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DRAMA
WINTER/SPRING 2007
Leanne (Christine Tremarco) is taking her two young children to visit her grandfather (Edward Woodward). She stops to buy flowers at a motorway lay-by but then inexplicably vanishes, leaving her two children waiting for her in the car, lost and far from home.

They set off to find her – only to go missing themselves. Their ordeal is captured on CCTV camera and, before long, the family’s heart-stopping trauma is not only a complex police investigation but also a major news story.

The action unfolds on days one, three, 28, 33 and 79 of the investigation. As each episode unravels, it becomes clear that nobody is quite what they seem – not Leanne’s grieving husband, Matthew (David Oyelowo), who finds himself under suspicion; not the laconic detective, Barclay (Hugh Bonneville), or his cynical sergeant, Foster (Janet McTeer); not Leanne’s parents, Barbara (Penelope Wilton) and John (Patrick Malahide); and not Sarah (Sarah Smart), a stranger who is drawn into both the investigation and the family.

FIVE DAYS IS A GRIPPING, MULTI-STRANDED THRILLER FROM GWYNETH HUGHES, WHICH TRACKS FIVE 24-HOUR PERIODS FOLLOWING THE ABDUCTION OF AN APPEALING AND PHOTOGENIC YOUNG MOTHER.
It is 2007 and there’s a new Dr Jekyll, with an old problem: Mr Hyde. They have a deal – a body share – and an impossible life is somehow lived. What Hyde doesn’t know is that Jekyll is married. There’s a wife and two children, and he’ll do anything to protect them from his dark side.

With all the resources of modern technology and the best surveillance hardware, Jekyll is determined to keep his dark side in line. He has done a deal with his own devil – but what neither of them knows is that an ancient organisation with limitless wealth and power is monitoring their every move, and a plan over a century in the making is coming to fruition. The return of Dr Jekyll is no accident.

Jekyll also stars Gina Bellman, Michelle Ryan, Denis Lawson, Mark Gatiss and Meera Syal.
In Rough Diamond, a man who thinks he has nothing finds a son in need of a father and a horse who just needs a chance. But all three must learn to trust each other if they’re to achieve their dreams.

The drama charts the rivalry between a struggling young trainer, Aidan (Conor Mullen), and his millionaire neighbours, Charlie Carrick (Stanley Townsend) and his wife Yolanda (Lorraine Pilkington), who run the successful Firebrand yard.

Aidan owns a stable but no horses. He and his late father had intended to set up a business together, having previously worked for Carrick. But Aidan blames himself for his father’s death and, as a result, has hardly noticed or cared that he is now almost bankrupt.

Carrick wants to expand his yard but Aidan’s land lies in the way, so he makes his neighbour a handsome offer – all Aidan has to do is sign. But Aidan’s life is suddenly turned upside-down by two arrivals: a son he never knew he had and a crazy colt he never knew he wanted. For the first time, Aidan has a chance of a future – but will he be brave enough to take the reins?
Tough, sexy, funny and heartbreaking, Lilies, by acclaimed screenwriter Heidi Thomas (I Capture The Castle, Madam Bovary) details the lives of Iris, May and Ruby Moss, – Catholic sisters coming of age in a dockland terraced house in Liverpool. Familial love sustains them, and their fortunes are bound to those of their brother and their father.

Set in the years immediately following the First World War, Lilies pulls no punches in its storytelling. It depicts a sensual, vivid and sometimes savage universe, where life is lived on a knife-edge of poverty, fuelled by various kinds of love. All three girls must make their own way in the world and, in the course of the series, each of the sisters tastes passion for the first time and their lives, newly launched, are changed for ever.

The cast includes acclaimed actor Brian McCardie, Catherine Tyldesley, Kerrie Hayes, Leanne Rowe, Daniel Rigby, Scott Williams, Ian McKee and Georgia Taylor.

LILIES
A CLASS APART

Jessie Wallace returns to BBC One for the first time since playing Kat Slater in EastEnders to star in A Class Apart, together with Nathaniel Parker (Inspector Lynley) and George Cole (Minder). The one-off film is written by the Bafta-nominated Tony Grounds (When I’m 64, Births, Marriages And Deaths).

Wallace plays single mum Candy, who is trying to keep her 11-year-old son, Kyle, on the straight and narrow with help from her grandad, George (George Cole), who isn’t the best role model himself. When Kyle is offered a place at the local failing school, Candy is having none of it. She knows only too well the grass is greener at nearby Park View and doesn’t see why her boy can’t go there. Feeling frustrated and disenfranchised, Candy decides to mount a one-woman protest, chaining herself to the Park View gates until her only son is granted a place.

