Leonardo

KM

Alan Yentob presents a new, definitive drama-documentary series on one of the greatest figures and most imaginative minds in human history – Leonardo da Vinci (played by Mark Rylance).

BBC One takes an in-depth look at the artist and his legacy. From painter to inventor, designer to architect, his genius masked the troubled mind of a man who was, throughout his life, an outsider. Using dramatic reconstruction and computer-generated images, Leonardo walks in the steps of the artist in his own time and world - Renaissance Italy. Leonardo recreates key events in da Vinci's life, from his imprisonment as a youth, to his gruesome anatomy work and infamous feuds with the Pope and Michelangelo.

Part one traces da Vinci from his illegitimate birth, through his early work as a painter, to his famous fresco The Last Supper, accompanying him on his two-year quest to find the face of Judas. Part two begins with his collaborative work with two of history's darkest figures - Machiavelli and Cesare Borgia; looks at his astonishing engineering work and inventions; and comes, finally, to his death.

Through the use of modern science, Leonardo reveals the secrets behind da Vinci's paintings and drawings, and provides insight into his synthesis of observation, science and art.

Da Vinci's reputation as a remarkable inventor has long been a point of intense fascination. His design and vision were years ahead of their time. Using his original designs, teams work to reconstruct his inventions – some for the very first time – before putting them to the test.

In 2003, 500 years since da Vinci began work on his now legendary masterpiece, the final part of Leonardo examines why the Mona Lisa has become the most famous picture in the world. Yentob explores not only da Vinci's techniques, the mystery of the woman's identity and her enigmatic smile, but also the secrets that da Vinci left behind in the painting itself.

The inaugural exhibition at the new Queen’s Gallery at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh will present some of Leonardo da Vinci's most distinctive and revealing works. The Royal Collection holds the world's greatest group of Leonardo drawings, unrivalled in terms of its size and breadth of subject matter. The selection of 75 outstanding examples for Leonardo da Vinci – The Divine And The Grotesque focuses on a central theme in the artist's life - the pursuit of beauty and its opposite.
Walking With Cavemen

The last six million years in Earth's history have created a unique creature. A cocktail of extraordinary traits has combined to produce an animal that has come to dominate the world. This is the story of where these traits came from and how they were brought together to create human beings. Presented by Professor Robert Winston, this unique series combines science with the drama of individual lives. This is the tale of every man, woman and child on the planet today.

Walking With Cavemen brings viewers face to face with their ancient relatives and, through their lives, tells the incredible story of human evolution. Compelling dramas reveal the individual experiences of the creatures from man's pre-history; action sequences show their fight for survival in the hostile world they inhabited. State-of-the-art special-effects techniques bring to life scientifically accurate recreations of these ancestors in a way never before seen.

The story begins in Africa, where apes first left the forests and walked on two feet. Descended from these, our oldest ancestors, came a number of hominids living alongside each other in conflict and harmony until, two million years later, the remarkable Homo Erectus emerged to dominate the African world. With a brain 50 per cent bigger than any of its predecessors, it isn't surprising that it was the first ape-man to leave Africa. Fifty thousand years ago, the first modern humans entered Europe. The Neanderthals, man's human cousins, existed there for 250,000 years while modern humans were evolving in Africa. For another 25,000 years we lived alongside them, until they became extinct and, for the first time, we were the only humans on the planet.

Produced by the team who created The Human Body for BBC One, Walking With Cavemen uses startling special effects to enrich both the drama and the science of the series. Computer-generated imagery reconstructs the animals which our ancestors hunted, and were hunted by. The series also illustrates the incredible scenes of climate change, geological uplift and environmental turmoil spanning millions of years.
Domestic violence features in a season of programmes across the BBC, looking at both mental and physical abuse in relationships. The season includes documentaries, drama, radio programming and BBCi coverage, highlighting a problem which can affect any member of a family and can have wide-ranging impact on all ages and genders. With many victims not daring to speak out, and many perpetrators either not acknowledging their behaviour or not knowing where to go for help, Hitting Home helps to break the taboos and myths surrounding domestic violence. The season of programmes has been developed with guidance from the relevant agencies, and offers support and advice through audience lines and an extensive website.

A prime-time BBC One documentary; a drama specially written for CBBC; Radio 1, Radio 2 and Radio 4 programming; a factual programme for BBC Three; BBC One daytime features; and story-lines in popular dramas all tackle the theme of physical and emotional abuse within the family.

The season includes a documentary, also entitled Hitting Home, which follows families and individuals on their journeys as they struggle with domestic violence. It features Stephanie, who was beaten by her husband for many years. She has now left him and is, step by step, starting to rebuild her life with her teenage children. Make-up is new to her, as she was never allowed to wear it when she was in a violent and controlling relationship, and her teeth are false because her husband smashed in her face. Also in the film is Drew, who is on probation for hitting his wife; Steven, who is on the run from his boyfriend; and Emma, who is taking steps to work out why she hit her husband. As their stories unfold, they look at their behaviour, the issues of mental and physical abuse, and power and control in relationships.

