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## A stellar cast leads lavish reimagining of **THE FORSYTE SAGA**

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MASTERPIECE PBS and MAMMOTH SCREEN today announce a major new reimagining of John Galsworthy's *FORSYTE* novels. Planned as a returning series, the first season of six episodes follows the lives of the wealthy Forsyte family in 1880s London and is based on Galsworthy's Nobel Prize-winning tale of love, loyalty, ambition and betrayal.

*THE FORSYTE SAGA* reunites MASTERPIECE with acclaimed British screenwriter Debbie Horsfield and UK production company Mammoth Screen, the team behind global television hit *Poldark*.

The stellar ensemble cast includes Francesca Annis, Jack Davenport, Tom Durant Pritchard, Jamie Flatters, Millie Gibson, Danny Griffin, Susan Hampshire, Owen Igiehon, Tuppence Middleton, Stephen Moyer, Joshua Orpin, Josette Simon and Eleanor Tomlinson.

BAFTA winner Francesca Annis (*Flesh and Blood*) plays formidable Forsyte matriarch Ann, with Stephen Moyer (*Sexy Beast, True Blood*) as her eldest son, Jolyon Senior, head of the family stockbroking firm Forsyte & Co. Danny Griffin (*Fate: The Winx Saga*) plays his bohemian son Jo, Tuppence Middleton (*Downton Abbey: A New Era*) is Jo's status-driven wife Frances, and Eleanor Tomlinson (*One Day*) plays Louisa Byrne, a Soho dressmaker and Jo's first love.

Jack Davenport (*The Morning Show, Ten Percent*) plays Ann's competitive younger son James, with Joshua Orpin (*Titans*) as James' shrewd and sometimes ruthless son Soames. Millie Gibson (*Doctor Who*) plays Irene, the dancer whom Soames falls in love with. Tom Durant Pritchard (*This Is Going To Hurt*) plays Monty Dartie, James' son-in-law.

Josette Simon OBE (*Anatomy of a Scandal*) is Mrs. Ellen Parker Barrington, a wealthy heiress and friend of the Forsyte family, with Jamie Flatters (*Avatar: The Way Of Water*) as architect Philip Bosinney and Owen Igiehon (*Disclaimer*) as lawyer Isaac Cole. Susan Hampshire OBE (star

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of the 1967 BBC *Forsyte Saga* for which she received the first of her three lead actress Emmys), plays Lady Carteret.

*THE FORSYTE SAGA* is directed by Meenu Gaur (*Murder Is Easy*) and Annetta Laufer (*Get Millie Black*) and is produced by Sarah Lewis (*The Long Shadow*). Filming begins in May in locations in England, Wales and Italy.

Screenwriter Debbie Horsfield notes, "It was an honour to be asked to write a bold new reimagining of Galsworthy's epic saga. Our show is in part a prequel to the events of the first book, but also an opportunity to expand the world and place the women of the family centre stage. It's a love letter to the original story while offering an exciting new perspective."

Damien Timmer, CCO & Founder of Mammoth Screen said, "It's thrilling to be teaming up again with Debbie on this iconic story. Everything about *THE FORSYTE SAGA* is huge - it's an epic canvas, and Debbie's magnificent scripts have delivered a truly great ensemble cast. I hope audiences worldwide will be captivated by the secrets of Soames, Irene, Jolyon and other Forsyte family members as they are laid bare for a new generation of fans!"

Susanne Simpson, Executive Producer of MASTERPIECE, added, "We're proud to commission a new, original take on *THE FORSYTE SAGA*. This sweeping, romantic drama portrays how duty binds a family together until it conflicts with matters of the heart. Debbie Horsfield's inspired scripts will be realized by an exceptional cast and supported by a lavish production. We're thrilled to be creating another one of the high-quality period dramas that MASTERPIECE has always been known for." MASTERPIECE is presented on PBS by GBH Boston.