However, fate intervenes. The conceited Headmaster (Nathaniel Parker) of a nearby, prestigious, private school asks Candy on the local news. He asks to his deputy, Charles, that if Kyle attended Haltham, he’d turn him from ‘chav’-rude-boy to respectable public school boy. Charles doesn’t believe he can do it and they make a bet.

The Headmaster’s first task is to find a way to get Kyle into the school. Can he win his bet and get one over on his scheming deputy, and how will Candy and Kyle cope with the culture shock as two worlds collide?
WAKING THE DEAD
Tara Fitzgerald joins the cast of the Emmy Award-winning drama series Waking The Dead, which returns to investigate more dark, gripping tales of murder and mystery. Trevor Eve stars as Boyd, head of the Met’s Cold Case Unit, using advanced techniques in forensic science and behavioural investigative analysis to get under the skin of some tough cold cases, often taking risks to discover the truth and bring the perpetrators to justice.

In the new series, Boyd and his team – Grace (Sue Johnston), Spencer (Wil Johnson) and Stella (Félicité du Jeu) – expose a series of coincidences, involving secret societies, torture and interrogation; and the team digs deep to unearth the secrets buried for over 60 years in the home of a London family.

Guest stars include: Polly Walker, Alex Jennings, Peter Capaldi, James Fox and Jemma Redgrave.

THE CHASE
The Chase veterinary practice opens its doors for a second series of secrets, surgery and seduction.

Having left the Williams family reeling from the revelations about Tom (Nick Gleaves) and Fiona (Heather Peace), there are many questions left unanswered. What happened between Anna (Gaynor Faye) and Tom behind that closed door? Will Sarah (Nicola Stephenson) finally settle down? And did Claudia (Michelle Holmes) actually get carted off to the police station to face up to her fraud charges?

Make another appointment to view, as episode one promises a shock event that will create a stampede of drama for the rest of the series...

DOCTOR WHO
David Tennant returns to his role as The Doctor and meets his brand new companion in the highly anticipated third series of Russell T Davies’s Doctor Who.

The new series sees newcomer Freema Agyeman’s first appearance as the Doctor’s new companion, medical student Martha Jones.

Russell T Davies, writer and executive producer, comments: “We were delighted and honoured by the second series’ success, and we can promise new thrills, new laughs and some terrifying new aliens. The Doctor and Martha are destined to meet William Shakespeare, blood-sucking alien Plasmavores, The Judoon – a clan of galactic stormtroopers – and a sinister intelligence at work in Thirties New York.”

Returning cast members include John Barrowman and guest stars include Anne Reid, Roy Marsden and Don Gilet.

RECOVERY
Alan and Tricia Hamilton (David Tennant and Sarah Parish) are very happy. He’s the head of a building firm and on top of his game, while she’s a part-time beautician and mother to their two sons.

But one day their perfect, if unremarkable, life is torn apart when a last-minute decision to pop out for a quick drink with a colleague sees Alan step out in front of a passing car.

The accident leaves him in a deep coma but with remarkably few physical injuries. Tricia is desperately worried about him but delighted when he comes round – only to discover that the man she loved has disappeared. Alan’s behaviour has changed; he has lost all of his inhibitions and he veers from angry and frustrated to vulnerable and childlike. Simple tasks such as making toast and getting dressed are beyond him, he is unable to hold down the job he loves, and he plays and laughs with his sons as if he’s a child.

Alan’s behaviour puts his relationship with Tricia under intolerable stress. She longs to find the husband she loves in there somewhere – but fears she may have lost him for ever.

Recovery is a one-off drama written by Tony Marchant and partly inspired by research he undertook with the charity Headway.

THE STREET
The Street, Jimmy McGovern’s award-winning, emotionally powerful hit drama series, returns to BBC One with more stories of friendship, family, love and betrayal in the heart of a community. A new series begins filming in Manchester during spring 2007 for transmission later in the year.

WATERLOO ROAD
Waterloo Road is back for a second term and, once again, bureaucracy, staff shortages, bullying and truancy are all high on the agenda.

The school is launching its first sixth form and private investor Roger Aspinall (Nick Sidi) has promised money, in return for a seat on the governing body.

Jack Rimmer’s (Jason Merrells) role as head teacher is under threat as they plan for a City Academy.

