

CONTENT INNOVATION AWARDS 2023

from **TBI** Television
Business
International

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CANNES

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International acclaim

There is little doubt that the past 12 months have been a challenging period as the TV and streaming landscape fluxes but as the Content Innovation Awards 2023 have proven, creativity across the industry has never been higher.

This was a record-breaking year for the CIA's in many ways, with more people attending our Awards show at MIPCOM than ever before and more than 40 countries represented. We also had a record number of entries for this ninth edition of the Awards, with submissions from almost 20 countries representing the vast range of fantastic shows on offer from producers around the world.

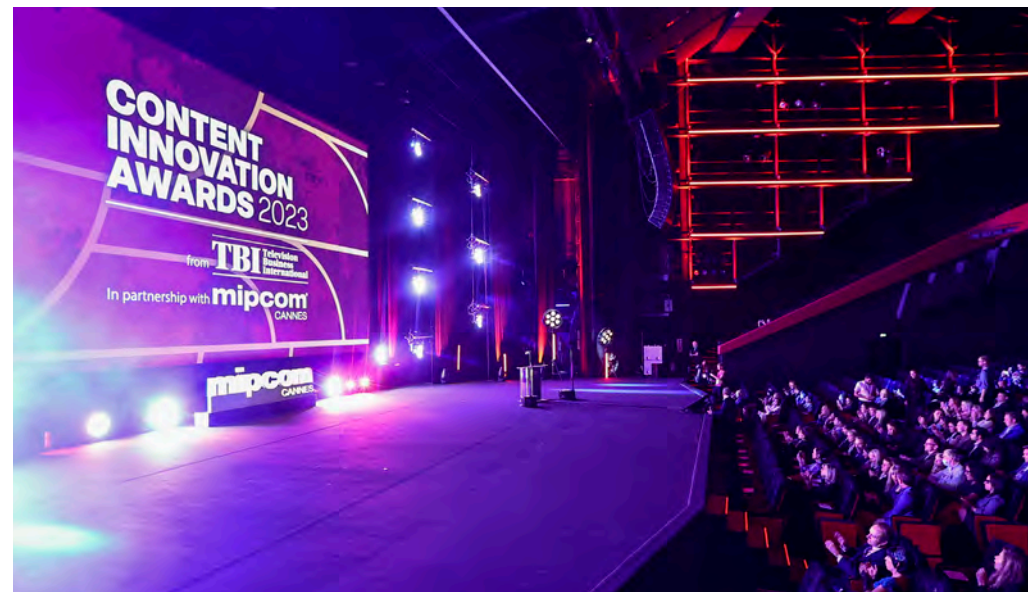
The CIA's are unique in celebrating those on all sides of the global content industry and this year's nominees again reflected this breadth of expertise. There were wins for Germany's *The Swarm*, the UK's *Rogue Heroes* and Japan's *Rebooting* on the scripted side, while UK format *Tempting Fortune* was named Reality Show of the Year and *Murder In The Red Light* took home the Best True Crime Series for Woodcut Media.

There was also success for returning shows, including *The Masked Singer UK* and the US version of *Farmer Wants A Wife*, while Italy's *The Sea Beyond* took the Best Returning Scripted Series prize.

And while the CIA's reflect the best shows on screen, they also honour those operating across all aspects of the industry, with the Multi-brand FAST Channel of the Year prize being won by Pluto TV's Kids Ukraine Channel, The Lumi Platform picking up the The Sustainability & Innovation Award and Canadian drama *Sort Of* taking The Representation & Inclusion prize.

We also honoured three individuals again this year, who have all made a particular impact on both their companies and the broader industry. Read all about the contributions of *Peaky Blinders* creator Steven Knight, 1895 Films CEO Tom Jennings and Quay Street Productions' Karis Winstanley on pages 13, 21 and 30. With such talents in the industry, the outlook is bright despite the current turbulence.

Richard Middleton, Editor, TBI



TBI Television
Business
International

Editor Richard Middleton
richard.middleton@informa.com

Deputy editor Mark Layton
mark.layton@informa.com

Senior sales manager Michael Callan
michael.callan@informa.com

Art director Matthew Humberstone
matthew.humberstone@informa.com

Marketing executive Abigail Appiah
abigail.appiah@informa.com

Editorial director Stuart Thomson
stuart.thomson@informa.com

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e-mail: tbi@informa.com **web:** tbivision.com

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Meet our panel of judges

The judges of this year's **Content Innovation Awards** represent some of the finest minds in the global business, with years of experience working across all genres and every facet of the industry. We are delighted that they agreed to take part to help us judge this year's entries and we are indebted to the time and dedication they have shown in picking this year's winners.



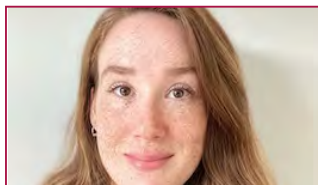
Annika Allen
Head of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
at All3Media



Solange Attwood
EVP at Blue Ant International



Jonathan Broughton
Head of Strategy at EBU



Siobhan Crawford
Co-Founder at Glow Media



David Ellender
CEO of Studios at Chicken Soup for the
Soul Television Group



Jeff Ford
Freelance Consultant



Amanda Groom
Founder & MD at The Bridge



Chaitanya Hegde
Co-Founder at Tulsa



Bea Hegedus
Executive Managing Director,
Distribution at Vice Media Group



Sean Henry
VP, Content Strategy & Acquisitions,
Kids EMEA at Warner Bros. Discovery



Rose Hughes, VP of Sales for the UK,
US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand
at Red Arrow Studios International



Mark Lawrence
SVP Strategic Initiatives at
Banijay Rights



Richard Middleton
Editor, at TBI



Mikiko Nishiyama
EVP of International Business
Development at Nippon TV



Nomsa Philiso
CEO of General Entertainment at
MultiChoice



Paul Robinson
President at Cartoon Channel



Maria Rua Aguiar
Senior Director Media and
Entertainment at Omdia



Maaz Sheikh
CEO & Co-Founder at STARZPLAY



Stuart Thomson
Editor at Digital TV Europe



Sunita Uchil
Freelance Consulting Producer



Deborah Williams
Chief Executive at Creative Diversity
Network



With new platforms opening up to cater specifically to short-form programming, and traditional players catching up with short-form commissioning of their own, this award recognises breakthrough content that is 15 minutes or less in length per episode.