There is celebrity testimony and comment on domestic violence from David Soul, Clarissa Dickson Wright, Wendy Webster Turner and Elaine C Smith.

The BBC One hospital drama Casualty presents a gripping two-part story in which paramedic Comfort (Martina Laird) finds herself drawn into a domestic violence case. Lara (Christine Stephen-Daly) attempts to warn Comfort against becoming too involved, and colleagues highlight the various agencies that are available to victims of domestic violence. Comfort, though, is reluctant to listen to Lara’s advice as she becomes increasingly frustrated by the family’s unwillingness to admit the truth of their situation. This is compounded when she is called back to the family home and discovers a distressing level of violence.

Researched with medical professionals and organisations such as Women’s Aid, the episodes explore the complexity of the issues surrounding domestic violence and the difficulties that Emergency Department staff face when dealing with such cases.

Martina Laird says: “Hospitals are frequent witnesses to the outcomes of domestic violence. Hitting Home will tell us all that physical abuse of any kind just isn’t acceptable.”
Mandela – The Man Behind The Myth

SW

This is the story of one of the great icons of modern times – Nelson Mandela. *Mandela – The Man Behind The Myth* traces his life, as seen through his own eyes and through the recollections of both famous and ordinary people who have played a part in it – from the jailer who spied on him in prison, to the president he ousted after his release.

Over six months, the film-makers have had unprecedented access to Mandela at home and abroad – on a fund-raising trip to Indonesia, at lunch with The Queen and spotting hippos on an African lake with his friend Bill Clinton.

In a series of exclusive interviews with David Dimbleby, Mandela talks about his early years as a country boy in the Transkei and the day he ran away from home to avoid an arranged marriage; about boxing, dancing and girls; and about the decision to use violence to try to bring down the white government of South Africa – the decision that was to put him in jail as a terrorist for 27 years.

On Robben Island, he looks back at the good and bad times, including the way in which prison changed him from being “arrogant”. Elsewhere, he talks candidly about his former wife, Winnie; about the knife-edge negotiations that took him to the Presidency; and about the problems he faced in office tackling the scourge of Aids.

During the recent Earth Resources Summit in Johannesburg world leaders queued to meet him and to be photographed at his side. He can have 10 different engagements in a day and make 50 telephone calls and shows no sign of stopping. His lifelong friend and family doctor believes: “If you stopped him, he might just lie down and pass on.”

Diet Trials

ED A

*Diet Trials*, in the biggest study of its kind, tests the effectiveness of four of the best-known weight-loss programmes in the UK. Obesity is an increasing problem in the Western world: more than half of British adults are overweight, and over half of them in danger of becoming obese. The health risks, including heart disease, diabetes and increased risk of cancer or a stroke, are well documented. However, those looking to lose weight are often overwhelmed by the barrage of conflicting advice and eating plans available.

During this six-month study, 300 people from across Britain test the diets and viewers discover which is the most successful.

The series is presented by Eamonn Holmes, who is on hand throughout the study, meeting the dieters and offering support and encouragement. Leading nutritionist Lyndel Costain is the on-screen expert explaining the actions and reactions of the dieters.

The series follows the volunteers throughout *Diet Trials*, from the moment they’re given their diets, to shopping for their first meal, and attending diet group sessions and weigh-ins. Cameras also follow some of the volunteers in their ordinary lives as they battle with their willpower and struggle to stick to the edicts of their diets. A “cheat cam” is in operation to record the moments when the dieters give in to temptation.

The study is being conducted by the University of Surrey in collaboration with four other academic centres. *Diet Trials* monitors how much weight and body fat the volunteers lose and follows changes in their fitness, health and sense of well-being over the dieting period. At the end of the six months, the results are collated and viewers discover which diet works for which person and who has lost the most weight.
Factual

The King, The Kaiser and The Tsar

JMc

The King, The Kaiser And The Tsar, accompanying Stephen Poliakoff’s forthcoming BBC One drama The Lost Prince, examines why the Monarchy in Britain survived at a time when some of the oldest royal families in the world found themselves swept away by the War and subsequent social unrest and revolution.

With unique access to George V and Queen Mary’s correspondence in the Royal archives, the programme looks at an arranged marriage that grew into a love story. It also examines how a desire to protect the Monarchy at all costs drove the King to change the family name to Windsor and, when revolution broke out in Russia, deny his cousin, the Tsar, and his family asylum in England, a decision that cost the Russians their lives.

Rail Cops

FW /DP

Policing 10,000 miles of track and dealing with 3,000 stations and five million passengers a day is the job of the British Transport Police. BTP officers are in the front line in the fall-out from Britain’s failing railways and London’s infamously unreliable Tube system.

