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Discovery Greenlights First Scripted Mini-Series, 'Klondike'



via press release:

DISCOVERY GREENLIGHTS FIRST SCRIPTED MINI-SERIES

-Scott Free Television Joins Forces with Independent Studio Entertainment One (eOne) to Produce Original Mini-Series Chronicling the Yukon **Gold Rush** Era-

(LOS ANGELES) – Discovery Channel announces today its order to production of the network's first-ever, scripted mini-series titled KLONDIKE (wt). The mini-series, based on Charlotte Gray's novel *Gold Diggers: Striking It Rich in the Klondike*, brings to life the tale about six strangers and their collective fight for survival and wealth in a small, frontier town in the remote Klondike. KLONDIKE is a co-production between Discovery, Entertainment One Television (eOne) and Nomadic Pictures in association with Scott Free Television. Paul Scheuring ("Prison Break," "A Man Apart") is the primary writer and will serve as Executive Producer, along with Ridley Scott and David W. Zucker; as well as John Morayniss and Michael Rosenberg for eOne; Mike Frislev and Chad Oakes will serve as co-producers for Nomadic. Josh Goldin & Rachel Abramowitz are also writing episodes as Consulting Producers. Eileen O'Neill and Dolores Gavin will serve as Executive Producers for Discovery.

"We've been developing scripted for some time, but wanted to find the perfect fit. When we read *Gold Diggers*, we knew we finally found it," said Eileen O'Neill, Group President of Discovery and TLC Networks, "Discovery created and owns the 'gold' narrative with several of our hit series and we're elated to partner with Scott Free Television and eOne Television on a subject we know so well as our first, scripted project."

"KLONDIKE was the last great **Gold Rush**; one which triggered a flood of prospectors ill-equipped, emotionally or otherwise, for the extreme and grueling conditions of the remote Yukon wilderness," said Ridley Scott, "The personal adventures are as epic as the landscape, where ambition, greed, sex

and murder, as well as their extraordinary efforts to literally strike it rich, are all chronicled by a young Jack London himself."

"eOne is delighted to be working with Discovery as they make their foray into scripted television as well as join forces for the first time ever with Scott Free and continue our relationship with Nomadic Pictures," said John Morayniss, CEO, eOne Television. "We're looking forward to sharing this innovative adaptation of a well-known era, and sharing this epic mini-series with audiences around the world."

KLONDIKE follows the lives of two childhood best friends, Bill and Epstein, in the late 1890s as they undertake the next, **Gold Rush** capital in the untamed Yukon Territory. This man-versus-nature tale places our heroes in a land full of undiscovered wealth, but ravaged by harsh conditions, unpredictable weather and desperate, dangerous characters including greedy businessmen, seductive courtesans and native tribes witnessing the destruction of their people and land by opportunistic entrepreneurs.

Production begins in March 2013 on location in Alberta, Canada. The series will be produced with assistance of the Government of Alberta, Alberta Film Development Program. International distribution will be handled by eOne Television.

About Discovery Channel

Discovery Channel is dedicated to creating the highest quality non-fiction content that informs and entertains its consumers about the world in all its wonder, diversity and amazement. The network, which is distributed to 100.1 million U.S. homes, can be seen in over 180 countries, offering a signature mix of compelling, high-end production values and vivid cinematography across genres including, science and technology, exploration, adventure, history and in-depth, behind-the-scenes glimpses at the people, places and organizations that shape and share our world. For more information, please visit www.discovery.com.

About Discovery Communications

Discovery Communications (Nasdaq: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK) is the world's #1 nonfiction media company reaching more than 1.7 billion cumulative subscribers in 209 countries and territories. Discovery is dedicated to satisfying curiosity through more than 147 worldwide television networks, led by Discovery Channel, TLC, Animal Planet, Science and Investigation Discovery, as well as US joint venture networks OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network, The Hub and 3net, the first 24-hour 3D network. Discovery also is a leading provider of educational products and services to schools and owns and operates a diversified portfolio of digital media services, including Revision3. For more information, please visit www.discoverycommunications.com.

