





SHOWCASE AND W NETWORK ANNOUNCE THEIR WINTER LINEUPS OF NEW AND RETURNING SERIES

On Showcase, Star-Studded and Exclusive Peacock Titles Include New Event Series *Ted* from Seth MacFarlane and New Season of *Dr. Death* Starring Edgar Ramírez and Mandy Moore, Plus New Sky Series *Unwanted*

W Network Welcomes Limited Series Apples Never Fall, Starring Annette Bening and Sam Neill, Comedy Series Gold Diggers, Romantic Comedy Smothered, And New Season of Hallmark Channel's The Way Home

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Dr. Death, Ted, The Way Home, Smothered

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For Immediate Release

TORONTO, December 21, 2023 – Corus Entertainment's top 10 specialty networks*, **Showcase** and **W Network**, announced today their lineups of new and returning series coming this winter including the previously announced highly-anticipated event series *Ted* from **Seth MacFarlane**, limited drama series based on Liane Moriarty's #1 New York Times Bestselling novel *Apples Never Fall*, starring Annette Bening and Sam Neill, drama series *Unwanted*, comedy series *Gold Diggers*, and romantic comedy *Smothered*. In addition, viewers can look forward to returning fan favourites including *Dr. Death* starring **Edgar Ramírez** and **Mandy Moore**, which claimed the #3 program across all of specialty entertainment when it debuted in 2021**, and a new season of Hallmark Channel's critically acclaimed drama *The Way Home*.

SHOWCASE

Returning with a two-episode back-to-back premiere on **Sunday**, **January 7 at 9 p.m. ET**, a new season of <u>Dr. Death</u> based on the hit Wondery podcast, follows "Miracle Man" Paolo Macchiarini (**Edgar Ramírez**), a world-renowned thoracic surgeon infamously known for his innovative trachea transplants. When investigative journalist Benita Alexander (**Mandy Moore**) approaches him for a story, the line between personal and professional begins







to blur, changing her life forever. As she learns how far Paolo will go to protect his secrets, a group of doctors halfway across the world make shocking discoveries of their own that call everything about Paolo into question.

Exciting news for **STACKTV** subscribers! STACKTV subscribers can stream the first episode of **Dr. Death** early, ahead of the broadcast premiere, beginning **January 1**, exclusively on the streaming platform. Then, for another dose, catch **Dr. Death**: **Cutthroat Conman**, a 90-minute documentary following the **Dr. Death** Season 2 finale on **February 18 at 10 p.m. ET** on Showcase and STACKTV.

Everyone's favourite potty-mouthed teddy bear is back with the one-hour event series premiere of <u>Ted</u> on **Thursday, January 11 at 9 p.m. ET**. In this comedic prequel event series to the *Ted* films, it's 1993, and Ted the bear's (**Seth MacFarlane**) moment of fame has passed. He's now living back home in Framingham, Massachusetts with his best friend, 16-year-old John Bennett (**Max Burkholder**), along with John's parents, Matty and Susan (**Scott Grimes** and **Alanna Ubach**) and cousin Blaire (**Giorgia Whigham**). Ted may be a lousy influence on John, but at the end of the day, he's a loyal pal who's always willing to go out on a limb for friendship.

Debuting on Showcase this winter is powerful new Sky series *Unwanted*, premiering *Friday*, *January 12 at 9 p.m. ET* with two back-to-back episodes. Inspired by the award-winning book *Bilal*, *Unwanted* follows what happens when a cruise ship called Orizzonte, packed with western tourists, rescues a group of shipwrecked refugees from the sea. Their stories become intertwined with those of the crew and passengers, with it all taking a dramatic turn when some of the refugees, out of desperation, decide to hijack the ship upon finding out they are to be taken back to Libya. The series stars a multicultural ensemble cast including *Marco Bocci*, *Jessica Schwarz*, *Dada Fungula Bozela*, *Hassan Najib*, *Sylvester Groth*, *Denise Capezza*, and more.