Kim Campbell (Angela Griffin) is still fighting her feelings for Andrew Treneman (Jamie Glover), while Izzy (Jill Halfpenny) and Tom (Jason Done) are shocked to see that Lorna (Camilla Power) has returned – they thought she had left. New student Brett Aspinall (Tom Payne) is breaking hearts on his first day and Mika (Lauren Drummond) takes an immediate shine to him.

Steph Haydock (Denise Welch) spots the attraction and resolves to keep Jack to herself.
LIFE ON MARS
Sam Tyler (John Simm) is back and determined to find out just why he is still in the Seventies – solving crimes with Gene Hunt (Philip Glenister), Annie Cartwright (Liz White), Ray Carling (Dean Andrews) and Chris Skelton (Marshall Lancaster) – how he got there and how he can get back to 2007.
During this second and final series, Sam comes face to face with a couple of ghosts from his “future past”: sleazy casino owner Tony Crane (Marc Warren) and his own mentor, Chief Inspector Glenn Fletcher (Ray Emmett Brown) – although he is just a fresh-faced new recruit in 1973. Among the storylines, a spate of bombings gives Gene an excuse to harass some of the local Irish community, and the “invite-only” parties of a middle-class suburban couple lead the boys to indulge in some interesting “undercover” work.

POLIAKOFF 2006
In this major new film for BBC One, multi-award-winning writer/director Stephen Poliakoff explores the relationship between two central characters: Elliot, a reclusive billionaire, and Joe, the teenage son of a cleaner who takes care of a grand, but dormant, neighbouring house.

The house is owned, although not inhabited, by Elliot, who lives close by. Elliot has inherited the house and its mysteries from his late father.
Part messenger, part protégé, Joe is a link between Elliot and the outside world, as their story and the stories of the visitors to the empty house ricochet and reverberate.

In a contemporary film about loneliness and loss, the sins of the father are finally revealed in an emotionally devastating climax.

Capturing Mary, a companion film for BBC Two, takes Joe and new characters into a terrifying exploration of the past and how it can capture and destroy a person’s life.

The two films are linked by an exquisite house frozen in time and a young, highly individual man, Joe, through whose eyes viewers see the world.

Acting legends Michael Gambon and Dame Maggie Smith lead a stellar cast including Rupert Penry Jones (Spooks), Kelly Reilly (Mrs Henderson Presents), David Walliams (Little Britain), Ruth Wilson (Jane Eyre), Rebecca Hall (Starter For Ten) and Danny Lee Wynter in his first role since graduating from The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art this summer.
3LBS

Stanley Tucci (The Devil Wears Prada) and Mark Feuerstein (The West Wing) star in this drama about a team of top New York City neurosurgeons who explore the brain – the core of intelligence, the centre of emotion and spirit and the last great medical frontier.

Doug Hanson (Tucci) is a brilliant neurosurgeon with a sharp wit, who compares the workings of the brain to wires in a box. His thoughtful, highly skilled protégé, Dr Jonathan Seger (Feuerstein), honours the mysteries of the mind. While Hanson prefers to focus on the intricacies inside peoples' craniums instead of the people themselves, Seger uses his charm, instinct and intuition to balance the emotional and psychological needs of his patients.

3lbs also stars Indira Varma (Rome) and Armando Riesco (Garden State) and features Cynthia Nixon (Sex And The City).

HOTEL BABYLON

Tamzin Outhwaite, Max Beesley, Dexter Fletcher, Emma Pierson and Natalie Mendoza return for a new series of Hotel Babylon, a tantalising and seductive insight into the sexy world of the five-star hotel industry, where money not only talks but can buy just about anything you desire!

Inspired by Imogen Edwards-Jones’s searing exposé of life behind the scenes of London’s luxury hotel industry, Hotel Babylon takes viewers on a journey beyond the glamour and façade of the smiling faces and glittering chandeliers and into the frenetic, non-stop world of the staff.

Guests at the newly refurbished Hotel Babylon include a host of well-known faces such as Cherie Lunghi, Russ Abbot, Ronni Ancona, Chris Moyles, Chantelle Houghton, Kacey Ainsworth, David Walliams, Jerry Hall, Danny Dyer, Alexander Armstrong, Mark Heap, John Sessions, Kelly Brook, Julian Clary and Jennifer Ellison.

TRUE DARE KISS

Award-winning writer Debbie Horsfield returns to BBC One with a pitch-black comedy charting the ups and downs of a dysfunctional family trying to cope with the suspicious death of their estranged dad.

