

Press release

3rd March 2020

**LAGARDÈRE STUDIOS DISTRIBUTION ANNOUNCES
WORLD PREMIERE OF ACTION SERIES *COMMANDOS*
DURING SERIES MANIA 2020**

***COMMANDOS* selected to screen for Panorama International**



Lagardère Studios Distribution is delighted to announce that the highly anticipated drama series ***Commandos*** has been selected to screen during the upcoming **SERIES MANIA 2020**, playing in **Panorama International**.

Lagardère Studios Distribution, worldwide sales agent (outside of the Netherlands and Flemish Belgium) for ***Commandos***, will shine a spotlight on the series as it marks its **Global Premiere** on Friday 27th March at 6.30pm during the festival which takes places 20 – 28th March in Lille, France.

Produced by NL Film in collaboration with AVROTROS, ***Commandos*** (10 x 45') is a tense thriller/action series. When a Dutch Special Forces team led by Commander John de Koning was secretly sent to Northern Nigeria to rescue an important hostage kidnapped by Boko Haram, the covert mission turned into a nightmare. As well as the terrorists, many civilians including a group of young girls were killed, and the liberated man turned out to be a monster and a paedophile.

Now 3 years on, John is charged with protecting the very same man who is now a Nigerian Minister and important politician visiting the Netherlands as a guest of honour! Wanting assurances that his reputation will not be tainted by what happened back then, he knows someone has been talking, but when his best friend and colleague is shot dead, he soon realizes that he and the former members of his platoon are in great danger.

“Already from the very start of creating our AVROTROS drama series *Commandos* in 2015, Lagardère Studios Distribution has not only been the first, but also the most loyal and reliable international co-production partner on our series. We kept on working closely together during all stages of development and production. I am really proud we can present this series finally now at Series Mania,” said Mylene Verdurmen, Head of drama, AVROTROS.

“We are very proud and honoured that International Panorama Series Mania has selected our series *Commandos* for its premiere and competition. *Commandos* is one of the most epic and challenging rides we have ever had. We feel we have made something really special and are happy this selection acknowledges that,” commented Kaja Wolffers, Producer/Creative Director, NL Film.

“This exciting new thriller definitely raises the bar when it comes to suspense and has all the KEY ingredients to make for a ratings-winner. The fact that *Commandos* has been selected to debut at Series Mania pays testimony to its high-calibre. This series is engaging on all levels and we are confident our buyers and audiences will not be disappointed,” said Emmanuelle Bouilhaguet, Managing Director, Lagardère Studios Distribution.

Produced by NL Film in collaboration with AVROTROS. Directed by Iván López Núñez and Hanro Smitsman, **Commandos** stars Werner Kolf, Teun Kuilboer, Charlotte Timmers, Charlie Chan Dagelet, Egbert Jan Weeber, Chiem Vreeken, Bilal Wahib, Kay Greidanus, and Patrick Bokaba.

The series is filmed on location in South Africa, Belgium and The Netherlands.

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About Lagardère Studios Distribution :

Headquartered in Paris, *Lagardère Studios Distribution*, which is spearheaded by Emmanuelle Bouilhaguet, is the global distribution arm for leading French production powerhouse Lagardère Studios Group. One of Europe's largest TV programming distributors, *Lagardère Studios Distribution* plays host to a robust catalogue of over 10,000 hours of programming covering a broad range of genres such as fiction, animation, documentaries and feature films. Over the years, the company has also established strong strategic partnerships with both French and global producers and continues to diversify its offerings of premium programming.

About Lagardère Studios:

Lagardère Studios is a key player in the creation, production, distribution and management of audiovisual content, in Europe and Africa.

Its 27 companies and labels produce and distribute the best in audiovisual creative content:

- For French productions: 909 Productions, Ango Productions, Atlantique Productions, Cameron's, DEMD Prod, Electron Libre Productions, GMT, IdFictions, Imagissime, Maximal Productions, Merlin Productions, Réservoir Prod, Save Ferris Studios, Resolution, Telmondis.

- For international productions: Boomerang TV and Veranda in Spain, Aito Media Group in Finland, Skyhigh TV in Netherlands and Keewu in Africa.

- For distribution: Lagardère Studios Distribution, Les Editions Musicales François 1er, Telmondis Distribution.

Our hit series and programs include:

In France: *Caïn, Clem, Joséphine Ange Gardien, Philharmonia, Nos Chers Voisins, Tandem, Borgia, C dans l'air, Ça commence aujourd'hui, C'est mon choix, Retour à l'instinct primaire, Constructions sauvages, Recherche appartement ou maison, Le concert de Paris, Maison à vendre, Meurtres à Tahiti, Hierro, Il a déjà tes yeux, The Eddy...*

In Spain: *Acacias 38, El Secreto Del Puente Viejo, La Voz, La otra Mirada, La Templanza, Inès of my soul, Top Chef, ...*

In Finland: *Pirjo, The night patrol, Letter to my baby, The Redneck Auction, Haapasalo and Friends, ...*

- In Netherlands: *Teen mom: celebrity support, Full house, House rules, With open arms, Meet the van Rossems, Worst Driver, The nation's best sand sculptor...*

- In Africa: *C'est la vie, Shuga, Sakho et Mangane...*