The executive producers are Sheena Bucktowonsing, Debbie Horsfield, Meenu Gaur and Damien Timmer for Mammoth Screen, part of ITV Studios, and Susanne Simpson for MASTERPIECE.

*THE FORSYTE SAGA* is produced in association with ITV Studios, which will handle international distribution, with PBS Distribution handling North American rights.

*THE FORSYTE SAGA* was previously adapted as a Hollywood film in 1949 and for television in 1967 and 2002. The 2002 series aired on MASTERPIECE on PBS.

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## About Mammoth Screen

One of the UK's most established drama production companies, Mammoth have made over 330 hours of drama for British and international broadcasters with shows including five series of *Poldark*, three series of *Victoria* and nine series of *Endeavour*, all of which were big hits for PBS Masterpiece. Mammoth Screen is part of ITV Studios.

## About MASTERPIECE:

Winner of 83 Primetime Emmys® and 18 Peabody Awards, MASTERPIECE has been essential Sunday night viewing for millions of fans for over 50 years. Susanne Simpson is the executive producer. 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 *Wolf Hall*, and beloved classics such as *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Prime Suspect* and *Poldark*. For more information, please visit [pbs.org/masterpiece](http://pbs.org/masterpiece) and follow us on social media @masterpiecepbs.

## About PBS

[PBS](http://pbs.org), 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 42 million adults on linear primetime television, more than 15 million users on PBS-owned streaming platforms, and 56 million people view PBS content on social media, 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 LearningMedia](http://pbs.org/learningmedia) for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. As the number one educational media brand, [PBS KIDS](http://pbs.org/kids) helps children 2-8 build critical skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality content on TV – including a PBS KIDS channel – and streaming free on [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org) and the [PBS KIDS Video app](https://www.pbs.org/kids/video-app), games on the [PBS KIDS Games app](https://www.pbs.org/kids/games-app), and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [PBS.org](http://pbs.org), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/pbs),

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or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](#). Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](https://pbs.org/pressroom) or by following [PBS Communications on X](#) (formerly Twitter).

## About PBS Distribution

[PBS Distribution](#) is a leading distributor of public media content around the world, entertaining audiences across platforms and formats. The company, a joint venture of PBS and GBH Boston, provides premium content through multiple digital channels and video services. PBS Distribution operates six subscription streaming channels – PBS Masterpiece (US and CA), PBS KIDS, PBS Living, PBS Documentaries and PBS America (U.K.) as well as numerous Free Ad-supported Streaming TV (FAST) Channels in the U.S and U.K. In addition, the company reaches viewers through Transactional Video-on-Demand (TVOD), Subscription Video-on-Demand (SVOD) licensing, Advertising-based Video on Demand (AVOD), DVD and Blu-ray, theatrical releasing, educational platforms, non-theatrical and inflight sales, and serves broadcasters and producers providing program sales and co-production financing.

PBS distribution offers consumers and educators the highest quality factual, scripted, and children’s programming including films from Ken Burns, hit series from MASTERPIECE and foreign language dramas from Walter Presents, entertaining and educational PBS KIDS series, and award-winning documentaries from NOVA, FRONTLINE, AMERICAN MASTERS, NATURE, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, and many independent producers. For over 10 years, the company has extended the reach of programming beyond broadcast while generating revenue for the public television system, stations, and producers. Follow PBS Distribution on [Facebook](#).

## About ITV Studios

ITV Studios is a creator, producer and distributor of world-leading programmes that people can’t get enough of. We connect millions of people every day and shape and reflect the world they live in, we are More Than TV.

ITV Studios is home to some of the best creative minds, crafting over 6,900 hours of original programming across 60 production labels. Our global footprint spans 13 countries including the UK, US, Australia, France, Germany, The Nordics, Italy and the Netherlands and our global distribution business sells our catalogue of 90,000+ hours to broadcasters and platforms around the world.

ITV Studios is part of ITV PLC, which includes the UK’s largest commercial broadcaster.

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