When prodigal daughter Phil returns for the funeral to the siblings she abandoned a generation ago, she finds the carpets and curtains of her childhood home unchanged, but her family virtually unrecognisable.

There’s Nita, who’s so busy being a model wife, boss and parent that she fails on all three counts; Beth, whose extreme behaviour isn’t restricted to Saturday afternoons on the terraces of her beloved Manchester United; and Dennis, her agoraphobic brother who’s saving up for a boob job. Not to mention Alice, who was still a child when Phil left – and is still a child 20 years on. And then there’s her ex-lover, Nash, who’s keen to pick up where he and Phil left off – despite the fact that he’s now married to Nita.

In her reluctant attempts to put her sisters and brother back on track, Phil unearths a swirling conspiracy of mysteries and lies, including patricide, IVF and hooliganism. But that’s nothing to the sinister secret that’s lurking within the family home...
PANORAMA

Panorama returns to the heart of the BBC One schedule in January after six years of keeping its loyal audience up late on Sunday nights.

Jeremy Vine is the new face of the award-winning current affairs programme as it goes back to its roots by having a main presenter. Jeremy says: “Panorama is one of the BBC’s most important brands and the programme is going like a train at the moment. It has the best team of reporters and producers in British TV journalism and I can’t wait to start working with them.”

Panorama will continue with its inquiring journalism and timely investigations – tackling issues that resonate with its mid-evening audience.

THE ONE SHOW

Weekday evenings are about to be transformed as The One Show returns to BBC One for a full year following a successful debut last summer.

Presenters Adrian Chiles and Nadia Sawalha introduce items from across the UK including topical features, consumer stories and current affairs investigations.

Viewers can look forward to contributions from the very best production teams around the nations and regions and Adrian, Nadia and the team could be coming to your neighbourhood as The One Show hits the road and meets its public.
CASTAWAY

Seven years on, Castaway returns with a new shape and new twists, but the same underlying intentions: take a group of Brits as far away from their current lives as possible – physically, psychologically and emotionally – to explore what’s really important to them and discover how they shape their community.

In the last series, there was one set of castaways; this time, the group will evolve throughout the three months of the project which is broadcast live. One viewer will be able to join the experiment during the run in a remote location in New Zealand.

The series launches on BBC One and weekly update programmes on the channel will climax in the live result of a group decision that will have a crucial effect on the castaways.

This is a cross-channel/cross-platform project, so will feature programmes on BBC One and BBC Three as well as interactive features.
HOW WE BUILT BRITAIN

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF BBC ONE’S PICTURE OF BRITAIN LAST YEAR, DAVID DIMBLEBY RETURNS TO AUTHOR AND PRESENT HOW WE BUILT BRITAIN – THE DRAMATIC AND HEROIC STORY OF THE NATION’S ARCHITECTURE.

The series explores the extraordinary buildings that define Britain and grew out of the experiences and beliefs of the British people. From magnificent cathedrals to the pavilions of a Glasgow tenement, from the splendours of the most palatial stately home to the urban terraced house and from the invention of Britain’s industrial cities to the romance of the thatched cottage – not forgetting the railways, bridges, canals and airports along the way – David tells the story of How We Built Britain.

Travelling through the country, the presenter explores each region of Britain in turn, revealing fascinating stories about their inhabitants and social history and a keen personal engagement with the places he encounters.
EXPEDITION BORNEO

EXPEDITION BORNEO takes a trip into the unknown as a team of six intrepid explorers are dropped into one of the most remote places on earth to study and help protect its fragile eco-system.

Borneo has been described as the “lungs of the planet” and is one of the last named wildernesses in the world. During their journey through this extraordinary landscape, the team navigate steep mountains, map rivers and abseil into caves the size of football stadia, as they meet the animals unique to this habitat, including gibbons, orang-utans, forest elephants, monitor lizards, hornbills and numerous snakes.

The six presenters are: Gordon Buchanan, an experienced BBC Natural History Unit cameraman; camerawoman and tree climber Justine Evans; climber and biologist Steve Backshall; Tara Shine, an environmental and development consultant; Dr George McGavin, Curator of Entomology at the University Museum in Oxford; and frog expert Professor Tyrone Hayes from the University of Berkeley, California.
In this science-based thriller – from the team behind Supervolcano – a group of scientists is asked to do just that. What happens if they succeed? Where do you divert hurricanes to? Who decides who lives and who dies?

For the scientists, it becomes apparent that what was once a research project is turning into something entirely different when they are asked to put their ideas into practice and divert a hurricane from the prosperous state of Florida.

