



BRITISH ACADEMY
TELEVISION AWARDS

NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

June Brown receives her first BAFTA nomination

3 nominations for Hancock and Joan

2 nominations for Ross Kemp, Stephen Fry and David Mitchell

6th nomination for Branagh across both TV and Film

Jonathan Ross, Ant & Dec, Stephen Fry and Harry Hill battle it out for Entertainment Performance

First-time nominations for The Friday/Sunday Night Project, The Wire and Celebrity MasterChef,

The nominations were announced today for the British Academy Television Awards. Hosted by Graham Norton and broadcast on BBC One, the Awards will be held for the first time at the Royal Festival Hall on Sunday April 26, 2009.

June Brown who plays Dot Cotton in *EastEnders* receives her first-ever BAFTA nomination in the *Actress* category for her ground-breaking solo episode of the BBC soap, nearly half a century after making her TV debut in 1960 and twenty years since a 'soap' actress, Jean Alexander, last appeared in this category (for her portrayal of Hilda Ogden)¹. She faces previous BAFTA winner **Anna Maxwell Martin** for *Poppy Shakespeare*, and first time nominees **Andrea Riseborough** for *Margaret Thatcher: The Long Walk to Finchley* and **Maxine Peake** for *Hancock and Joan*.

For his portrayal of the eponymous Hancock, **Ken Stott**, last nominated almost a decade ago,² is recognised in the *Actor* category against first time nominees **Jason Isaacs** for *The Curse of Steptoe*, **Ben Whishaw** for *Criminal Justice* and **Stephen Dillane** for *The Shooting of Thomas Hurndall*.

Jonathan Ross, who was not nominated last year, returns with his fifth personal nomination in *Entertainment Performance* for *Friday Night With Jonathan Ross*, and is joined by last year's double winner **Harry Hill** for *Harry Hill's TV Burp*, **Anthony McPartlin** and **Declan Donnelly** for *I'm A Celebrity...Get Me Out Of Here!* and **Stephen Fry** who receives his fifth BAFTA nomination for *QI* and his seventh overall. Fry is also nominated in *Specialist Factual*** for **Stephen Fry & the Gutenberg Press: The Machine That Made Us**, up against **Blood and Guts: A History of Surgery**, **Lost Land of the Jaguar** and **Life In Cold Blood**.

In *Features*, Jeremy Clarkson goes head-to-head with Sir Alan Sugar as **Top Gear** faces **The Apprentice**. They are joined by **The Choir: Boys Don't Sing** (the sequel to previous BAFTA winner *The Choir*) and first time-nominee **Celebrity MasterChef**.

The Friday/Sunday Night Project also gets its first BAFTA nomination this year, in the *Entertainment Programme** category, facing last year's winner **Harry Hill's TV Burp**, **QI** and previous winner **X Factor**.

David Mitchell receives two individual nominations; one for *Peep Show*, garnering him recognition in the *Comedy Performance* category alongside **Rob Brydon** for *Gavin & Stacey*, **Sharon Horgan** for *Pulling* and first time nominee **Claire Skinner** for *Outnumbered*.

His second nomination comes for **That Mitchell and Webb Look** in the *Comedy Programme* category which goes up against last year's nominee **Star Stories** and newcomers **The Peter Serafinowicz Show**, and **Harry and Paul**. *Peep Show* also features in the *Situation Comedy* category, against previous nominee the **IT Crowd** and newcomers **Outnumbered** and **The Inbetweeners**.

EastEnders receives its tenth nomination in Continuing Drama since the creation of this category in 1998³, and is joined by **The Bill**, and previous winners **Casualty** and **Emmerdale**.

In the *International* category, the cult hit **The Wire**, receives BAFTA recognition and is joined by fellow debutants **Dexter**, **The Daily Show with Jon Stewart** and **Mad Men**.

