



BRITISH ACADEMY TELEVISION AWARDS

JANE TRANTER TO RECEIVE THE SPECIAL AWARD

Thursday 23 April

On Sunday 26 April 2009, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts will present **Jane Tranter** with the Special Award at its annual Television Awards ceremony which will be broadcast on BBC One. The Special Award, a gift of the Academy, is presented to individuals or teams for an outstanding creative contribution to the industry and is given in honour of director, producer and writer Alan Clarke. Previous winners have included Paul Watson, Beryl Vertue, Paul Greengrass, Adam Curtis and Andy Harries.

Chair of the BAFTA television committee, John Willis said "Jane has been responsible for some of the most acclaimed and memorable dramas of the past ten years. She is one of the most gifted television executives of her generation".

Tranter's broadcast career began in 1985 as a secretary in the BBC Radio drama department and two years later, switched to television. Working her way up the ladder, she moved to Carlton Television as drama script editor where she oversaw popular ITV dramas *Bramwell* and *Frank Stubbs Promotes*.

Returning to the BBC in 1997 as Head of Drama Serials, she commissioned and oversaw an array of BBC-produced dramas including *Warriors*, *The Way We Live Now*, *Wives and Daughters*, *Babyfather* and *Crime & Punishment* which led to her promotion to Controller of Drama Commissioning where she was responsible for overseeing the whole of the Corporation's entire drama output across all its channels.

Tranter's time heading up the drama department saw her overseeing hit shows such as *Waking the Dead*, *Doctor Who*, *Spooks* and *Bleak House* whilst transforming popular dramas *Casualty* and *Holby City* into year-round dramas.

In 2006 she was promoted to the newly created Head of Fiction position at the BBC, which made her ultimately responsible for drama, comedy, films and acquired programmes from overseas. During this period, highlights included *Tess Of The D'Urbevilles*, *Gavin And Stacey*, *Life On Mars*, *Summer Heights High*, *Survivors*, *Heroes*, *The No.1 Ladies Detective Agency*, *A Short Stay In Switzerland* and costume dramas, *Little Dorrit* and *Cranford*.

In 2008, Tranter made a pivotal move to Los Angeles, joining the BBC's commercial arm BBC Worldwide, as Executive Vice-President of programming and production, overseeing its US scripted and reality business from Los Angeles.

The British Academy Television Awards will be broadcast on BBC1 at 8pm this Sunday 26 April 2009.

For further information, please contact:

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