Events take a sinister twist when an unidentified US agency hacks into the team’s computer and creates a disaster of unprecedented scale – a superstorm heading for New York. Can the team do anything to stop the monster they’ve unwittingly helped to create? Superstorm’s Anglo-American cast includes Nicola Stephenson and Tom Sizemore.

Superstorm is accompanied by a documentary series on BBC Two. The Science Of Superstorm explores the cutting-edge scientific research that informs the drama and features experts who monitor the behaviour of extreme weather around the world.

SUPERSTORM
IT’S ONE OF MAN’S GREATEST ENDEAVOURS: TO CONTROL THE WEATHER. BUT WHAT IF FANTASY BECAME REALITY? WHAT WOULD IT MEAN FOR THE HUMAN RACE? WHO WOULD HAVE CONTROL OF THIS IMMENSE POWER?

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YOUR WEDDING IN OUR HANDS

Decisions about confetti, corsages, cake and veil become a thing of the past in Your Wedding In Our Hands. Each week, a couple hands over all the plans for their wedding to their nearest and dearest – only discovering the results, including the choice of wedding dress, when they see them on the big day itself.

Relatives from both sides of the family are flung together, for better or worse, as they work against the clock, and the budget, to make the wedding day as special as possible. On hand to guide them on the road to wedding heaven is a team of experts led by Nick Knowles, top stylist Hannah Sandling and wedding expert James Love.

Viewers will watch with bated breath to see whether the family and friends achieve “happy ever after” and give the couple the wedding of their wildest dreams – or whether they simply vow never to work with each other again.

MISSION AFRICA

Fifteen apprentices are challenged to develop an African game reserve from scratch in the middle of a Kenyan desert in Mission Africa.

Presented by Nick Knowles and Ken Hames (Beyond Boundaries), the novice builders, architects and carpenters travel to the wild frontier lands of northern Kenya, where they work alongside local craftsmen to help bring life back to this former war zone.

As Nick helps the apprentices build eco-lodges, dig wells and create solar systems, former SAS Major Ken Hames teaches them to become rangers. As well as struggling to complete their mammoth construction project, the volunteers also have to learn to live with the region’s wildlife.

Amongst their many duties, the apprentices have to capture a herd of giraffes, stock rhino, dart lions and collar bull elephants – and they have just six weeks to put everything in place so that sustainable tourism can get under way.

THE APPRENTICE

The tasks are tougher, the candidates hungrier and the boss even fiercer. The Apprentice is back and a new group of aspiring tycoons face the toughest job interview ever.

Airing on BBC One for the first time, the apprentices try their luck at securing the job of a lifetime with no-nonsense boss and self-made millionaire Sir Alan Sugar. All have bravely quit their jobs to face the biggest challenge of their lives – a 12-week job interview with the self-confessed “most belligerent person you’ll ever come across”.

This new series promises tougher tasks and some of the most explosive boardroom confrontations seen yet. As always, each week, an apprentice is singled out for the sack with Sir Alan’s terminal catchphrase: “You’re fired”.

The Apprentice – You’re Fired! also makes a welcome return immediately after the main show, although this time it’s on BBC Two. Adrian Chiles is back once again to interrogate the “fired” candidate and get to the bottom of what they really think of their fellow candidates and, of course, the man himself, Sir Alan Sugar.

STREET DOCTOR

This new series takes GPs out of their surgeries and onto the streets of Britain. There’s no appointment necessary and no waiting room as four doctors visit a different town or city each week.

The Street Doctors diagnose, inform and treat members of the public wherever they are – be it on the street, in shopping centres, at their office or on the bus home.

These unique, open-air surgeries offer instant reassurance and treatment to patients with a wide variety of common complaints. The series also follows more serious conditions in depth and helps unsuspecting members of the public who may have been previously unaware that they have a health problem to gain follow-up care and treatment.
THE GREAT BRITISH VILLAGE SHOW

The village show is a national institution and members of the British public take huge pride in growing their own vegetables, decorating sumptuous cakes and creating handicrafts. For many people, being a champion of their local village show is the highlight of their year – but in this new series, entrants now have the chance to be “Britain’s No. 1.”

Presenters Alan Titchmarsh, James Martin and Angellica Bell visit six regional heats in some of the most beautiful stately homes of Great Britain. Each show consists of 15 categories, from tallest sunflower to longest carrot, and the winner from each class goes through to the grand final. Well-known guests also chat with Alan about their life in a rural area.

The stories of the contributors as they plant their seeds, bake their cakes and make their miniature gardens show just how competitive the village show can be.