The series focuses on four characters as they go about their daily duties. Sgt Mark Cleland, based in Wales, deals with children trespassing on tracks, injured seagulls and Royal trains; PC Bob Gee confronts illegal immigrants as they ride into Kent; and PCs Clare Saunders and Paul Roe battle with the reality of one of London’s busiest stations: King’s Cross. Haunting all of them every day is the knowledge that, at any minute, they may be called to a body on the tracks.

Twins – The Identity Test

RI

In a first for British television, Twins – The Identity Test puts 100 sets of twins from across the UK through a series of entertaining and scientifically fascinating tests, and whittles them down to find the most identical, identical twins in Britain.

Using the skills and experience of leading twin experts from the UK and the USA, who act as advisors and judges, the documentary follows their progress from initial, simple physical comparisons through to more elaborate mental, intellectual and personality tests.

Finally, there’s a full-scale masquerade in which the twins switch identities, pretending to be their sibling and fooling neighbours, work colleagues, friends and even family – providing fascinating results for the scientists and viewers alike.
Growing Pains
RI

Imagine being 7ft 3ins tall, 35 years old and still growing over an inch every year; growing that causes unimaginable physical pain. There is a whole range of syndromes that affects one in 1,000 people, causing their bodies to grow out of control. None of them can be cured.

Compelling personal testimonies, combined with revealing footage of the people suffering these growing pains, throw out the misconceptions and expose what life is really like for some of Britain's tallest men and women. Growing Pains gives an insight into the bizarre, and sometimes tragic, world of some of Britain's tallest people. The programme steps beyond the realms of the circus-show to discover the human reality of this misunderstood condition.

Car Wars
KR/JA

The Car Wars are on again, this time in the world capital of car crime – London. BBC cameras have been following élite squads of undercover cops as they try to stem the flow of vehicle crime, which accounts for 25 per cent of all reported offences.

This is the third run of the acclaimed, fly-on-the-wall police car crime series, which has seen previous outings in the West Country and Glasgow.

Natalie Cassidy Goes Wild In The Jungle (working title)
ER

EastEnders' Natalie Cassidy bids a temporary farewell to Albert Square and heads to the extraordinary rainforests on the east coast of Australia to embark on the challenge of a lifetime.

In Australia, the effects of human encroachment are severe and the constant struggle between man and nature has resulted in de-forestation, which is having a devastating effect on the country's unique wildlife. As she works alongside dedicated experts, Natalie's mission is to help protect some of the animals that are under threat, and her contribution is vital in securing a future for them.
Collateral Damage

KR/JA

“Friendly fire” is a military spectre that casts a shadow over wartime operations; one in five British soldiers killed since the Second World War was a victim of Allied mistakes. Behind the statistics are the casualties, in war zones and at home, who are left to pick up the pieces of their shattered lives.

Collateral Damage presents examples from the Falklands, the Gulf and Afghanistan to illustrate the devastating consequences of “friendly fire”. It examines the issue from the perspective of both the bereaved families searching for answers, and the guilt-ridden soldiers responsible for the deaths of their colleagues.

Ground Force Goes On

BJ-O

Although Alan Titchmarsh may have hung up his hoe and moved to pastures new, the intrepid Ground Force team continues, in time-honoured tradition, to create stunning gardens against impossible odds.

Kirsty King is the new recruit and, alongside firm favourites Tommy Walsh, Charlie Dimmock and Willy Shanahan, faces six new challenges. With more problem patches to transform, the new team has its work cut out, bearing in mind the weather prospects of the good old British summer.

As usual, the fearless foursome has just 48 hours to transform pathetic plots into gardens of Eden. May the Ground Force be with them!

EarthRide

GMc

Viewers are urged to hold on tight for a roller-coaster ride with a difference. EarthRide follows a single rain drop on its amazing journey from space to the deepest ocean, from butterfly to blue whale, as nature’s great cycles move water continuously around the planet.

Combining state-of-the-art graphic and computer images with superb wildlife film, EarthRide travels through time, space and life itself to experience, first-hand and fast, the huge richness of life on Earth. On this armchair ride, viewers race from one part of the world to another. Please remain seated – we’re about to depart.
Anatomy Of A Crime

AB

This landmark documentary series reveals the inner workings of the criminal justice system, following five different crimes from the 999 call, right through to the court verdict.

Over more than three years, with unprecedented access to police, forensic scientists and the Crown Prosecution Service, programme-makers have followed five major crimes in South Yorkshire and Hampshire.

The series includes a brutal rape of a 14-year-old girl, a lads' night out that ends in death and a cold case solved by advances in DNA technology 21 years after the body of a teenager was discovered on a canal bank.

Returning series

Antiques Roadshow
AB

Crimewatch
KR/JA

DIY SOS
ER

Extreme Lives
JW

Holiday
KR/JA

Panorama
TE

Rogue Traders
ER

Songs Of Praise
CR

Tomorrow's World
JMc

UK's Worst
ER

Watchdog
ER