

VideoAge International

DAILY E-Beat

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VideoAge's

International TV Distribution Hall of Fame

Honoring distribution
executives
who built an industry

Honoree in the
L.A. Screenings Issue:

Marcel Vinay Sr.

New:
[My 2¢ of Television Biz
Wisdom](#)

This week in the Water Cooler blog, *VideoAge* has a word of caution for potential cord-cutters, courtesy of Geoffrey Fowler's *WSJ* column: tinyurl.com/klewrs8

Select articles from *VideoAge*'s February Issue are available in text form on our website, and the entire issue can be viewed in PDF form at: <http://www.videoageinternational.com>

STARZ PLAY Arabia Launches April 2, AXN HD Italy Picks Up *Power* from Starz Worldwide Distribution

Starz announced that STARZ PLAY Arabia is launching on Thursday, April 2 in 17 countries. The first international STARZ PLAY is a new, premium content, direct-to-consumer multiplatform subscription video service developed in conjunction with the Parsifal Entertainment Group for select markets in the Middle East and North Africa. As part of Starz's STARZ PLAY International initiative, STARZ PLAY Arabia represents the first time Starz has extended its flagship brand in a service offering outside the U.S. STARZ PLAY Arabia will debut in 17 countries and territories throughout the region, with a particular early marketing focus on the Gulf Cooperation Council countries including Bahrain, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the UAE. Other countries where the service is available include Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. It will initially offer over 3,000 movies and a large selection of TV series for \$13.99/month, a 30-day free trial, and no monthly contractual obligations. In addition, AXN HD Italy, a Sony Pictures Television channel dedicated to action content, has acquired drama series *Power* from Starz Worldwide Distribution. *Power* will debut on AXN HD Italy on Monday, May 25. The series follows James "Ghost" St. Patrick, who runs an elite nightclub and a drug trading ring, but wants to set his life on a straight

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path. The series is executive produced by Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson and Courtney Kemp Agboh.

<http://www.starzglobal.com>

<http://www.starz.com>

<http://www.sonypicturestelevision.com>

eOne Prepares for MIP-TV 2015

Entertainment One Television (eOne) announced its slate for the upcoming MIP-TV 2015, which will be held April 13-16. Stuart Baxter, president of Entertainment One Television international, announced that eOne's slate will feature new factual and scripted programming, in addition to returning series. Buyers will have the chance to meet Emily Fox, creator and executive producer of *Hindsight*, as well as U.K. producers Jamie Campbell and Joel Wilson of *The Enfield Haunting*. Plus, Stephen David, executive producer of miniseries *The Making of the Mob: New York* will also attend to take meetings and to participate in a MIPDoc session on Sunday, April 12. Another new title from eOne is *David Attenborough's The Great Barrier Reef*. In addition to these key figures and new titles, eOne will bring returning scripted series *The Walking Dead*, *The Book of Negroes*, *Halt and Catch Fire*, *Turn*, *The Red Road*, *Bitten*, *Rogue* and *Welcome to Sweden*, as well as new factual series *Mummies Alive*, *A Night on Earth: Africa*; *Tornado Hunters*, *Journey to the Centre of the Brain*, *Drug Wars*, *Sports on Fire*, *Emergency* and *See No Evil*.

<http://www.entertainmentone.com>

GRB Entertainment Inks Distribution Deal with OWN

GRB Entertainment announced that it has secured global distribution rights of eight new programs from OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network. The unscripted content includes docu-series *Raising Whitley*, about actress/comedienne Kym Whitley; *2 Fat 2 Fly*, centering on best friends who own a food truck that cooks stuffed chicken wings; *Welcome to Sweetie Pie's*, which follows the Montgomery family as they work at their soul food restaurant; *Flex and Shanice*, about actor Flex Alexander and his wife Shanice; *Deion's Family Playbook*, which sees the football legend tackling fatherhood and his career; and documentary series *Blackboard Wars*, about a school principal who tries to

redeem his school's reputation. The deal also includes specials *Knight Life with Gladys*, about the legendary singer Gladys Knight and documentary *Michael Sam*, about the first openly gay man trying to make it into the NFL.