The nominees

Iruthi Payanam Darshan Kunasagran & Regina Pereira for Mediacorp Vasantham by Verite Productions Pte Ltd

Podacto Nisan Ceren Özerten & Faruk Özerten and BluTV for BluTV

RAID: Call of the Arbiter Nicholas Day, Gary Rosenfeld, Jay Oliva, Eric Rollman and Plarium / Pixel United for YouTube

Sloppy Jones Susan Nation and Hop To It Productions Inc for OUTtv

UNHhhh World of Wonder Productions and World of Wonder Productions / WOW Presents Plus / YouTube



RAID: Call of the Arbiter

RAID: Call of the Arbiter was born when the *RAID: Shadow Legends* video game creators teamed up with top animators in Hollywood to release a limited animated series that brings the game's characters to life and appeals to broader audiences. The dark fantasy series takes place in the world of Teleria, a land seemingly abandoned by its gods, torn by warring factions locked in ceaseless conflict. The central character - pulled from the game's core lore - is an ancient guardian called the Arbiter who is seeking a path to return to the world.

Judges comment *"This team have started to unwrap how to get video to benefit from the huge impact of gaming."*

Best Animated Kids Programme

Children's programming is enjoying a renaissance. What were the top animated titles and formats that broke through in the past 12 months? These are shows that either enjoyed widespread domestic success, or made an impact internationally with sales across the board.

The nominees

Builder Brothers Dream Factory Sinking Ship Entertainment, Scott Brothers Entertainment and Nelvana Enterprises for Treehouse

Cracké Family Scramble Productions Squeeze

Mechamoto The Animated Series MONSTA and Jetpack Distribution for Cartoon Network, Netflix, Amazon

Pip and Posy Magic Light Pictures for Sky Television, Channel 5, ZDF

Supertato BBC Studios Kids & Family, BBC Children's & Education and Tencent Video Productions

The Heroic Quest of the Valiant Prince Ivandoe – Season 1 Hanna Barbera Studios Europe Production Team and Warner Brothers Discovery for Cartoon Network



Pip and Posy

Pip and Posy is an animated pre-school series for 3–5-year-olds from Academy Award nominated Magic Light Pictures, co-commissioned by ViacomCBS and Sky Kids. Series 1 launched in the UK in March 2021 on Channel 5's Milkshake! and is available on demand on Sky Kids. The series became one of Milkshake's! top rated shows, garnering 4.1 million viewers since its launch and achieved significant growth across social media platforms. Pip and Posy are best friends whose lives revolve around a wonderful world of play. Packed with warmth and comedy, the series is a joyful celebration of their great friendship.

Judges comment *"Beautifully animated with unique, relatable storytelling for pre-schoolers and understated humour for co-viewing parents."*

Does your distribution business employ a unique strategy that is cutting through and winning buyers over? Have you created a new financing model to power programming or leveraged technology to seal deals? TBI pays tribute to a distribution outfit raising the bar for what's possible in the field.

The nominees

BBC Earth BBC Studios

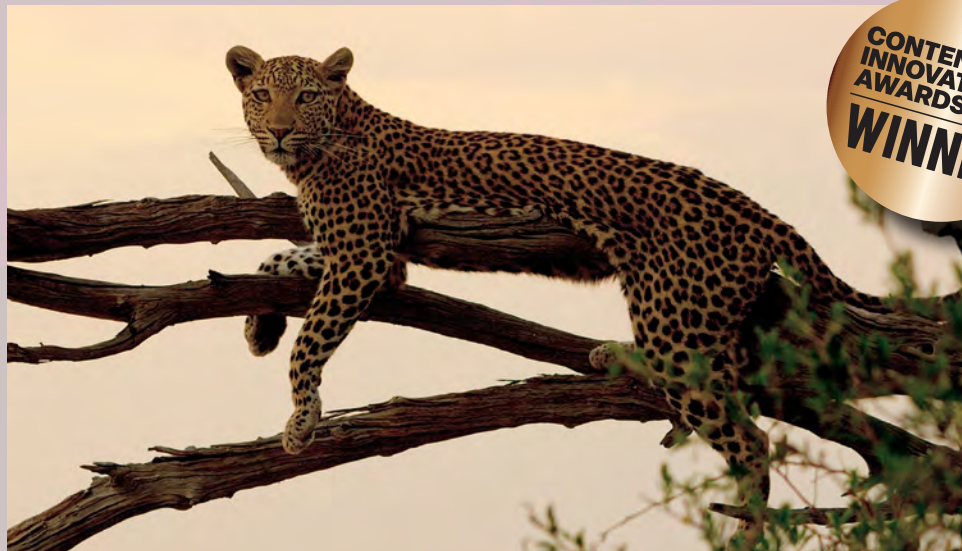
Brookside returns 40 years after launch Lime Pictures and All3Media International

El País FAST TV Channel El País and The Channel Store for The Channel Store

Gusto TV Chris Knight and Gusto Worldwide Media for Gusto TV

FilmBox+ Smart Channels FilmBox+: Home of Good Movies

The Channel Store - Easiest gateway to new FAST/AVoD distribution models The Channel Store for The Channel Store



BBC Earth

BBC Earth serves the audience searching for wonder and amazement in the nature world, catering to the viewer who wants to understand their role in the planet and how it is all connected. The channel offers its audience fulfillment through a combination of adventure and learning, and it is just getting started.

