



DAYBREAK PICTURES™

MASTERPIECE™

**ROMOLA GARAI, MATTHEW MACFADYEN,
BILL PATERSON, DAISY LEWIS, TARA FITZGERALD,
JAMES WILBY AND RACHAEL STIRLING JOIN
MICHAEL GAMBON AND LINDSAY DUNCAN IN
ITV/MASTERPIECE DRAMA CHURCHILL'S SECRET**

ITV today announced further stellar casting to join Michael Gambon and Lindsay Duncan in the feature length film, *Churchill's Secret* being produced by Daybreak Productions.

Romola Garai (*The Hour*) takes the part of nurse Millie Appleyard and Churchill's adult children are played by Matthew Macfadyen (*Any Human Heart*, *MI-5*) as Randolph Churchill, Daisy Lewis (*Downton Abbey*) as Mary Churchill, Rachael Stirling (*The Bletchley Circle*) as Sarah Churchill and Tara Fitzgerald (*Game of Thrones*) as Diana Churchill.

Set during the summer months of 1953 Churchill—now Prime Minister for the second time and in his late 70's—suffers a life-threatening stroke, which is kept secret from the world.

Told from the viewpoint of his young Nurse, Millie Appleyard, the drama follows his battle to recover as his long suffering wife Clemmie, desperately hopes the stroke will force Winston to retire while his political friends and foes scheme to plot who will succeed him.

Meanwhile his adult children descend on Chartwell, unsure if he will pull through, as tensions within his family begin to surface.

Further cast includes Bill Paterson (*Outlander*, *Little Dorrit*) as Lord Moran, James Wilby as Lord Bracken (*Endeavour*), Alex Jennings as Anthony Eden (*Foyle's War*, *Silk*), Patrick Kennedy (*Downton Abbey*, *Boardwalk Empire*) as Jock Colville, Christian McKay (*Rush*, *Borgia*) as Christopher Soames, Chris Larkin (*Agatha Christie's Miss Marple*) as Rab Butler and John Standing (*Borgia*, *Game of Thrones*) as Lord Camrose.

Daybreak Pictures, part of the Tinopolis Group, will produce the drama with Executive Producers Hal Vogel and David Aukin overseeing production. *Churchill's Secret* will be co-produced with MASTERPIECE, where Rebecca Eaton is Executive Producer. It will air in the US on PBS in 2016. MASTERPIECE is presented on PBS by WGBH Boston.

Based on Jonathan Smith's recently published book, *The Churchill Secret: KBO*, the drama will be adapted by Stewart Harcourt (*Love & Marriage, Treasure Island, Poirot*).

The 120' film will be directed by Charles Sturridge (*Da Vinci's Demons, The Scapegoat, The Road to Coronation Street*) with Timothy Bricknell (*From There to Here, The Fear, Eric & Ernie*) producing.

Passion Distribution who are part of the Tinopolis Group will handle international sales of *Churchill's Secret*.

Filming begins this month (June 2015) in London, Hayes and at Churchill's principal family home, Chartwell in Kent.

ITV's director of Drama Steve November and Controller of Drama Victoria Fea have commissioned the drama.

Churchill's Secret is a Daybreak Pictures/MASTERPIECE Co-production for ITV.

About Daybreak Pictures

Multi-award winning Daybreak Pictures was founded by Executive Producers David Aukin and Hal Vogel who have forged a reputation for creating high profile and critically acclaimed feature films and television series including multi-award winning series *The Promise* and critically acclaimed features *Endgame* and *Hyde Park on Hudson*.

About MASTERPIECE

The top-rated primetime show on PBS, MASTERPIECE is presented on PBS by WGBH Boston. Rebecca Eaton is Executive Producer. Funding for the series is provided by Viking River Cruises and Ralph Lauren Corporation with additional support from public television viewers and contributors to The MASTERPIECE Trust, created to help ensure the series' future. Visit our website at www.pbs.org/masterpiece.

About PBS

PBS, with its over 350 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and online content. Each month, PBS reaches nearly 103 million people through television and over 33 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS' broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. PBS' premier children's TV programming and its website, pbskids.org, are parents' and teachers' most trusted partners in inspiring and nurturing curiosity and love of learning in children. More information about PBS is available at www.pbs.org, one of the leading dot-org websites on the Internet, or by following PBS on Twitter, Facebook or through our apps for mobile devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at pbs.org/pressroom or by following PBS PressRoom on Twitter.

About WGBH

WGBH Boston is America's preeminent public broadcaster and the largest producer of PBS content for TV and the Web, including MASTERPIECE, ANTIQUES ROADSHOW, FRONTLINE, NOVA, AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, ARTHUR, CURIOUS GEORGE, and more than a dozen other prime-time, lifestyle, and children's series. WGBH also is a leader in educational multimedia, including PBS LearningMedia, and a pioneer in technologies and services that make media accessible to the 36 million Americans who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or visually impaired. WGBH has been recognized with hundreds of honors: Emmys, Peabodys, duPont-Columbia Awards...even two Oscars. Find more information at www.wgbh.org.

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