Kiri), Sinéad Keenan (Little Boy Blue, Care, Three Families), Celine Buckens (Warrior, Bridgerton), Kerr Logan (Strike, Alias Grace, Game of Thrones) and Lolita Chakrabarti (Vigil, Criminal: UK).

Showtrial begins at 9pm on Sunday 31st October on BBC One and BBCiPlayer.

– ENDS –

View the full Showtrial press pack here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/2021/mediapacks/showtrial>

For more information, please contact Tara Milne on 07532 134020 / taracmilne@gmail.com.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the Bottle Yard Studios

A Bristol City Council initiative, The Bottle Yard Studios is the largest dedicated studio facility in the West of England. Located in Bristol, an internationally recognised UNESCO City of Film, the Studios are at the heart of a thriving TV and film industry in one of the UK's most creative, film-friendly cities.

Eight stages are available for hire across our seven-acre site, plus three new stages coming online in 2022. Floor spaces of up to 22,000 sq ft and heights of up to 65ft, translate into endless opportunities for set builds. Add to this our 5,000 sq ft green screen, 20,000 sq ft of furnished production office space and all the ancillary workspaces a production could need - plus an onsite community of over 25 companies providing specialist film and TV services - and we've got everything you require for a fully supported shoot, whether it's drama, entertainment, comedy, children's, commercials, live transmission or OB.

Productions made at The Bottle Yard Studios include: The Pursuit of Love (BBC/Amazon), The Spanish Princess (Starz), The Salisbury Poisonings (BBC One), The Trial of Christine Keeler (BBC One), The Pale Horse (BBC One), McDonald & Dodds (ITV), Tipping Point/Tipping Point Lucky Stars (ITV), The Crystal Maze (Channel 4), The Crystal Maze US (Nickelodeon), Sanditon (ITV), 'Andy's Adventures' series (CBeebies), Fortitude (Sky Atlantic), Poldark (BBC One), Eric, Ernie & Me (BBC Four), Ill Behaviour (BBC Two), The Festival (Entertainment Film), Hellboy (Lionsgate), Three Girls (BBC One), The White Princess (Starz), Broadchurch (ITV), Trollied (Sky1), Crazyhead (E4/Netflix), Sherlock: The Abominable Bride (BBC One), The Living and the Dead (BBC One), Galavant (ABC Studios), Wolf Hall (BBC Two), The Lost Honour of Christopher Jefferies (ITV).

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 recess and logistical support.

www.filmbristol.co.uk

Working with city partners, Bristol Film Office leads the programme of activity delivered under the permanent UNESCO City of Film status awarded to Bristol in 2017.
www.bristolcityoffilm.co.uk

The Bottle Yard Studios and Bristol Film Office are Bristol City Council initiatives.