Judges comment *"BBC quality certainly helps with their FAST offering. The channel has grown fast in a very competitive arena - picked up by all the significant platforms."*

Did your company's format cut through in the last year to become a global success? Whether a shiny-floor entertainment show, a structured reality hit or a gameshow that got remade in local markets, what was the standout international entertainment format of the past 12 months?

The nominees

Claim To Fame Kinetic Content and Red Arrow Studios International

Drag Race World of Wonder Productions

Keep Talking I Love It Seung Hoon Han for Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC)

Love Triangle Endemol Shine Australia and 9Network distributed by Banijay Rights

Password Fremantle North America for NBC

The 1% Club Magnum Media and BBC Studios for ITV

The Masked Singer UK Bandicoot and Abacus for ITV

The Summit Endemol Shine Australia and 9Network distributed by Banijay Rights



The Masked Singer UK

When it comes to capturing the imagination of the audience, the success of this show hinges on word of mouth and 'watercooler moments' alongside a truly innovative social media campaign which once again generated some breath-taking metrics. The show was the #1 trending topic on Twitter each week with an average of 17 trending topics during each episode. It also achieved 72 million impressions across Twitter, Instagram and YouTube as well as millions of likes, video views, retweets and replies over all social media.

Judges comment *"Goes from strength to strength and the format continues to travel."*

Best Live Action Kids Programme

TBI celebrates the top live-action children's shows that have broken through in the past 12 months across both linear broadcasters and streaming platforms.

The nominees

Ghostwriter Sinking Ship Entertainment, Sesame Workshop and Apple TV+

Ginaye! Somos Productions / Piñolywood studios and Somos Distribution for Disney+

Jane Sinking Ship Entertainment and Apple TV+ for Apple TV+

Meet the McQueens Big Little Fish TV for CBBC

Reu & Harper's Wonder World Doc Hearts Ltd for Channel 5

Tab Time Kids At Play and Tabitha Brown for YouTube Originals



Ghostwriter

Based on the beloved 1990s series, the Emmy-award winning *Ghostwriter* is a live-action mystery series about unlikely friends who are brought together by a ghost who communicates with written messages and by releasing fictional characters into the real world. *Ghostwriter* is actively engaged in getting children excited about reading by making readers the heroes of the story.

Judges comment *"Fantastic production values and stories - my inner child would watch all episodes."*

TBI honours the new wave of reality programming gracing our screens across all mediums, ranging from re-worked classics to completely new ideas that offer entertainment and insights to all generations of viewers.

The nominees

Deep Fake Love Cuarzo Producciones and Netflix

Farmer Wants A Wife Eureka Productions for Fox

FBoy Island STX Alternative & The Year Of Elan Productions for Max / The CW, USA

Ghost Adventures MY Entertainment and Warner Bros. Discovery for Travel Channel/ Discovery+ and Max

Kokkedoor Vuur & Vlam Jaco Loubser & Paul Venter and Homebrew Films for kykNET DStv SA

Reality Queens of the Jungle WBITVP Netherlands for Videoland

Scared Of The Dark MultiStory Media and ITV Studios

Stars On Mars Eureka Productions for Fox

Tempting Fortune Voltage TV and Cineflix Rights for Channel 4 (UK), Roku (North America)



Tempting Fortune

Tempting Fortune is a bold new format for the age of instant gratification. Twelve strangers are dropped in the heart of a vast, remote wilderness with an epic cash prize awaiting them and a journey unlike any other. To keep the money, all they have to do is reach a designated finish line some 18-days trekking away – without spending it. As they make their way across tough and hostile terrain they'll be met with tantalising and enticing temptations. Designed to make their journey to the finish line easier, each temptation will come with an exorbitant price tag—and every time someone caves, the cost will be removed from their shared prize pot. But when you're exhausted and haven't eaten for three days, how much would you be willing to pay for a hot meal or a comfortable bed for the night?

Judges comment *"A clever format that has been carefully thought through - more a social experiment than a reality show - fascinating heroes and villains in the group."*

Few genres have boomed like true crime, but which shows are leading the charge? TBI celebrates the very best programming available, exploring how the treatment, execution and reception have resulted in a hit.

The nominees

Becoming Ian Brady Woodcut Media and Abacus Media Rights for Amazon Prime

Brothers in Arms Protagonist by M for Mediacorp Channel News Asia

CIDADE ALERTA EM SERIE- CASO LARA Rádio e televisão Record SA

Murder in the Red Light Woodcut Media and Abacus Media Rights for Amazon

Linchamentos Record TV and PlayPlus



Murder in the Red Light

Murder in the Red Light takes a close look at murder cases where killers have targeted vulnerable sex workers as potential victims. For many years these murders rarely hit the headlines and failed to be prioritised by the police. However in 2006, this changed forever when women in the British town of Ipswich in Suffolk, began to go missing. Over the course of two months, five women's bodies were found in remote rural areas. It became clear the murders were committed by one man, Steven Wright who later became known as The Suffolk Strangler. The three episodes in this series explore the lives of the women themselves and the approach to policing these crimes before and after events in Ipswich, as well as examining the changes in societal and police attitudes to sex workers.

Judges comment *"A sensitive handling of a difficult subject..."*

Best New Scripted Series Based on a True Story

'Based on a true story' can be a hugely powerful tool in cutting through, but the process of basing a scripted series on real events or people can be a challenging process. We honour the breakout series that have managed to do this and created the greatest impact around the world.

