

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES



### **Anya Taylor-Joy**

Petronella in *The Miniaturist*

Described by *Collider* as “one of the most interesting and commanding actresses of a generation,” Anya Taylor-Joy recently won the Gotham Award for Breakthrough Actor as well as the Chopard trophy for Female Revelation at the Cannes Film Festival. She was nominated for the Rising Star Award at the BAFTA Awards for her breakthrough role in A24’s *The Witch*, directed by Robert Eggers. In January 2019 she will reprise her role of Casey Cooke in *Glass*, following on from M. Night Shyamalan’s box office and breakout hit *Split*. In this third and final installment in Shyamalan’s *Unbreakable* series, Anya will star with Samuel L. Jackson, Bruce Willis, James McAvoy and Sarah Paulson. In August 2019, she will take on the lead role of teen sorceress Magik in 20th Century Fox’s *X-MEN: The New Mutants*. She has also completed filming *Radioactive*, the biopic of two-time Nobel prize-winner Marie Curie, from Oscar®-nominated Marjane Satrapi. Rosamund Pike leads as Curie with Anya starring alongside as her daughter Irene. Most recently Anya starred in the psychological thriller *Thoroughbreds* and was singled out by *Collider*, who praised that “the camera loves Taylor-Joy and whatever ‘that thing’ is that makes a star, she’s got it in spades.” Other credits include the titular character in *Morgan* and a role in Netflix’s *Barry*, which premiered to rave reviews at the Toronto International Film Festival with Anya singled out as a “true find” (*Variety*).



### **Jessie Burton**

Author, *The Miniaturist*

Jessie Burton was born in south London in 1982 and studied at Oxford University and The Central School of Speech and Drama. She has appeared in several productions at the National, Bristol Old Vic, Salisbury Playhouse and the Donmar, among others. Rights to *The Miniaturist*, her first novel, have sold in territories around the world. It was published by Picador in the U.K. in summer 2014 and entered the *Sunday Times* (London) bestseller list in its first week of sales. It was also named Waterstones Book of the Year, and to date has sold over 1 million copies worldwide. Her second novel, *The Muse*, was published in summer 2016 and spent 10 weeks straight on the *Sunday Times* best-seller list, peaking at number one.



### Daisy Goodwin

Creator, Writer and Executive Producer of *Victoria*, Season 3

There's no question that Daisy Goodwin knows how to tell a good story. Her best-selling first novel, *The American Heiress* (*My Last Duchess* in the U.K.), was praised as "archly entertaining" by Janet Maslin in *The New York Times*. And *The Fortune Hunter*, her second novel, also a chart-topper, was called "gorgeous...the perfect storm of escapism, suspense, romance, and superb historical research" by *The Times of*

*London*. Goodwin's background includes a history degree from Cambridge University, a Harkness Fellowship at Columbia University Film School, a decade at the BBC making arts documentaries, and stewardship of her own TV production company, Silver River, which she sold to Sony in 2012. Along the way, she has compiled nine poetry anthologies, including *101 Poems that Could Save your Life*. In 2014 Goodwin decided to concentrate on writing full-time and promptly got a commission to write her first screenplay, *Victoria*.



### Susanne Simpson

Deputy Executive Producer of MASTERPIECE

As Deputy Executive Producer, Simpson is part of the team that makes all programming decisions, and supervises the promotion and marketing for all shows on the MASTERPIECE schedule. She was responsible for all U.S. activities related to *Downton Abbey*, including award campaigns which garnered 69 Emmy® nominations and 15 wins, three Golden Globes®, and four SAG Awards. *Downton Abbey* had the most viewers of any drama in PBS history. She is also the executive producer of MASTERPIECE Studio, a podcast with more than 9 million downloads since 2016. Simpson initiated the MASTERPIECE Trust, with which donors give directly to the series and

receive on-screen credit. Simpson is a two-time Academy Award® nominee and two-time Emmy® winner for her documentary and dramatic films for public television and theater. Prior to MASTERPIECE, she was a Senior Producer for the science series NOVA, responsible for the content development, financing, and production of new programming, and was the executive producer of IMAX productions such as the award-winning *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Simpson is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, and the Writers Guild.

### About MASTERPIECE

Winner of 86 Primetime Emmys® and 16 Peabody Awards, MASTERPIECE has been essential Sunday night viewing for millions of fans since 1971. Rebecca Eaton is the executive producer of the series. Funding for MASTERPIECE is provided by Viking and Farmers Insurance® with additional support from public television viewers and contributors to The MASTERPIECE Trust. Presented on PBS by WGBH Boston, MASTERPIECE is known for recent hits such as *Sherlock*, *Downton Abbey* and *Victoria*, and beloved classics such as *Upstairs Downstairs*, *Prime Suspect*, *The Forsyte Saga* and *Poldark*.

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