PLAY IT AGAIN

Diane Abbott MP and Lord Robert Winston are among six celebrities who are taken out of their comfort zones as they experience the highs and lows of learning to play a musical instrument.

All are virtuosos in their respective fields but this series sees the tables turned as they become the novices and undergo musical tuition. Play It Again reveals much more than the celebrities’ dedication and musical aptitude, it also delves into why they now want to explore the world of music and performance.

In order to help them face the music, the six also get hands-on tips from top performers including Jools Holland, Stewart Copeland, Courtney Pine and Mark Knopfler. And, like any music students, they are expected to attend weekly lessons and fit regular practice sessions into their busy schedules.

VICTORIA ON VICTORIA

Queen Victoria was the very epicentre of her Empire but never visited it. So, over a century after her death, Victoria Wood is going to look for her.

It is, at times, an ignominious journey that begins in Assin Manso in Ghana, otherwise known as Slave River, a place where slaves were sorted, oiled and bartered, before being transported to sugar plantations in Jamaica. Victoria continues, at a pace through Newfoundland, India, Hong Kong, Borneo, New Zealand, Australia and Zambia, on the look out for the residual evidence that we were there.

She talks to people who have first hand experience of the impact of the Brits or have anecdotal evidence of our activities abroad. We hear stories of remarkable deeds, listen to long held grievances and sometimes just experience the places for what they are.
SLEEP CLINIC

Sleep Clinic takes an exclusive, behind-the-scenes look at the work of one of the UK’s most prestigious sleep centres.

Although world famous for heart transplants, Papworth Hospital in Cambridge also houses the biggest sleep clinic in Britain, ushering a staggering 2,500 narcoleptics, parasomniacs and chronic snorers through its doors each year.

The result of three months’ dedicated filming, Sleep Clinic charts the revolutionary treatment of those who sleep walk, sleep talk and those who can’t sleep at all. Taking on around 24 new patients a week, Papworth’s six dedicated sleep laboratory beds allow complex overnight studies to be conducted to diagnose some of the rarest and most dangerous sleeping disorders currently affecting the UK’s snoozing population.
WHEN LOVE COMES TO TOWN

With over half the population currently single, those in small towns find it particularly difficult to find love.

In When Love Comes To Town, eight single men, aged from 30-60 and from rural Devon, travel to a remote village in the Scottish Highlands to meet eight single women who have struggled to find that special someone. Some are divorced, others bereaved and a few simply haven’t found “the one” ... yet!

Helped by a larger-than-life matchmaker from each village, the romantically rusty men and women embark on a rollercoaster of dates and group events, in both Devon and Scotland. As they get to know each other better, the singletons also learn the odd thing about themselves.

There’s disappointment and unrequited love for some, while for others it’s a surprising journey that takes them well on the way to becoming part of a couple for the first time in years.
"All I've ever wanted to do is to bring world peace through stand-up comedy ... and now that I've done that, I can concentrate on my new BBC One comedy series."

Invoking the spirit of Dave Allen, Omid Djalili, one of Britain’s best contemporary comic performers and multi-award-winning stand-up, realises his ambition in his self-penned, self-titled stand-up and sketch show.

The British-Iranian comedian has not only completed UK and US sell-out tours, but has also appeared in numerous Hollywood blockbusters, including Gladiator and The Mummy.

A man whose talent expands way beyond the “perfect ethnic everyman bit-part specialist” he refers to himself as, Omid unleashes an idiosyncratic mix of political and social commentary, with the odd belly-dance thrown in for good measure.

A unique fusion of Omid’s hugely successful and highly energetic stand-up, comedy sketches, and characters, the show takes a grown-up swipe at modern-day life in a multicultural society.
COMIC RELIEF

Spring will see the return of Red Nose Day on BBC One. Amongst the many exciting sketches and programmes, Comic Relief presents the following:

COMIC RELIEF DOES FAME ACADEMY 2007

Following the huge success of Comic Relief Does Fame Academy in 2005, when over £1m was raised for the charity, the Fame Academy once again opens its doors to a new batch of celebrity students. Thirteen stars will sing for survival live every night from the Academy’s Circle of Fear to raise money for Red Nose Day 2007.

They’ll live and work together and be put through their paces by the Fame Academy staff, led as usual by tough Head Teacher, Richard Park. The wannabe singers, all desperate to win the viewers’ votes, need to deliver the performance of their lives as they sing for survival every night. No one wants to be in the bottom two as their fate is decided by their fellow celebrities in the dreaded Student Vote. Every night, one celebrity student is expelled because there can be only one winner of the ultimate celebrity talent contest.

