

STUDIOCANAL to launch PADDINGTON animated TV series

Paris, October 9, 2017 – STUDIOCANAL, the leading European production and distribution studio, is announcing the development of a PADDINGTON animated series. Based on Michael Bond's Paddington Bear, the 52x11 minute series will be designed for broad audiences, with a particular focus on pre-school children. The series aims to launch end of 2018 or early 2019.

The announcement comes just a few weeks before the world-premiere of PADDINGTON 2, which will open in the UK on November 10 and in France on December 6. The movie, which sold worldwide, will open in the US in January.

Helmed by twice BAFTA nominated director Paul King, PADDINGTON 2 is produced by multi award-winning David Heyman.

Its all-star cast include Hugh Grant and Brendan Gleeson joining the cast of the first film: Hugh Bonneville, Sally Hawkins, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Peter Capaldi, Madeleine Harris, Samuel Joslin, as well as Ben Whishaw as the voice of Paddington and Imelda Staunton as Aunt Lucy.

Also directed by Paul King and produced by David Heyman, PADDINGTON 1 was the most successful non-studio family movie of all time, grossing nearly \$300M at the worldwide box office.

The animated series is part of Vivendi's overall strategy to further expand the Paddington franchise. Last month, STUDIOCANAL, Gameloft and Copyrights Group announced the launch of "Paddington Run," the official Paddington game on mobile. STUDIOCANAL and Gameloft are both part of global media and content company, Vivendi, which also owns Paddington Bear intellectual property rights (except classic publishing rights) via Copyrights Group.

Didier Lupfer, Chairman and CEO of STUDIOCANAL: "This is such an exciting project. Paddington is one of the best-loved children's character in the world, and we aim to make his already huge popularity even more renowned with the new series. We're thrilled to be continuing Paddington's adventures! »

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About STUDIOCANAL

STUDIOCANAL, a 100% affiliate of CANAL+ Group held by Vivendi, is Europe's leader in production, right acquisition, distribution and international sales of feature films and TV series. STUDIOCANAL operates directly in all three major European markets, France, the United Kingdom and Germany, as well as in Australia and New Zealand.

STUDIOCANAL owns one of the most important film libraries in the world, boasting more than 9,000 titles from 60 countries, including 6,000 feature films among which are the iconic *Terminator 2*, *Breathless*, *Mulholland Drive* and *Belle de jour*.

STUDIOCANAL has fully-financed recent box office hits like *Paddington*, *Shaun the Sheep* and *Non-Stop*. Upcoming films backed by STUDIOCANAL include *The Commuter* featuring Liam Neeson, the highly-anticipated *Paddington 2* by Paul King, and Aardman Studios' stop-motion movies *Early Man* by Nick Park and *Shaun the Sheep 2*.

STUDIOCANAL is actively developing and distributing high-end TV series through its network of award-winning European production companies, including Tandem Productions in Germany (*Crossing Lines*, *Spotless*), the UK's RED Production Company (*The Five*, *Happy Valley*), Scandinavia's SAM created by Soren Sveistrup and Adam Price (*Borgen*, *The Killing*), and Spain's BAMBÚ PRODUCCIONES (*Grand Hotel*, *Velvet*). STUDIOCANAL has also stakes in the UK's SunnyMarch TV, created by Benedict Cumberbatch, Urban Myth Films and Guilty Party.

About PADDINGTON

For almost 60 years, British-born writer Michael Bond has been delighting children and families all over the world with his stories about Paddington, the bear from Darkest Peru famous for his love of marmalade. Paddington is popular with both children and adults who feel affectionate and warm towards him and the charm and humour of the Paddington stories is the key to their enduring popularity.

Paddington's adventures have been adapted several times for television and at the end of 2014 Paddington made his debut onto the big screen. The movie, produced by STUDIOCANAL, part of the international content and media group Vivendi, is the best-selling non-Hollywood family movie ever released. A second Paddington movie, *Paddington 2*, is set to launch globally at the end of 2017.

In 2016, Vivendi took full ownership of the Paddington brand worldwide, with the exception of the classic publishing rights.

More on PADDINGTON 2: *PADDINGTON 2 finds Paddington happily settled with the Brown family in Windsor Gardens, where he has become a popular member of the community, spreading joy and marmalade wherever he goes. While searching for the perfect present for his beloved Aunt Lucy's hundredth birthday, Paddington spots a unique pop-up book in Mr. Gruber's antique shop, and embarks upon a series of odd jobs to buy it. But when the book is stolen, it's up to Paddington and the Browns to unmask the thief...*

Joining the returning cast, Hugh Grant plays Phoenix Buchanan, a vain, charming acting legend whose star has fallen somewhat in recent years. Brendan Gleeson appears as "Knuckles" McGinty, a notorious safecracker and legendary strong man. Initially resistant to Paddington's charms, he eventually becomes an unexpected new ally in the young bear's quest to catch a thief.