

MASTERPIECE AND ELEVENTH HOUR FILMS TO CO-PRODUCE ANTHONY HOROWITZ'S *MOONFLOWER MURDERS* Lesley Manville, Tim McMullan To Reprise Roles in *Magpie Murders* Sequel

Pasadena, CA; January 17, 2023—PBS' MASTERPIECE announced today at the Television Critics Association press tour that it will co-produce and broadcast *Moonflower Murders*, a new six-part drama based on the best-selling novel written by Anthony Horowitz, CBE. A sequel to the acclaimed 2022 MASTERPIECE adaptation of Horowitz's *Magpie Murders*, *Moonflower Murders* is executive produced by Jill Green and Eleventh Hour Films and adapted by Horowitz. BBC is the UK partner on the series.

Anthony Horowitz said: "I can't wait to get started on the scripts of *Moonflower Murders*. We had a fantastic response to *Magpie* and, speaking personally, it was a joy bringing Susan Ryeland and Atticus Pünd to life on the screen. There are lots of surprises in the second book, including something I've never done before in a murder mystery. It's going to be great fun."

Returning in the lead roles they originated in *Magpie Murders* are Academy Award-nominee Lesley Manville (*The Crown*, *Phantom Thread*) as editor turned sleuth Susan Ryeland and Timothy McMullan (*Patrick Melrose*, *The Crown*) as famous literary detective Atticus Pünd.

MASTERPIECE executive producer Susanne Simpson said, "We're delighted to partner with Eleventh Hour Films on another ingenious mystery from Anthony Horowitz. *Magpie Murders* was a hit with our audience, who loved its clever storytelling of a mystery-within-a-mystery. It's thrilling to know that Lesley and Tim will be returning to MASTERPIECE in *Moonflower Murders*." MASTERPIECE is presented on PBS by GBH Boston.

More than 5.5 million viewers watched *Magpie Murders* and the series has been streamed over 3.1 million times. The press were fans, too, with the *Los Angeles Times* writing, "It has everything you want in a British mystery," and *TV Guide* dubbing it "a superior brainteaser."

Executive Producer Jill Green said: "We had the best reviews ever for an Eleventh Hour Films drama, which was hugely satisfying given the creative attention given over to every aspect of the series, by every member of cast and crew. So, it is wonderful to be all returning again with the equally complicated and riveting *Moonflower Murders*."

Moonflower Murders is the second novel in Horowitz's Susan Ryeland series. Published in 2020, it was lauded as "a fiendishly plotted crime novel, with a fabulous twist" by the *Guardian* and picks up where *Magpie Murders* left off: Susan has left the cut-throat world of publishing and is living in Crete with her longtime boyfriend, Andreas. She ends up returning to London when she is asked to investigate a mystery relating to Alan Conway, the author of the best-selling Atticus Pünd mysteries, whose death changed her life in *Magpie Murders*.

Moonflower Murders will be available to stream in the US on PBS.org, the PBS App and the PBS MASTERPIECE Prime Video Channel. In the UK, the series will be available to stream on iPlayer.

Moonflower Murders is an Eleventh Hour Films production in association with Salt Films for MASTERPIECE and BBC One, and distributed worldwide by Sony Pictures Television and PBS Distribution in North America.

pbs.org/masterpiece

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About MASTERPIECE

Winner of 83 Primetime Emmys® and 18 Peabody Awards, MASTERPIECE has been essential Sunday night viewing for millions of fans since 1971. Susanne Simpson is the executive producer and Rebecca Eaton is the executive producer-at-large for the series. Series funding for MASTERPIECE is provided by Viking Cruises, Raymond James, The MASTERPIECE Trust, and public television viewers. Produced for PBS by GBH Boston, MASTERPIECE is known for hits such as *All Creatures Great and Small*, *Sherlock*, *Downton Abbey* and *Victoria*, and beloved classics such as *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Prime Suspect*, *The Forsyte Saga* and *Poldark*.

About GBH

GBH is the leading multiplatform creator for public media in America. As the largest producer of content for PBS and partner to NPR and PRX, GBH delivers compelling experiences, stories and information to audiences wherever they are. GBH produces digital and broadcast programming that engages, illuminates and inspires, through drama and science, history, arts, culture and journalism. It is the creator of such signature programs as MASTERPIECE, ANTIQUES ROADSHOW, FRONTLINE, NOVA, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, Arthur and Molly of Denali and a catalog of streaming series, podcasts and on-demand video. GBH's television channels include GBH 2, GBH 44, GBH Kids and national services WORLD and Create. With studios and a newsroom headquartered in Boston, GBH reaches across New England with GBH 89.7, Boston's Local NPR; CRB Classical 99.5; and CAI, the Cape and Islands NPR station. Dedicated to making media accessible to and inclusive of our diverse culture, GBH is a pioneer in delivering media to those who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind and visually impaired. GBH creates curriculum-based digital content for educators nationwide with PBS LearningMedia and has been recognized with hundreds of the nation's premier broadcast, digital and journalism awards. Find more information at gbh.org.

About PBS

PBS, with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 120 million people through television and 26 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS's broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS's premier children's media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math, and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV – including a 24/7 channel – online at pbskids.org, via an array of mobile apps, and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at PBS.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following PBS on Twitter, Facebook or through our apps for mobile and connected devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following PBS Communications on Twitter.