Kenneth Branagh⁴ receives his first nomination as a producer and his sixth overall BAFTA nomination in film and television for **Wallander** in the *Drama Series* category. He faces a trio of previous winners in **Spooks**, **Shameless** and **Doctor Who**. Completing the drama categories, and with a hat trick of nominations following Actor and Actress nods, **Hancock and Joan** lines up against **Einstein and Eddington**, **The Shooting of Thomas Hurndall** and **White Girl** in *Single Drama*.

The Zombie genre spawns two nominees this year; one for Charlie Brooker's **Dead Set** in the *Drama Serial* category alongside **Criminal Justice**, **The Devil's Whore** and **House of Saddam**, whilst BBC3's **Bryony Makes A Zombie Movie** competes with BBC One's **Merlin**, BBC Sport's online treatment of the Beijing **Olympics** and Channel 4's **Embarrassing Bodies Online** in the *Interactivity* category.

In the Factual arena, previous BAFTA winner⁵ Ross Kemp has garnered two nominations; the first is in the *Factual Series* category for **Ross Kemp in Afghanistan**, up against **Amazon with Bruce Parry**, **Blood Sweat and T-Shirts** in which six fashion victims experience working in an Indian clothes factory and **The Family** which documents 21st century family life over an unbroken period of 100 days. His second is in the *Current Affairs* category for **Ross Kemp: A Kenya Special**, which competes with Panorama's **Omagh: What The Police Were Never Told** and two Dispatches films, **Saving Africa's Witch Children**, and **Mum Loves Drugs, Not Me**.

In *News Coverage*, for the first time, **Sky News** receives two nominations in this category, for its '**Canoe Man**' coverage of the disappearance and reappearance of John Darwin, who was thought to have drowned at sea in 2002 and its coverage of the **Mumbai terrorist attacks**. It faces competition from **Channel 4 News** and **ITV News At Ten**'s coverage of the **Chinese Earthquake**.

In *Single Documentary*^{***} the competition is fierce. The heart-lifting **A Boy Called Alex** follows the 16-year-old Etonian choral scholar Alex Stobbs and his determination to conduct Bach's *Magnificat* while suffering from cystic fibrosis. Its fellow nominees are Brian Wood's powerful documentary **Chosen** which presents the stories of sexual abuse by teachers in the 1960s at the Caldicott Prep School as re-lived by three former pupils, **Thriller In Manila** which explores the iconic, thrilling 14-round final clash between Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali in 1975, and the final nomination in this category, the moving feature-length documentary **The Fallen** which personally chronicles the 300 British troops who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan over the last eight years.

The *Sport* category sees Channel 4's **Cheltenham Gold Cup** compete with ITV's **Formula One Brazilian Grand Prix** (in its final year of broadcasting the competition), the BBC's **Olympics coverage**, and Rafael Nadal's historic victory over Roger Federer in **Wimbledon 2008 – The Men's Final**.

The nominations for this year's only publicly-voted *Philips Audience Award* for the Programme of the Year will be announced shortly.

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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.

Notes to editors:

For further information on how the channels have fared or for this year's nominees' previous nominations please refer to accompanying documents.

*The Entertainment Programme BAFTA is given in honour of Lew Grade

**Specialist Factual is given in honour of Huw Wheldon

*** Single Documentary is given in honour of Robert Flaherty

¹ Only previous soap performance nominated: Jean Alexander nominated for Coronation Street (1987)

² Ken Stott was nominated for *The Vice* (2000)

³ The first Soap category was introduced in 1998. Its title changed to Continuing drama in 2003.

⁴ Previous nominations and wins for Kenneth Branagh:

1987	Actor	Fortunes of War / The Lady's Not for Burning	TV Awards nomination
1989	Director	Henry V	Film Awards win
1989	Actor	Henry V	Film Awards nomination
2002	Actor	Conspiracy	TV Awards nomination
2002	Actor	Shackleton	TV Awards nomination

⁵ Ross Kemp *On Gangs* won Factual Series (2006)

For more information regarding this year's British Academy Television Awards visit www.bafta.org

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