COMIC RELIEF DOES THE APPRENTICE

Sir Alan Sugar brings his abrasive business style to Comic Relief.

In Comic Relief Does The Apprentice, 10 top celebrity candidates battle to build businesses that must raise as much money as possible for the charity.

Over two gruelling days, the high-profile stars toil as two teams under the watchful eyes of Sir Alan’s sidekicks, Nick Hewer and Margaret Mountford. The backdrop is London and, for the celebrity candidates, Sir Alan sets a tough, street-wise, hands-on task that calls for discipline, teamwork, creativity and sheer hard work.

If they succeed, the show climaxes in a star-studded commercial fight to the finish. If they fail, their celebrity status won’t save them, because the following day, the teams are called to Sir Alan’s infamous boardroom to defend their performances.

Whatever the outcome, one team wins and one team loses. Sparks will fly. And in the losing team, a celebrity is going to get fired.

RONNI ANCONA & CO

Multi-faceted mimic Ronni Ancona returns to BBC One with a new series which takes a sideswipe at the celebrity masses through impressions and character sketches. Ronni is joined by a different special impressionist guest for each show, including John Sessions and Jan Ravens.

Featured celebrity impressions include Jordan overseeing her ever-increasing literary empire, Bill Oddie going in search of lesser-spotted Colleen, and Angelina Jolie indulging in some maternal interior design.

Elsewhere, Kerry Katona goes shopping; Demi Moore comes under the spotlight in Celebrity Stories; and Al Pacino, Renée Zellweger and Anthony Hopkins star in a big-screen adaptation of Punch And Judy.
THE EUROVISION SONG CONTEST 2007

Eurovision 2006 saw monster rockers Lordi power their way to Finland’s first-ever victory in the hotly fought competition: can the Contest ever be the same again?

This year will see Europe descend on Helsinki for The Eurovision Song Contest 2007 and, once again, BBC One will be at the core of the action with Sir Terry Wogan, as always, at the helm.

This is Eurovision’s 52nd year and it’s growing bigger all the time as rumours abound about who’ll be representing the UK, with everyone from Morrissey to the Sex Pistols apparently in the frame.

The UK entry will be chosen in mid-March, in a prime-time special.

So come and join the Eurovision party: 180 million Europeans can’t be wrong!

THE HARRY ENFIELD SHOW

Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse return to BBC One this winter with an outstanding new sketch series. Accompanied by Morwenna Banks and Perrier Award-winner Laura Solon, the series is stuffed to the gills with hilarious new creations from the godfather of British character comedy.

The series is written by Harry, Paul and the cast as well as long-time collaborator Dave Cummings with Bert Tyler Moore and George Jeffrey. It is directed by Tristram Shapeero (Greenwing, Peepshow).
JUST THE TWO OF US

It’s back! The duet-singing showdown, Just The Two Of Us, returns for a brand-new series in which eight celebrities sing for survival. They are paired with some of the world’s biggest recording stars and have to perform live every night. A rigorous training programme sees the professionals put their partner’s vocal skills to the test as they prepare to step out on stage and fight it out for the Just The Two Of Us crown.

Glamorous husband-and-wife team Vernon Kay and Tess Daly return to host the show, guiding the celebrity songbirds through the emotional rollercoaster of intense daily rehearsals, live performances, the critique of the judging panel and the triumphs and tribulations of the uncompromising viewer vote.

Packed with all the glitz and glamour of a live music entertainment show, Just The Two Of Us not only guarantees exclusive performances from the pro-celebrity couples, but also promises a series of unique professional collaborations.

In the first series, Sian Reeves and Russell Watson hit the headlines as champions after an unforgettable emotional journey. But who will follow in their footsteps and be crowned Just The Two Of Us champions 2007?

THE PEOPLE’S QUIZ

BBC One is scouring the length and breadth of the country to find the best quiz contestant in the UK.

From Portrush to Portsmouth and from Perth to Pontypool, potential winners will test their mental agility in countrywide open auditions. Over 12 weeks, thousands of hopefuls will be whittled down to just one undisputed quiz show champion – who will walk away with a guaranteed six-figure cash prize.

Whether you’ve got a double first from Oxford or an honours degree from the university of life, The People’s Quiz is open to you.

In a unique twist, questions will be published in advance of the auditions, allowing everyone in the UK to test their general knowledge and polish their quiz show skills.

