



## STUDIOCANAL TO BRING 20 HOURS OF PREMIUM DRAMA CONTENT TO THE U.S. ON HULU

London, [x] November – STUDIOCANAL, Europe’s leader in production, rights acquisition, distribution and international sales of TV series and feature films, has announced its first licensing deal with Hulu. The new agreement will grant Hulu exclusive U.S. SVOD rights to 20 hours of premium drama content.

The deal includes three drama series, including SAM Productions’ thriller ***Below the Surface***, a gripping eight-part crime drama following the chain of events that unfolds when 15 people are taken hostage on a subway train beneath Copenhagen. Starring Johannes Lassen, Sara Hjort Ditlevsen and Paprika Steen, and based on an idea by Adam Price (*Borgen*) and Søren Svestrup (*The Killing*), ***Below the Surface*** is written and created by Kasper Barfoed (*Dicte, Those Who Kill*).

Landmark eight-part Swedish-French drama ***Midnight Sun***, a CANAL+/SVT/Filmpool Nord coproduction from Atlantique Productions and Nice Drama, will also stream in the US on Hulu. Starring Leïla Bekhti and Gustaf Hammarsten, and created by Mårlind & Stein (*Bron/Broen*), the critically-acclaimed, ratings-winning ***Midnight Sun*** is a high concept thriller set in a small mining community in remote northern Sweden where a series of brutal murders conceal a secret conspiracy.

The four-part character-led drama ***Trust Me***, from the UK’s RED Production Company for BBC One will also debut in the US on Hulu through the deal. Set in Edinburgh and written by Dan Sefton (*Mr Selfridge, The Five*), ***Trust Me*** stars Jodie Whittaker (*Doctor Who, Broadchurch*) as a hardworking nurse forced to take drastic measures when she loses her job.

Beatriz Campos, Head of International Sales at STUDIOCANAL commented, “We’re extremely pleased to partner with Hulu in our first deal together. With the expanding popularity of foreign languages series in this key market, we are thrilled to close such a substantial package of premium dramas with an exciting blend of European languages which will be showcased exclusively to US audiences for the first time. Renowned for delivering the best in international drama, Hulu is the perfect home for these contemporary series, which all deliver acclaimed creative talent both on and off screen, intriguing globally-relevant storylines and compelling characters.”

Francoise Guyonnet, Executive Managing Director TV Series STUDIOCANAL, added, “This agreement affirms our strategy of building a strong and diverse drama portfolio through our growing production partnerships. Our commitment to the creation of international, high-end content means we are able to offer our clients prestige series which have wide appeal for viewers around the world across multiple platforms.”

## **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.

Operating directly in all three major European markets, France, the United Kingdom and Germany, as well as in Australia and New Zealand, 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 owns one of the most important film libraries in the world, boasting more than 9000 original titles from 60 countries.

STUDIOCANAL is actively developing and distributing high-end TV series through its network of award-winning subsidiary production companies including TANDEM Productions in Germany (*Crossing Lines*, *Spotless*) and the UK's RED Production Company (*The Five*, *Happy Valley*).

STUDIOCANAL offers a full studio service including co-production strategy, business affairs, finance and worldwide sales to support its production companies across the global market.

STUDIOCANAL is also partnered with SAM Productions (*Below The Surface*, *Rides Upon The Storm*), a Danish company founded by Søren Svestrup (*The Killing*), Adam Price (*Borgen*), and Meta Louise Foldager (*A Royal Affair*). The UK based GUILTY PARTY PICTURES, an associate partner of STUDIOCANAL, is run by the producer Spencer Millman, (*Harry Hill's TV Burp*), and the actors and writers Simon Bird (*The Inbetweeners*) and Jonny Sweet (*Chickens*). FINAL TWIST is an independent production company launched by the international bestselling author Harlan Coben in partnership with RED's Nicola Shindler.

Most recently, STUDIOCANAL announced investments in Benedict Cumberbatch's UK production company, SUNNYMARCH TV (*The Child in Time*), the Madrid-based BAMBÚ PRODUCCIONES (*Grand Hotel*, *Velvet*), and the UK's URBAN MYTH FILMS (*Crazyhead*), founded by Johnny Capps and Julian Murphy (*Merlin*) and Howard Overman (*Misfits*).