The nominees

Exterior Night Rai, The Apartment (a company of the Fremantle group), Kavac Film, co-produced with ARTE France and Fremantle

Last King of the Cross Helium and Cineflix Rights for Paramount + (Australia)

Marie Antoinette A CANAL+ Creation Originale Produced by CAPA Drama, Banijay Studios France and Les Gens distributed by Banijay Rights

Maxine Clapperboard Studios and Channel 5

Rogue Heroes A Kudos and Nebulastar Production distributed by Banijay Rights

Royal Mob Tom Stubberfield, Ben Goold, Jane Root and eOne



Rogue Heroes

Based on Ben Macintyre's best-selling book of the same name, *Rogue Heroes* is a dramatised account of how the world's greatest Special Forces unit, the SAS, was formed under extraordinary circumstances in the darkest days of World War Two. Convinced that traditional commando units don't work, David Stirling - an eccentric young officer, hospitalised after a training exercise went wrong - creates a radical plan. He fights for permission to recruit the toughest, boldest and brightest soldiers for a small undercover unit that will create mayhem behind enemy lines. More rebels than soldiers, Stirling's team are every bit as complicated, flawed and reckless as they are astonishingly brave and heroic. *Rogue Heroes* is created and written by Steven Knight (*Peaky Blinders*, *Taboo*, *A Christmas Carol*) and will be directed by Tom Shankland (*The Serpent*, *The Missing*), with Stephen Smallwood (*The Serpent*, *Patrick Melrose*) as producer.

Judges comment *"This had energy, razzamatazz, gripping story telling and excellent music. Superb"*

Do you have a hot shot in your company who always delivers, coming up with the innovations and ideas that keep your business buzzing? This is an opportunity to recognise those individuals – some of whom may just be starting their TV careers – who are set for the top.



Karis Winstanley, Executive Assistant to Nicola Shindler/Operations and Communications Manager, Quay Street Productions

Karis Winstanley has been an integral part of award-winning producer Nicola Shindler's new venture, Quay Street Productions, since its inception in January 2021. Joining Quay Street with a wealth of production experience under her belt, including roles on dramas such as *It's A Sin*, *The Stranger*, and *Ridley Road*, Karis has now risen to the newly created position of operations and communications manager, alongside her executive assistant role to Nicola. Karis has been pivotal in creating an identity and culture for the brand-new venture, as well as creating a positive inhouse work culture, and running Quay Street's website and social platforms. Her co-workers said that she is the "true heartbeat" of the company and "already a star" and described her as the key connective tissue within the organisation, keeping the development, production, post-production and business affairs departments running smoothly and efficiently. She's said to be constantly researching and implementing new tools to bolster productivity, making her own invaluable contributions to the team and keeping her colleagues accountable for their own efforts.

Single-brand FAST Channel of the Year

Strong show brands have the power to entice viewers and propel IP to new heights. We salute the best performing single IP FAST channel.

The nominees

American Pickers Cineflix Productions and Cineflix Rights for Pluto TV

Baywatch Fremantle

BBC Top Gear BBC Studios

Gardening with Monty Don All3Media International

The Jamie Oliver Channel Jamie Oliver Productions and Fremantle

5-Minute Crafts TheSoul Publishing



The Jamie Oliver Channel

With a successful partnership that has spanned over 20 years, Fremantle and Jamie Oliver Productions recently launched The Jamie Oliver Channel – a dedicated FAST channel hosting fan favourite content. Titles included on the channel are *Jamie's Quick & Easy* and *Jamie's Super Food* among many others. As one of the world's most successful chefs, Jamie Oliver is focused on empowering individuals to enhance their cooking skills. His shows have consistently informed and entertained audiences, maintaining their relevance in today's dynamic landscape.

Judges comment *"Simple idea to bring all JO's content to one shopfront. A brand known almost everywhere in the world."*

Competition in FAST is soaring, meaning curation, scheduling and marketing has never been so important in cutting through the noise. Our judges pick out which channel offering multiple shows has done this the most effectively.

The nominees

MyPadel TV

Pluto TV Kids Ukraine Channel Pluto TV

TENNIS CHANNEL TENNIS CHANNEL INTERNATIONAL and TENNIS CHANNEL INC.

Vevo

wedo Big Stories BIG MEDIA and wedotv



Pluto TV Kids Ukraine Channel

During the development of the Russia-Ukraine war early last year, where millions of Ukrainians were forced, and continue to be forced, to flee their homes and relocate elsewhere, Pluto TV, Paramount's leading FAST service, decided to create an initiative to support Ukrainian kids by launching a family-friendly channel with content specifically curated and dedicated to them, completely ad-free. The channel features kids' favorite Nickelodeon content, including popular cartoons such as *SpongeBob SquarePants*, *Bubble Guppies* and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* in Ukrainian language. Additionally, morning programming is aimed at younger viewers (similar to a Nick Jr. block), while afternoon programming is aimed at older children, allowing for children in a wider age range to be able to make the most of the channel.

Judges comment *"I think its innovation was in competitors coming together."*

Best New Scripted Series Non-English Language

Language is no barrier to a show cutting through on a global basis, but which scripted series has done this to the greatest effect, breaking barriers and engaging audiences all at once?

