

## Media Alert



29 May 2020

## BBC FIRST TO PREMIERE QUIZ ON WEDNESDAYS AT 8.30PM FROM JUNE 24



**“biggest drama of the year so far” – Evening Standard**

**“tells the story of an audacious and thoroughly English heist that rocked the popular quiz show” – RadioTimes**

**“funny, gripping and informative” - inews**

**Matthew Macfadyen** (*Succession*), **Sian Clifford** (*Fleabag*) and **Michael Sheen** (*Good Omens*, *Masters of Sex*), star in the highly-anticipated series *Quiz*, premiering on BBC First from June 24. The series tells the story of the real-life ‘coughing Major’ scandal which hit *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* in 2001 when Major Ingram, his wife Diana and an accomplice, Tecwen Whittock, were accused of cheating their way to a million pounds on what was the most popular game show on earth.

When television producer Paul Smith puts everything on the line to make ITV quiz show and overnight sensation *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*, one family’s much loved pub-quiz hobby turns into outright obsession. As the family’s attempts to win the ultimate prize fall short, all eyes turn to an unsuspecting



Major Charles Ingram to take his turn in the coveted hot-seat. While his first night on the show is a disaster, on the second, he is a brand new man with a brand new strategy. The audience on the edge of their seats, Charles dithers and about-turns all the way up the question ladder while an increasingly suspicious production team launch an investigation that will lead them to an incriminating pattern of coughs in the studio audience. Charged with fraud and persecuted by the public and press Charles, his wife Diana and the alleged cougher head to court. At first, it seems the trial is a fait accompli, but as the case for the defence gets underway, the jury learn there is far more to the story than they know.

The three-part series is adapted from a West-End play of the same name by playwright and screenwriter James Graham. Matthew Macfadyen plays Major Charles Ingram, Sian Clifford is Diana Ingram and Michael Sheen plays game show host Chris Tarrant. The series drew huge audiences in the UK, screening to 10 million viewers.

Quiz is a Left Bank Pictures co-production for ITV and AMC and is distributed by Sony Pictures Television.

**A full media kit is available on request**

**Episodes 1 and 2 of Quiz are available to preview at [www.bbcworldwidepreviews.com](http://www.bbcworldwidepreviews.com)**

**Further images are available at [www.bbcmmedia.com.au](http://www.bbcmmedia.com.au)**

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

### About BBC Studios

BBC Studios, a global content company with British creativity at its heart, is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group. Able to take an idea seamlessly from thought to screen, it spans content financing, development, production, sales, branded services, and ancillaries from both its own productions and programmes and formats made by high-quality UK independents. Award-winning British programmes made by the business are internationally recognised across a broad range of genres and specialisms, including factual, drama, entertainment and comedy. BBC Studios has offices in 22 markets globally, including six production bases in the UK and production bases and partnerships in a further nine countries around the world. The company, which makes around 2,500 hours of content a year, is a champion for British creativity around the world and a committed partner for the UK's independent sector. Created in April 2018 by the merger of two existing commercial subsidiaries, BBC Worldwide and BBC Studios, the company has revenue of around £1.4bn. In the year to March 2019, it returned £243m to the BBC Group, complementing the BBC's licence fee and enhancing programmes for UK audiences.

### About BBC Studios APAC

BBC Studios, a global content company with British creativity at its heart, is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group. BBC Studios APAC covers Australia, New Zealand and 23 countries across the Asia region. Operating from eight offices, with its main bases in Sydney, Beijing and Singapore, BBC Studios APAC comprises of Content Sales and Co-productions, Branded Services, Production, Format Sales, Consumer Products and Live Events.

# **BBC** STUDIOS

The BBC Studios business in Australia and New Zealand wholly owns seven channels: BBC First, BBC UKTV, BBC Earth and CBeebies on Foxtel and Fetch TV in Australia; BBC Brit on Fetch TV; and BBC UKTV and BBC Earth on Sky TV in New Zealand. It distributes great British content from the BBC and other British producers to free-to-air, subscription channels and SVOD platforms and works with partners to bring BBC Studios DVDs, consumer products and live events to the local market. The production arm in Sydney produces BBC formats for the local market and creates new IP.

[bbcstudios.com](http://bbcstudios.com)

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The logo for Foxtel, featuring the word "foxtel" in a bold, lowercase, red sans-serif font.The logo for BBC Studios, featuring the letters "BBC" in a bold, black, uppercase sans-serif font inside three black squares, with the word "STUDIOS" in a bold, black, uppercase sans-serif font below it.The logo for Fetch, featuring the word "fetch" in a bold, lowercase, blue sans-serif font.