



BRITISH ACADEMY TELEVISION AWARDS

NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

***Strictly Embargoed until 0800hrs, Monday 6 April 2009**

British Academy Television Craft Awards celebrate 10th anniversary

Little Dorrit and Wallander lead with five nominations

Aardman receives Special Award

Charlie Brooker receives his second BAFTA nomination this year

Ross Kemp In Afghanistan receives two more BAFTA nominations.

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts has today announced the nominations for its tenth annual **British Academy Television Craft Awards** which will honour the unsung heroes behind the scenes of television and new media at The London Hilton, on Park Lane on Sunday 17 May 2009. The ceremony will be hosted by Alexander Armstrong.

This year's Awards see 43 different programmes and platforms competing for the coveted BAFTA mask. The skills recognised include Editing, Costume Design, Titles, Make-up, Hair and Production Design, Direction, Music, Writing, Photography, Sound and Online creativity. As a result, these unique Awards showcase a diverse range of programmes competing within each category.

Leading the pack with five nominations each are **Little Dorrit** and Kenneth Branagh's serialisation of Henning Mankell's detective novels, **Wallander**. Both compete in *Original Television Music*, *Production Design* and *Sound Fiction/Entertainment*. In addition **Little Dorrit** is nominated for *Costume Design* and *Make-Up & Hair*. **Wallander** receives further recognition in *Titles* and in *Photography and Lighting: Fiction & Entertainment* bringing yet more recognition for *Slumdog Millionaire*'s cinematographer **Anthony Dod Mantle**.

This year's *Special Award* is going to **Aardman Animations Ltd**. The multi-award-winning partnership between **Peter Lord** and **David Sproxtton** began at school but was formalised when they created the Bristol-based animation studio in 1976. Following initial success with the creation of *Morph* for *Take Hart*, subsequent successes have included the award-winning rock video *Sledgehammer* for Peter Gabriel, *Creature Comforts*, *A Grand Day Out*, *The Wrong Trousers*, *A Close Shave*, *Chicken Run*, *The Curse of the Were-Rabbit* and their most recent film, *A Matter of Loaf and Death* which pulled in more than half of the total viewing public on Christmas Day.

Following his nomination in the Television Awards, the writer, journalist, cartoonist and presenter **Charlie Brooker** is recognised in the *Break-Through Talent* category for his original zombie-based screenplay **Dead Set** which is also nominated in *Interactive Innovation*. **Brooker's** fellow *Break-Through* nominees are director **Alison Millar** for her revelatory documentary on the life and loves of Father Michael Cleary: **The Father, The Son and the Housekeeper**; recent NFTA graduate, producer/director **Daniel Vernon** for the idiosyncratic documentary **The Man Who Eats Badgers**; and **Tony Saint** for his screenplay **Margaret Thatcher: The Long Walk to Finchley** which receives four nominations and is also recognised in *Director Fiction*, *Editing Fiction/Entertainment* and *Make Up & Hair*. The other programme receiving four nominations is **House of Saddam**, for *Costume Design*, *Director Fiction*, *Photography & Lighting: Fiction/Entertainment* and *Make-Up & Hair*.

Peter Moffat's five-part roller-coaster ride through the British justice system **Criminal Justice** scores a hat trick alongside **Doctor Who**, the fly-on-the-wall documentary **The Family** and Peter Flannery's full-blooded four-part civil war drama **The Devil's Whore**.

Programmes receiving two BAFTA nominations this year include **A Boy Called Alex**, **The Shooting of Thomas Hurndall**, **Spooks**, **White Girl** and **Ross Kemp in Afghanistan** (which has also been nominated in the *Factual Series* category at the British Academy Television Awards).

In the *Writer* category, **Criminal Justice's Peter Moffat** goes head-to-head with **Russell T Davies** on **Doctor Who** (Midnight episode) and **Simon Block** for **The Shooting of Thomas Hurndall** which portrayed a family's fight to establish truth, justice and accountability from the Israeli army after the shooting of their photo-journalist son in Gaza in 2003. These three writers are joined for the first time by the comedy writing team of **Peep Show** - **Sam Bain**, **Jesse Armstrong** and **Simon Blackwell**.

The *Interactive Innovation – Service/Platform* category seeks to reward creative ingenuity in new media; the **Sky Player**, which offers programmes and movies from 32 channels to view live or on demand, competes with BBC Languages' Spanish language resource **Mi Vida Loca: Real Spanish, Real Drama** which enables viewers to learn Spanish by following and participating in its online interactive mystery series. Fellow nominees are the **BBC's Automated Programme Support** which captures and aggregates the valuable metadata connected to its entire archive of radio and TV providing a rich layer of additional public service content, and **Battlefront**, an innovative interactive project which inspires teenagers to get involved in campaigning about issues which are important to them.

This year, both the British Academy Television Craft Awards and the BAFTA CYMRU Film, Television and Interactive Awards are to take place on Sunday 17 May at the London Hilton and Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff respectively, in a joint celebration of excellence. With an abundance of talent nationwide the 17 May is a landmark date - being the 10th anniversary for the Television Craft Awards and the 18th anniversary for the BAFTA CYMRU Awards - a BAFTA night to reward the very best in craft and performance from 2008. Jointly, both Awards ceremonies will announce all their winners on the night.

See attached for full list of nominations.

About BAFTA:

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts supports, develops and promotes the art forms of the moving image by identifying and rewarding excellence, inspiring practitioners and benefiting the public. For further information visit www.bafta.org

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