The nominees

Bosé Shine Iberia and Elefantec Global and Legacy Rock for VIS/Paramount+ / SkyShowtime

Childhood Dreams Topkapi Films distributed by Banijay Rights

Indefensible Pixcom for TVA, distributed by Calinos Entertainment

MOTEL VALKIRIAS Coproduced by CTV & SPi and Onza Distribution for RTP; TVG; HBO Max (Spain & Portugal)

Rana Naidu Locomotive Global and Paramount Global Content Distribution for Netflix India

Rebooting Nippon TV, AX-ON Inc., MASEKI GEINOSHA

Señorita 89 Fabula and Fremantle for Pantaya and Starzplay



Rebooting

In this time-loop comedy, a woman starts her life over, in a bid to take control of her karma and reincarnation. It's just another ordinary day for Asami, a 33 year-old single woman, working at the city hall. After a girls' night out spent gossiping about classmates over dinner and karaoke, she assumes her life will continue being mundane. Later that evening, she is hit by a truck and dies instantly, but then regains consciousness in the afterlife. Given the choice of becoming an anteater or reliving her previous life in a bid to earn virtues that will improve her chances of reincarnation as a human, Asami decides to give it another shot. This time, as Asami tries to gain merits, she gradually changes the lives of those around her. What unpredictable *Rebooting* will she manage to pull off?

Judges comment *"Brilliant. Very clever concept, funny and sharp allowing great universal wisdoms to shine through. Excellent work!"*

This category highlights an individual or company who has provided an outstanding next-generation solution to improve the way content is made. Whether embracing new tech to get a show delivered or introducing new work practices to reduce the environmental impact, this award honours those whose perseverance has inspired the industry.

The nominees

A studio fit for the future Luxvide S.p.a.

FAMILY PIGGY BANK Armoza Formats & Game Changer and ITV Studios

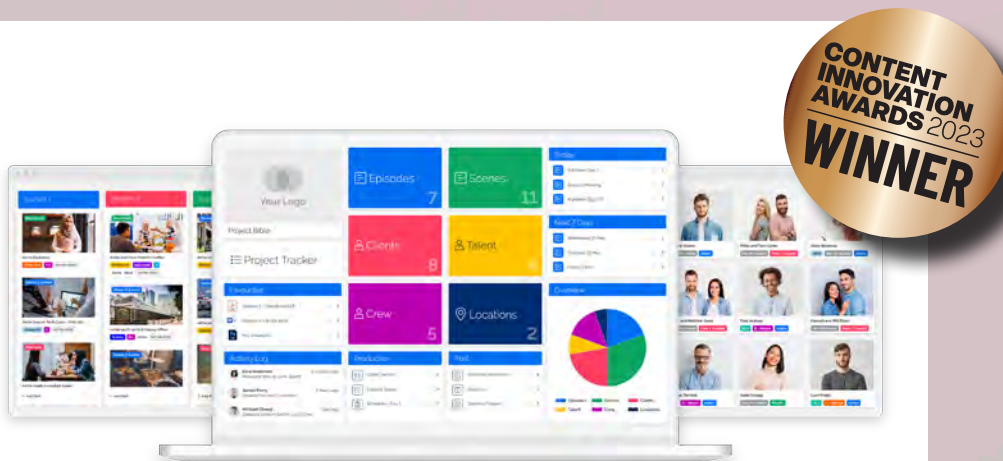
Food Wizards RAI - ZOCOTOCO and MAD ENTERTAINMENT

Jane Sinking Ship Entertainment and Apple TV+ for Apple TV+

Transgarimpeira A Rota do Ouro na Amazônia | Record TV

The Lumi Platform Karen Dewey and Lumi Media

The Weather Channel en Español The Weather Channel en Español



The Lumi Platform

Lumi is the direct result of an experienced Australian TV exec imagining, and then delivering, a better way for screen content teams to work together. Lumi's SaaS platform supports the core business of production - creating screen content. Its focus is on producers and their teams, connecting the whole team to the whole story and pulling all the creative pieces together in one place.

An example of Lumi in action is the current series of *24 Hours in A & E*, produced by ITV Studios in London (Mar-Sept 2023). This documentary series, in its 30th season, is leveraging Lumi to improve longstanding systems, achieve efficiencies and save cost. Series Editor Louise Bartmann said: "Lumi was intuitive and easy for the whole team. We couldn't believe how smooth it was from the get-go." Within one week, Louise said they could see tangible efficiencies from having everything in one place.

Judges comment *"A great way to show producers how to bring shows to the screen more efficiently."*

The future is factual, that much is clear. Streaming services and cable channels have upped the ante when it comes to multi-part factual series. TBI honours the programmes that have raised the bar in their execution, storytelling and/or access.

The nominees

Dinosaur with Stephen Fry Mentorn Media and Krempelwood, Passion Distribution

Evacuation Wonderhood Studios for Channel 4

Hitler: A Life in Pictures Woodcut Media and Rainmaker for Channel 4

Inside Our Autistic Minds BBC Studios

Lucky! Jiva Maya

The Australian Wars Rachel Perkins, Darren Dale, Jacob Hickey and ABC Commercial for Special Broadcasting Service

The Elon Musk Show 72 Films (a Fremantle company) for BBC Two

When Sharks Attack 360 Nick Metcalfe, Arrow Media and National Geographic

Wild Heroes Juanita Edwards distributed by Banijay Rights

Wild Isles Silverback Films distributed by Banijay Rights



Evacuation

When *Evacuation* premiered on Channel 4 in the UK, it quickly became a word of mouth hit. National papers from both the right and the left were unanimous in their praise of the "emotionally powerful" first-hand account of the evacuation from Kabul in 2021.

A gripping documentary military thriller, all three episodes played over three nights, heralded as a new kind of programme genre. Through continuing character and plot arcs, it combined both the drama of the thriller with first-hand testimonial. This showed a vulnerable and human side to the British armed forces and allowed people to see the war in Afghanistan from a different point of view for the first time.

Judges comment "People who often are not seen or heard from had the chance to express their experiences. This is challenging TV that is a credit to the genre."