<http://grbtv.com>

<http://www.oprah.com>

Tricon Secures Sales for *Extreme Collectors* and Other Factual Titles

Tricon Films & Television announced that it has secured sales for *Extreme Collectors* to multiple broadcasters, as well as a selection of factual sales, including *Game Changers*, *Get Connected* and *Fanboy Confessional*. *Extreme Collectors* has recently been sold to The History Channel Germany, SRF German-speaking Switzerland, Discovery Central Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa; True Visions Thailand, A Team Media Korea, Foxtel/A&E Australia, Network Ten Australia, IFP Qatar Airways, Interact/Miat Mongolia and Red Apollo/Lens Media China. *Game Changers* was picked up by Discovery USA's Science Channel, SRF German-speaking Switzerland and Red Apollo/Lens Media China. Meanwhile, *Get Connected* was acquired by Accessible Media Canada, Al Hurra Middle East and PCCW Hong Kong. *Fanboy Confessional* also went to Red Apollo/Lens Media China and PCCW Hong Kong.

<http://www.triconfilms.com>

Cisneros's *DeMente Criminal* Premieres in Puerto Rico

Cisneros Media, the corporate division that includes the Cisneros' Media and entertainment businesses across the globe, announced that *DeMente Criminal* is debuting on Univision Puerto Rico today, April 1 at 10 p.m. The series is based on the bestselling book *Sangre en el Divan (Blood on the Couch)* by journalist Ybeyise Pacheco and was adapted for TV by Rosa Clemente and Raul Prieto under the supervision of Marlon Quintero. It tells the story of a renowned psychiatrist who turned out to be a cold-blooded murderer. *DeMente Criminal* is distributed by Cisneros Media Distribution.

<http://www.cisneros.com/businesses/cisneros-media>

<http://www.cisnerosmediadist.com>

Breakthrough Ent Introduces *Nordic Lodge* To Its International Lineup

Nat Abraham, president of Distribution for Breakthrough Entertainment, announced that the company is adding factual series *Nordic Lodge* to its international lineup and will introduce the show at MIP-TV. The show follows a newly married couple who decide to leave behind life as they know it and become owners of a fly-fishing resort in the Canadian wilderness. The stakes are high for the couple, who have also recently become parents and are banking it all on this venture. <http://www.breakthroughentertainment.com>

Showtime Renews *House of Lies* for Season Five

Showtime renewed *House of Lies* for a 10-episode fifth season that will air in 2016. The series stars Don Cheadle, Kristen Bell, Ben Schwartz, Josh Lawson, Donis Leonard Jr. and Glynn Turman. *House of Lies* is distributed by CBS Studios International. The series is based on Martin Kihn's tell-all book *House of Lies: How Management Consultants Steal Your Watch and Tell You The Time*.

<http://www.cbssi.com>

<http://www.sho.com>

Blue Ant International Gears Up for Cannes

Blue Ant International announced that it is heading to Cannes for MIP-TV 2015 with a lineup of more than 100 hours of new series and new seasons of factual content. Highlights from Blue Ant International's slate include series and documentaries *The Big Feed*, *Paranormal Survivor*, *Prank You*, *What's For Sale...With A View?*, *Different Drummer: Celebrating Eccentrics* and *Cities in Blue*. Blue Ant will also come equipped with new seasons of continuing series including *Cosmic Vistas* (season 5), *Hope For Wildlife* (season six), *My Retreat* (season two) and *What's For Sale?* (season two).

<http://www.blueantinternational.com>

Guru Studio Premieres *Nemesis* Today, April Fools' Day

Guru Studio announced that *Nemesis* is launching today, April Fools' Day. *Nemesis* is a new Bell Media Fund pilot launching

on TELETOON.com. The animated comedy is about two cousins who do everything they can to pull off outrageously funny pranks on each other. The show goes beyond traditional viewing into active participation, where audiences can vote for their favorite characters, pranks and videos. The series premieres in both English and French at <http://www.teletoon.com/en/nemesis> and <http://www.teletoon.com/fr/nemesis> respectively. Additional promotional support from TELETOON and Guru Studio during the month of April will include on-air promotion, digital advertising, social media and promotional events. <http://www.gurustudio.com>
<http://www.teletoon.com>
<http://www.corusent.com>