W NETWORK

On New Year's Day, W Network strikes gold with two back-to-back episodes of the new comedy series <u>Gold Diggers</u> premiering **Monday, January 1 at 9 and 9:30 p.m. ET/PT**. Set in the 1850s, as thousands of men from around the world flock to the gold fields to hit the jackpot, *Gold Diggers* follows the adventures of sisters Gert (**Claire Lovering**) and Marigold (**Danielle Walker**) and their ambition to strike it rich by landing themselves newlyrich husbands. The series is produced by KOJO Studios and Stampede Ventures in partnership with CBS Studios and is distributed by Paramount Global Content Distribution.

Canadian Hearties rejoice! Hallmark Channel's <u>When Calls the Heart</u> returns for Season 8 on Sunday, January 7 at 8 p.m. ET/PT. In Season 8, more surprises and challenges are in store for the residents of Hope Valley. Elizabeth's (Erin Krakow) relationships with Nathan (Kevin McGarry) and Lucas (Chris McNally) continue to deepen, Faith (Andrea Brooks) and Carson (Paul Greene) must make choices about their future, a new family arrives to town, Lee (Kavan Smith) and Rosemary (Pascale Hutton) find their callings, Bill (Jack Wagner) is asked to return a prized possession and the whole town joins in the excitement as another wedding takes place.

A modern take on a classic romcom, <u>Smothered</u>, debuts **Monday**, **January 8 at 9:30 p.m. ET/PT**. Sammy (**Danielle Vitalis**) has just about given up on finding love, she's done with the apps, the monotony of modern dating and her bad boy ex. She's not interested in marriage or babies, she just wants to enjoy herself. All she wants is a little bit of romance. Then along comes Tom (**Jon Pointing**); he too is off dating, his priorities are elsewhere but he can't ignore there's a spark. So, when she suggests a no strings, no details, three-week affair, he goes along with it. But can they really just leave it there?

A top series on W Network last Spring***, Hallmark Channel's <u>The Way Home</u>, returns for more family drama, mystery and time travel when Season 2 premieres **Sunday**, **January 21 at 9 p.m. ET/PT** with **Andie MacDowell**, **Chyler Leigh**, **Evan Williams** and Canadian actress **Sadie Laflamme-Snow** reprising their roles from its inaugural season. Season 2 starts where the shocking Season 1 finale left off and put viewers on the edge of their seats - with Kat (Leigh) exclaiming to Del (MacDowell) that she knows what happened to Jacob. As Kat continues her quest to find Jacob and bring him home, mother and daughter uncover unexpected revelations about their origins that bring answers to some questions while new ones are raised. Viewers can stream Season 1 of *The Way Home* now on STACKTV in advance of the Season 2 premiere.







Coming this March, *Apples Never Fall* centres on the seemingly picture-perfect Delaney family. Former tennis coaches Stan (Sam Neill) and Joy (Annette Bening) have sold their successful tennis academy and are ready to start what should be the golden years of their lives. While they look forward to spending time with their four adult children (Alison Brie, Jake Lacy, Conor Merrigan-Turner, Essie Randles), everything changes when a wounded young woman knocks on Joy and Stan's door, bringing the excitement they've been missing. But when Joy suddenly disappears, her children are forced to re-examine their parents' so-called perfect marriage as their family's darkest secrets begin to surface.

<u>Showcase</u> and <u>W Network</u> can be streamed via <u>STACKTV</u>, available on Amazon Prime Video Channels, Bell Fibe TV app, FuboTV, Rogers Ignite TV and Ignite SmartStream. The network is also available through all major TV distributors, including Bell, Cogeco, Eastlink, Rogers, SaskTel, Shaw, Shaw Direct, Telus and Videotron.

*Source: Numeris PPM Data. FL'23 STD (Aug 28/23 – Nov 26/23) – confirmed data. Total Canada, Mo-Su 2a-2a. A25-54 AMA(000). CDN SPEC COM ENG.

**Source: Numeris PPM Data. FL'21 (Aug 30/21 – Jan 2/22) – confirmed data. Total Canada, Mo-Su 2a-2a, 3+ airings. CDN SPEC COM ENG stations excluding sports. A25-54 AMA(000).

***Source: Numeris PPM Data. SP'23 (Jan 2/23 – May 28/23) – confirmed data. Total Canada. Mo-Su 2a-2a. W Network, 3+ airings. A25-54 AMA(000).

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