Success in kids scripted TV is hard won, but the best shows can fuel discussion across a generation. We salute those successes.

The nominees

Macy Murdoch Shaftesbury for CBC Gem

Phoenix Rise BBC Studios Kids & Family and Sinking Ship Entertainment

Ruby and the Well Shaftesbury in association with BYUtv and Family, a WildBrain network and BYUtv(US), WildBrain(Global) for BYUtv, Family Channel

The Argonauts and the Gold Coin RTVE & Portocabo for Clan

Three Ananey Studios; Executive producers: Orly Atlas-Katz, Osnat Saraga, Shirly Oran; Created by Michal Cooper-Keren and Lior Yaron in association with Beta for HO



Ruby and the Well

Ruby and the Well is a Shaftesbury, BYUtv and Wildbrain series that follows teenager Ruby O'Reilly (portrayed by Zoe Wiesenthal), who is the "keeper" of an enchanted well on her family's apple orchard. As Ruby sets out to grant wishes that have languished in the well for years, paying-it-forward becomes an important throughline for the series.

With two successful seasons under its belt and a third set to premiere in September 2023, *Ruby and the Well* is about positivity in the face of adversity. Through its enchanting narrative, and inclusive and powerful messaging, *Ruby and the Well* sets a shining example for the industry, demonstrating that kids programming can be both entertaining and impactful.

Judges comment *"For younger viewers, it incorporates valuable social-emotional lessons."*

Best Returning Scripted Series

This award goes to a popular ongoing series that has shown great accomplishment across broadcast or streaming platforms this year.

The nominees

Departure Shaftesbury in association with Corus, Starlings Television, and Red Arrow Studio International and Red Arrow Studio International, Starlings TV Distribution for Global TV

Endeavour - Series 9 Mammoth Screen in co-production with Masterpiece and ITV Studios for ITV

Hudson & Rex Shaftesbury and Pope Productions Ltd. in association with Citytv and BetaFilm GmbH for Citytv

Sort Of Sphere Media and Abacus Media Rights

The Capture Heyday Television, which is part of Universal International Studios, a division of Universal Studio Group for BBC One

The Sea Beyond S3 RAI and Picomedia and Beta Film



The Sea Beyond S3

The TV series *Mare fuori* (a co-production of Rai Fiction and Picomedia) stems from the experience of screenwriter Cristiana Farina at the Nisida prison, where she conducted cultural and educational activities with the young inmates, establishing a genuine and direct relationship with them.

The series was specifically developed with the young adult target audience in mind, constructing the narrative framework from the perspective of a group of youths who enter and exit the prison, blending fiction and real-life stories without losing the value of the experience. This engaging storytelling, intertwining different genres, strikes a warm tone in portraying the struggles of youth with realism and rawness. It delves into a world of anti-heroes who have much to offer to those seeking their identity in the adult world, without necessarily conforming to its rules.

Judges comment *"The blending of genres is what makes this show stand out from usual 'teen/youth' drama."*

Outstanding Contribution to Content Award

This special award recognises an executive who has made their mark on the content landscape across a specific area of expertise – from production and distribution to commissioning or technology – leaving the business in a better place because of their work.



Steven Knight CBE, Writer and Director

This year's winner, Steven Knight, has established himself as a pre-eminent figure within the international content industry over the last two decades, as the writer and producer of shows known around the world, from *Peaky Blinders* and *Taboo* to *Rogue Heroes* and *Great Expectations*. From award winning TV work through to screenplays, stage plays, films and novels, Knight has been a trailblazer in elevating the quality of storytelling, leaving a lasting impact on the content landscape.

While best known now as a scripted creator, he was also behind one of the most successful quiz show formats in the world, *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?*

His services to drama, entertainment and the community of Birmingham were honoured in 2020 with a CBE and earlier this year, he extended his cultural legacy further when he launched Digbeth Loc. Studios – a multi-million-pound TV and film site in the UK city of Birmingham, creating hundreds of new jobs and providing opportunities to a new generation of up and coming talent.

His drive to transform the creative industries for the better, fostering its growth and inspiring new talent has only enhanced his reputation as a leader in his field.

The Representation & Inclusion Award – Scripted

This award highlights a show, company or individual who is making an outstanding contribution to improving on-screen and/or off-screen representation of LGBTQIA+, race, ethnicity, and/or disability within scripted TV.

The nominees

Crush, the story of Tamina RAI Radiotelevisione Italiana and STAND BY ME

Hudson & Rex Shaftesbury and Pope Productions Ltd. in association with Citytv and Beta Film GmbH for Citytv

Leo's World Rai Radiotelevisione Italiana and Brand-Cross srl and Mondo TV

One of Us Habanita Federation and Federation International for TF1

Ralph & Katie ITV Studios & Keshet UK for BBC1

Sort Of Sphere Media and Abacus Media Rights

Wreck Euston Films (a Fremantle label) for BBC Three



Sort Of

Sort Of is a show where honest representation truly matters. The leads of *Sort Of* are queer and non-binary and their experiences are at the center of the show. It was important to the creators that the characters all had space to breathe, grow, and exist as fully complex; unlike stereotypes seen on TV before.

While on-screen representation of trans folks has improved in recent years, the representation of trans and/or nonbinary professionals working behind the camera is still low. The series production ran a Trans and Non-Binary Mentorship Programme to accelerate the careers of trans and nonbinary emerging film professionals with intensive work/training opportunities that developed skills, provided career guidance, increased access to work-relevant networks and built confidence.

Judges comment *"It is the kind of representation everyone deserves, and Sort Of makes it look easy..."*

The Representation & Inclusion Award – Unscripted

Unscripted TV has made strides to become more representative, but which show, industry initiative or ingenious solution has ensured DEI is taken to a broader level? This award salutes those who are making the content industry a more representative, fairer and better place.