About Scott Free Productions

Scott Free Productions was formed in 1995 and is the film and television production vehicle of acclaimed film directors: brothers Ridley and Tony Scott. Scott Free Television produces the Emmy® and Golden Globe®-nominated, Peabody-acclaimed drama, The **Good Wife** for CBS which is currently enjoying its fourth season, and the eight-hour adaptation of World Without End, Ken Follett's international best-seller featuring Cynthia Nixon, Ben Chaplin and Miranda Richardson on Reelz. Scott Free also produced the recent four-hour adaptation of Robin Cook's Coma for A&E, starring Lauren Ambrose, Geena Davis, James Woods, Richard Dreyfuss and Ellen Burstyn, the Emmy® and Golden Globe®-nominated mini-series The Pillars of The Earth for Starz, the hit CBS

show NUMB3RS, which ran for six seasons, the Emmy®-nominated mini-series The Andromeda Strain, starring Benjamin Bratt and Viola Davis, also for A&E, as well as the Golden Globe® nominated The Company for TNT featuring Michael Keaton and Alfred Molina.

Upcoming is the film event Reykjavik, set to shoot next year starring Michael Douglas as Ronald Reagan and Christoph Waltz as Mikhail Gorbachev, about the now famous meeting between the two leaders that signaled the end of the Cold War, and also an adaptation of Philip K. Dick's THE MAN IN THE HIGH **CASTLE**. New projects in television development include Girls With Guns, written by The **Good Wife** creators Robert and Michelle King, the 24 Hours at Le Mans drama, Drivers, from Michael Hirst (The Tudors), as well as new drama projects from Barbara Hall (Judging Amy) and Glenn Gordon Caron (**MEDIUM**).

In addition to scripted fare, Scott Free has firmly established its nonfiction presence by producing the epic Emmy®-winning documentary Gettysburg for History Channel and the upcoming documentary Killing Lincoln for National Geographic Channel.

Scott Free Films most recently released Ridley Scott's visionary epic Prometheus to worldwide acclaim, starring Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender and Charlize Theron as well as the international hits The **Grey**, Tony Scott's Unstoppable, and the YouTube backed sensation Life in a Day. Next for Scott Free is Stoker, the English language debut of Park Chan Wook (Old Boy) at Fox Searchlight, starring Nicole Kidman, Mia Wasikowska and Matthew Goode, The East by director Zal Batmanglij starring Brit Marling, Alexander Skarsgard, and Ellen Page also for Searchlight, Out of the Furnace at Relativity, written and directed by Scott Cooper (Crazy Heart) starring Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson, and Forest Whitaker, and The Counselor at Fox, which Ridley Scott is currently directing from Cormac McCarthy's script, starring Michael Fassbender, Cameron Diaz, Brad Pitt, Penelope Cruz and Javier Bardem.

Scott Free has offices in Los Angeles and London in conjunction with RSA Films, one of the world's largest and most successful commercial production houses.

About eOne Television

Entertainment One Ltd. (LSE:ETO) is a leading international entertainment company that specializes in the acquisition, production and distribution of film and television content. The company's comprehensive network extends around the globe including Canada, the US, the UK, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Benelux, France, Germany, Scandinavia, South Africa and South Korea. Through established Entertainment and Distribution divisions, the company provides extensive expertise in film distribution, television and music production, family programming and merchandising and licensing. Its current rights library is exploited across all media formats and includes more than 24,000 film and television titles, 2,700 hours of television programming and 45,000 music tracks <http://www.entertainmentonegroup.com>.

About Nomadic Pictures

Nomadic Pictures is a Calgary based production company developing, financing and producing features, MOW's and TV series. In 17 years, Nomadic has produced over 52 projects and remains one of the most active production companies in Canada. In 2004, Nomadic won three Daytime Emmy's® for "The Incredible Mrs. Richie" starring James Caan, Kevin Zegers and Gena Rowlands. In 2005 Nomadic co-produced AMC's first scripted Original mini-series, "Broken Trail" (Robert Duvall, Thomas Haden Church), which went on to win four Primetime Emmy® awards.