But with hundreds of thousands of questions on subjects ranging from particle physics to pop music and reality TV, only the very brightest will make it through to the final and the chance to win a life-changing cash prize.
AFTER YOU’VE GONE

Nicholas Lyndhurst makes a welcome return to BBC One as jack-of-all-trades Jimmy Venables, probably the only man in Britain who gets divorced and ends up sharing a home with his mother-in-law.

Weekend dad Jimmy offers to move back into the marital home to look after his two teenagers when his ex-wife volunteers to tend victims of a natural disaster in Africa. Unfortunately, Jimmy’s patrician mother-in-law, Diana (Celia Imrie), views him as a walking, talking natural disaster so she virtually moves in to “help”, which generally means undermining Jimmy whenever possible.

With a smart-talking daughter, Molly (Dani Harmer, star of Tracy Beaker), who thinks she’s already a woman, and a son, Alex (Ryan Sampson), who occasionally dresses a bit too much like one, just how much of a challenge can adapting to fatherhood on a daily basis be?

After You’ve Gone is created by Fred Barron (My Family). The cast also includes Amanda Abbington as Jimmy’s girlfriend and Vincent Ebrahim and Lee Oakes as Jimmy’s mates.

UNBELIEVABLE

Unbelievable is a brand-new comedy panel show, based on unbelievable truths and believable lies, that tests the participants’ ability to talk funny, convincing nonsense.

Under the watchful eye of host Angus Deayton, two teams of comedians and celebrity guests must remain poker-faced as they reveal incredible facts and embarrassing stories about themselves. Some of them are true – all of them are unbelievable. The show features an exciting combination of talent, which includes David Mitchell as a regular team captain.

As well as personal revelations, Unbelievable features incredible facts and fabrications from around the world, mystery walk-on guests and amazing archive. Unbelievable is a slick, new take on the panel-show format and its celebrity revelations give the series a distinctive talk-show quality.

ARMSTRONG & MILLER

Alexander Armstrong and Ben Miller are reunited after five years in this brand-new contemporary sketch-show series.

This new series includes a vista of characters and situations from Alexander and Ben’s accessible absurd world, including the patois-talking Second World War pilots, the hilarious constable and the genially terrifying bailiff.

Beneath the veneer of solid, wholesome British respectability lurks some distinctly subversive and surprising characters.
SPORT
WINTER/SPRING 2006

CRICKET WORLD CUP
The BBC’s coverage of cricket continues with highlights of the 2007 ICC Cricket World Cup. Manish Bhasin will present key highlights from all the main matches in the tournament, being held in the West Indies during March and April. The highlights will be on air within a couple of hours of the end of each day’s play.

In total, BBC One will be showing 30 hours of cricket highlights, providing sports fans with up-to-date information on all the results, action and news of the day. Throughout the tournament, viewers will be able to choose from a comprehensive package of viewing and audio options across TV, including interactive, radio and online.

THE US MASTERS
This year sees the 40th anniversary of BBC Sport’s exclusive, live television coverage of the world’s most prestigious overseas golf tournament – the US Masters – from Augusta, Georgia. BBC coverage offers all the available live action on television and radio across all four days of play, as well as news and updates on radio and on the website at bbc.co.uk. The team is now fronted by presenter and golf fanatic Gary Lineker, with commentators including Peter Alliss, Ken Brown and Sam Torrance.

FA CUP
Viewers can experience the great drama of the 126th FA Cup on BBC One. All football clubs across the country have the chance to go down in history by beating the big Premiership sides and being forever known as the giant killers. For all footballers, it’s a dream and aspiration to get to the FA Cup Final, which is likely to be back at the newly built Wembley Stadium in 2007. Gary Lineker presents the coverage.

SIX NATIONS RUGBY
The Northern Hemisphere’s annual showcase rugby event gets under way in February, with all games live on the BBC. Presenters John Inverdale, Jill Douglas and Craig Doyle introduce coverage in High Definition (HD) format for the first time. It’s the closest the competition has ever been, with all teams in a position to win games if they can perform on the day. Over five weekends, England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, France and Italy compete to be Six Nations champions going into 2007’s Rugby World Cup.

WIMBLEDON
BBC Sport’s award-winning coverage gets under way at the end of June with Sue Barker heading up the unrivalled team which includes John Inverdale and Jimmy Connors. Coverage will again be in High Definition (HD) format, following last year’s debut, and viewers can judge for themselves on line-calls through the BBC’s use of the unique ball-tracking system, Hawk-Eye.
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