The nominees

The Australian Wars Rachel Perkins, Darren Dale, Jacob Hickey and ABC Commercial for Special Broadcasting Service

Gusto TV Chris Knight and Gusto Worldwide Media for Gusto TV

Inside Our Autistic Minds BBC Studios

Planet Sex with Cara Delevingne Naked (a Fremantle label) and Milkshake Productions for Hulu and BBC Three

Reaching the Dreams Fremantle Finland for Yle TV2 and Yle Areena

Scared Of The Dark MultiStory Media and ITV Studios for Channel 4

The Swap Southern Pictures for Special Broadcasting Service

WOW Presents Plus World of Wonder Productionse



The Australian Wars

There are more than 10,000 monuments across the country that honour the Australian war dead. But what of the bloody battles fought on Australian soil, in the longest-running war that established the nation? In this ground-breaking documentary series, award-winning filmmaker Rachel Perkins gives voice to the story of *The Australian Wars* - and changes the narrative of the nation.

Perkins travels vast distances to capture key aspects of a war that lasted over 100 years, from the landing of the First Fleet in 1788 until the 1920s, tracing some of the key phases, sites and underlying features of frontier wars on home soil, and sets out to understand why the war was never declared, why the British didn't follow their own laws, and the tactics and strategies Aboriginal people deployed defending their land. Perkins asks us to consider this difficult history, and how it should be memorialised.

Judges comment *"A great show that brings real insight and expertise to a story that is not only hidden, but actively suppressed."*

Factual Entertainment Programme of the Year

From the best-structured reality hits to observational documentary successes, what was the standout factual entertainment programme of the past 12 months?

The nominees

Eva Longoria: Searching For Mexico A CNN Original Series and Raw TV distributed by Banijay Rights

Planet Sex with Cara Delevingne Naked (a Fremantle label) and Milkshake Productions for Hulu and BBC Three

Secret Life of the Auction House Curve Media Limited, Cornerstone Studios Group Limited and Cineflix Rights for Discovery + (UK)

The Wizard of Sauce Chris Knight and Gusto Worldwide Media for Gusto TV



Planet Sex with Cara Delevingne

Planet Sex with Cara Delevingne is a groundbreaking documentary series that transcends boundaries and embraces the diversity of human experiences. It follows Cara Delevingne, one of the world's most photographed people and an award-winning LGBTQ+ icon, as she embarks on a journey spanning the globe, taking a frank, fearless, and fascinating look at gender, attraction and sexual identity. She approaches the major questions surrounding human sexuality; visits communities who view and experience gender and sexuality in hugely contrasting ways, and helps people to tell their own unique stories. Uniquely unfiltered and authentic, she also shares her own personal experiences and puts her mind and body on the line to explore the forces that shape our desires.

Judges comment *"Provocative and a clever use of subject matter."*

What was the outstanding documentary that had the most international impact over the last 12 months? We celebrate the shows that worked at home and then became a hit globally, sparking conversation around the world.

The nominees

Charles: In His Own Words 1895 Films for National Geographic, Disney+ and Hulu

Confessions of a Psycho Killer Woodcut Media and Abacus Media Rights for Amazon Prime

Lucélia Record TV and PlayPlus

Escravos do Carvão Record TV

Right Here Right Now Beyond TNC distributed by Banijay Rights

The Good Season (La Bella Stagione) Groenlandia Film distributed by Banijay Rights

The Murder of Meredith Woodcut Media and Abacus Media Rights for Amazon Prime

The Mysterious Mr Lagerfeld Finestripe Productions and Cineflix Rights for BBC Two (UK)



The Murder of Meredith

The Murder of Meredith is a 90-minute special that reframes the narrative of the events that occurred on the evening of Thursday 1st November 2007, so that focus of this crime is on the victim, Meredith Kercher. The media's fascination with this case has always focused on one of the suspects and not on the victim, or the flawed investigation, or the family's determination to get justice and learn the truth of what really happened that night. Fifteen years on from one of the most talked about murders in modern history, the key people involved in the investigation are brought together.

Judges comment "*Hearing her story and really thinking about the victim for once, gives this the edge.*"

Mediawan rights PRESENTS

RAVE

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE PRODUCERS
FOR THEIR NOMINATION



streamz

Mediawan

As industry players seek to stand out from the crowd with original programming and big-ticket acquisitions, often launching across several territories at once, we award the series that launched with the most buzz and which created the greatest ratings, marketing, and social media impact.

The nominees

Farmer Wants A Wife Eureka Productions for Fox

Hot Wheels: Ultimate Challenge Endemol Shine North America distributed by Banijay Rights

2DEZIT (Rave) Sputnik Media and Mediawan for Streamz

Stars On Mars Eureka Productions for Fox

Time Zone Zeppelin for HBO Max and HBO Max



Farmer Wants A Wife

This groundbreaking dating show sheds light on the authentic challenges of managing a farm to feed America while simultaneously navigating the complexities of finding a soul mate. Viewers witnessed the clash between two contrasting worlds as the Farmers introduced their beautiful city-dwelling suitors to the rustic countryside. The journey of love proved to be far more arduous than anyone had anticipated, testing the Farmers' and their Ladies' resilience and resolve.

The series premiere became Fox's most-watched unscripted debut in two years, and also marked the highest streaming debut for a dating series in the network's history.

Judges comment *"Stunning, engaging, fascinating, a wonderful show."*

This award acknowledges the creative prowess and production expertise that go into delivering shows that offer emotional engagement, entertainment and excitement for audiences.

