

MASTERPIECE

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Jenna Coleman

Queen Victoria in *Victoria*, Season 2



Jenna Coleman is establishing herself as one of the brightest young actors of her generation. She is currently filming the second season of the hit drama *Victoria*, in the title role that earned her a prestigious Best Actress award at the Monte Carlo Film Festival. Prior to *Victoria*, Coleman was well-known to television audiences as Clara in *Doctor Who*, starring in the series as well as two Christmas specials and the 50th anniversary special “The Day of the Doctor,” which won the 2014 Audience Award at the BAFTA Television Awards. Earlier, Coleman starred alongside Matthew Goode and Matthew Rhys in the BBC/MASTERPIECE drama *Death Comes to Pemberley*, and also opposite Chiwetel Ejiofor in the BBC Two drama *Dancing on the Edge*. In 2016, she appeared in Thea Sharrock’s feature film *Me Before You*, based on the Jojo Moyes novel of the same name, alongside Sam Claflin, Emilia

Clarke and Charles Dance. In 2012, Coleman was seen in the BBC Four adaptation of John Braine’s novel about a young man in 1940s Yorkshire, *Room at the Top*, and as ‘Annie Desmond’ in the epic four-part ITV series *Titanic*, written by Julian Fellowes and released to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Titanic. She also appeared in the box office smash *Captain America: The First Avenger*, and on stage was most recently seen on stage at The National Theatre in the role of ‘Sarah Kate’ in *The Actor*.

Tom Hughes

Prince Albert in *Victoria*, Season 2



Starring as Prince Albert in *Victoria*, Tom Hughes tackles perhaps the trickiest royal role in British history: the minor German prince who against all expectations took the hand of the young queen and persevered to win over her skeptical subjects. MASTERPIECE viewers previously saw Hughes in two contrasting roles: the naively rebellious but charming legal assistant in the courtroom drama *Silk*, scripted by Peter Moffat; and the devious son of a scheming MI5 official in David Hare’s spellbinding *Page Eight*. A 2008 graduate of RADA, Hughes has lived up to his billing as one of Screen International’s “Stars of Tomorrow” with a number of films slated for release, including *The Incident* and a starring role in the upcoming sci-fi thriller *Realive*, about the first resuscitated

cryonized person in history (so far fictional). In 2013, he took a role in the Richard Curtis film *About Time*, supporting Rachel McAdams, Bill Nighy, and Domhnall Gleeson, while a 2010 role in the feature film *Cemetery Junction* won him a BIFA Award nomination for Most Promising Newcomer. That same year he appeared with Andy Serkis in the BAFTA Award-winning Ian Dury biopic, *Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll*. On television, Hughes starred in the espionage thriller series, *The Game*; in a new adaptation of the Hitchcock classic *The Lady Vanishes*; and in Stephen Poliakoff’s award-winning series *Dancing on the Edge*, alongside Chiwetel Ejiofor, Matthew Goode, and John Goodman.

Daisy Goodwin

Creator, Writer, and Executive Producer of *Victoria*, Season 2



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 UK), 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*.

Rebecca Eaton

Executive Producer, MASTERPIECE



Rebecca Eaton took the helm of the PBS series MASTERPIECE THEATRE and MYSTERY! in 1985, and oversaw a highly successful relaunch of MASTERPIECE that has attracted a new generation of viewers. She brought American audiences Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall*, the recent hits *Victoria*, *Sherlock*, *Poldark*, and *Downton Abbey* — the most-watched drama in PBS history — as well as such high-profile titles as *Grantchester*, *Prime Suspect*, *Wallander*, *Cranford*, *Little Dorrit*, and *The Complete Jane Austen*. Under her leadership, MASTERPIECE has won 62 Primetime Emmy Awards®, 16 Peabody Awards, six Golden Globes®, and two Academy Award® nominations. In 2011, Eaton was named one of *TIME*'s 100 most influential people. Her distinguished career has earned her the official recognition of Queen Elizabeth II—with an honorary OBE (Officer, Order of the British Empire). A graduate of Vassar College, Eaton began her career at the

BBC World Service, then moved on to PBS station WGBH Boston, where she produced programs ranging from business to sports to dance to drama before becoming executive producer of MASTERPIECE. Eaton's memoir, *MAKING MASTERPIECE: 25 Years Behind the Scenes at Masterpiece Theatre and Mystery! on PBS*, was published by Viking in 2013.

The top-rated primetime show on PBS, MASTERPIECE celebrated its 45th anniversary in 2016.

MASTERPIECE is presented on PBS by WGBH Boston. Rebecca Eaton is executive producer. Funding for the series is provided by Viking River Cruises and Farmers Insurance® with additional support from public television viewers and contributors to The MASTERPIECE Trust.

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