The nominees

RuPaul's Drag Race World of Wonder Productions and WOW Presents Plus / Paramount

That's My Jam Universal International Studios' Monkey in partnership with Universal Television Alternative Studio, a division of Universal Studio Group for BBC One

The Big Interiors Battle Remarkable distributed by Banijay Rights

The Masked Singer UK Bandicoot and Abacus for ITV

The Mole Eureka Productions for Netflix

The Parent Test Eureka Productions for ABC

The Piano Love Productions for Channel 4



The Masked Singer UK

The Masked Singer is the surreal and surprising singing show that brings a sense of frivolous fun and connects friends and families across the country, all trying to uncover, who's behind the mask? Like the three series which had come before, it became a nationwide phenomenon as workplaces, schools and social media platforms all found themselves awash with predictions and theories about the identities of the latest masked celebrities.

Judges comment *"A very clever play on the gameshow, bonkers and great fun. Excellent production values..."*

Scripted series have again dominated many of the headlines over the past year and with this Award we honour the breakout series that has created the greatest impact around the world.

The nominees

Beyond Paradise Red Planet Pictures and BBC Studios for BBC One

Crossfire Dancing Ledge Productions (a Fremantle label) and Buddy Club Productions for BBC One

Everyone Else Burns Jax Media and Universal International Studios, a division of Universal Studio Group for Channel 4

Little Bird Rezolution Pictures and OP Little Bird for Bell Media and APTN

Reginald the Vampire Cineflix Studios, Great Pacific Media, Modern Story, December Films and Cineflix Rights for SYFY (US)

Riches Greenacre Films distributed by Banijay Rights

Safe Home Kindling Pictures and Banijay Rights for Special Broadcasting Service (SBS)

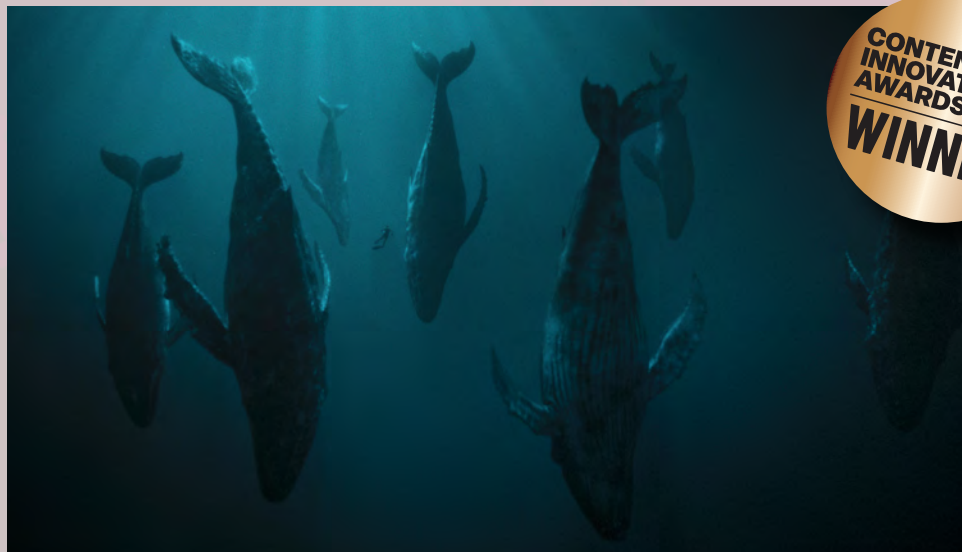
SisterS Peer Pressure and Shaftesbury in Association with Mermade and Gaze Pictures and Fremantle, RTÉ, IFC, Bell Media for Crave, Sundance Now

The Gone Kingfisher Films & Keeper Pictures in association with Southern Light Films and Red Arrow Studios International

The Swarm Schwarm TV Production (Joint-company of Intaglio Films & ndF International Production)

The Twelve The Twelve | WBITVP Australia and Easy Tiger for Foxtel, Australia

Wreck Euston Films (a Fremantle label) for BBC Three



The Swarm

Around the world, strange happenings, borne out of the oceans: Whales destroy boats, deep sea crabs attack beaches, mussels block container ships. An unknown ice worm destabilises continental slopes and triggers tsunamis. A deadly pathogen spreads into the drinking water. Across the globe, lives are increasingly imperiled, the situation worsening by the day – and yet, nobody can draw a connection between the seemingly random attacks.

Judges comment “*Nobody believed Chief Brody in Jaws until the shark bit them – this drama is so much more, and no it is not safe to go into the water – watch from your sofa.*”

Success is hard-won in the TV world. Repeated success is even harder. The Excellence in TV Award recognises an outstanding individual who has achieved the rare distinction of delivering, inspiring, or executing innovation time and again over the course of their career to date.



Tom Jennings, Chief Executive Officer, Executive Producer, Director, Writer, 1895 Films

Tom Jennings is a Pulitzer Prize-nominated journalist and a multi award-winning producer who has become a luminary in the world of documentaries and factual series that have travelled the world. He launched his company, 1895 Films, more than a decade ago and through this venture, where he serves as chief executive officer, executive producer, director and writer, he is now helping support the next generation of talent via a media and journalist internship.

Jennings has made a huge contribution to the world of factual television – through titles from *MLK: The Assassination Tapes* and *Diana: In Her Own Words*, to *Challenger Disaster: Lost Tapes* and *Apollo: Missions to the Moon* – and to improving the understanding of numerous subjects that have been at the centre of his productions. .

As a storyteller, Jennings blends creativity and mastery of the filmmaking craft with curiosity to find story angles in places not previously considered.

He adds the CIA's Excellence in TV Award to previous honors, including an Emmy Award and several nominations, a Peabody Award, and a Producers Guild of America Award for Outstanding Producer of Televised or Streamed Motion Picture.

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