Death In Paradise
Series III

TX: January 2014
BBC One
8 x 60min

**Strictly Embargoed Until Sunday 29 December 2013**

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**Death In Paradise**

The Third Series Of Hit Drama Returns To BBC One

Bringing some much-needed sunshine to UK screens in January, BBC One returns to the idyllic Caribbean island of Saint Marie, for the third series of hit murder mystery, *Death In Paradise*.

In a shocking twist of events, series three of the ratings-smash series sees the tragic murder of DI Richard Poole, played by **Ben Miller** (*Primeval, Armstrong & Miller*) and the arrival of new detective, DI Humphrey Goodman, played by **Kris Marshall** (*My Family, Love Actually*).

Battling their grief and determined to catch the killer of their friend, Camille (**Sara Martins**), Fidel (**Gary Carr**) and Dwayne (**Danny John-Jules**) are joined by DI Humphrey Goodman (**Kris Marshall**) to help them get to the bottom of the tragic and mysterious case. Unfortunately, Humphrey’s naturally bumbling and accident-prone ways mean he doesn’t make a great first impression...

Acclaimed actors lined up to guest star in the new series include **Michelle Ryan** (*Jekyll, Merlin*), **Helen Baxendale** (*Cold Feet, Cuckoo*), **Peter Davison** (*Doctor Who, At Home With The Braithwaites*), **Clarke Peters** (*The Wire*) and **Raza Jaffrey** (*Smash*).

Filmed on the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe, *Death In Paradise*, has gone from strength to strength over the past two series, bringing in an average of almost eight million viewers each episode* of the second series.

*Death in Paradise* is a Red Planet Pictures production in association with BBC Worldwide, produced with the support of the region of Guadeloupe. It is created by Robert Thorogood and Executive producers are Tony Jordan and Belinda Campbell for Red Planet Pictures and Polly Hill for BBC One. The new series airs in January 2014.

** ENDS **

*consolidated figure
Cast List

**Main Cast**

DI Richard Poole  
Ben Miller  

DI Humphrey Goodman  
Kris Marshall  

DS Camille Bordey  
Sara Martins  

Office Dwayne Myers  
Danny John-Jules  

Sergrant Fidel Best  
Gary Carr  

Commissioner Selwyn Patterson  
Don Warrington  

Catherine  
Elizabeth Bourgine  

**Episode 1**

Sasha Moore  
Helen Baxendale  

Angie Birkett  
Sophie Thompson  

James Moore  
Mark Bazeley  

Roger Sadler  
Tim Dutton  

**Episode 2**

Lexi Cunningham  
Michelle Ryan  

Arnold Finch  
Peter Davison  

Carl Collins  
Rhys Thomas  

Susie Jenkins  
Hannah Tointon  

Thea  
Phoebe Thomas  

Big Dave  
Peter Bankole
Episode 3
Leo Pascal
Dorothy Foster
Marc Campese
Lauren Campese
Judge Stone
Carlton Paris
Adrian Scarborough
Sharon Small
Tristan Gemmill
Vinette Robinson
Josette Simon
Steve Cole

Episode 4
Adam
Simone Magon
Helen Williams
Paul Bevans
Max Leigh
Natasha
Raza Jaffrey
Kathryn Drysdale
Sophie Colquhoun
Daniel Lapaine
Chris Geere
Felicite Du Jeu

Episode 5
Marlon
Jacob
Drew
Charlotte
Theo
Lena Bell
Clarke Peters
Simon Shepherd
James Musgrave
Haydn Gwynne
Eriq Ebouaney
Nina Toussaint-White
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<td>Pam</td>
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What were your first thoughts when you saw the script and saw your end?
I was shocked when I first read the script, but then found the scenario very comical. I loved the fact he was dispatched with an ice pick, I thought that was really poetic and quite funny. It was very bold, imaginative and a really great end to Richard Poole.

How did it feel to film your the last scene?
It was emotional. No matter how much you imagine what it is going to be like – filming your own death – to be lying there in your character’s costume in a pool of fake blood feels quite final, and you can’t help but feel a little vulnerable! Richard entered with a bang and left with a bang.

How was it shot?
I had a fake knife in my chest – the handle was sticking out and it was on a plate under my clothes. Then, I had a tube that ran up inside the costume to the point where the ice-pick would go in which fed the fake blood up through a pipe. We had a man there with a bag of blood and what looked like a bicycle pump forcing the liquid through the tube so you could get a real shot of the blood spreading. It looked great! We don’t ever go too over the top on the gore though – it’s not that sort of show.

What did you think of the fact that Richard met his end with an ice pick?
I thought it was great because obviously you want to kill Richard with something to do with heat, given his aversion to it, so I kind of guessed it was something to do with that. However, I never guessed an ice pick – that was a brilliant idea!

What is your lasting memory from your time on the show?
I have so many very vivid memories of Death In Paradise. Everything seems more alive in Guadeloupe, mostly because the jungle is just two steps over your shoulder. It’s also
because the people are so much larger than life. It’s the local people I will miss most, many of them worked on the crew and were huge characters. One of my memories is being taught to dance the Zouk by our props master, Jean Michelle. Whenever we were at the bar he would drag me onto the dance floor to do the Zouk, which is an incredibly intimate dance, usually done with a man and a woman!

**Are you happy with the way your exit was written?**
I think it was the right choice. If Richard was in too much of the series, it would be odd. You really want to establish a new character as soon as possible and what I particularly liked was that Richard came to the island to investigate a murder of a detective inspector and that the new detective does exactly the same. I love the way history repeats itself.

**What do you think of Kris in action?**
The thing that struck me the second I saw him was that he had the air of someone who knew exactly what they were doing. He had really thought about the character and I was so impressed by his professionalism. It is a huge responsibility to bear – remembering all those lines in the heat and carrying a lot of story – but he adjusted well and was incredibly impressive.

**Are you going to be watching the first show go out?**
I’m going to be running my whodunit Twitter competition as ever, inviting people to guess the murderer. You have to put the correct name of the murderer; you also need to have means, motive and opportunity, followed by #whodunit. This time I have a dog in that fight so let’s see if we can catch the guilty party!
Kris Marshall plays DI Humphrey Goodman

What we can expect from the new series of *Death In Paradise*?
It’s still a fish out of water story, but there is a new fish in town. As it is such popular, existing show, it was very important that I fitted in with the show rather than the show fitting around me. Fans can expect lots more of the same, with lots more fun and puzzling murders.

Tell us about DI Humphrey Goodman?
Humphrey is in his early forties, married and was a Detective Inspector with the Metropolitan Police in London before being transferred to Saint Marie. He’s kind of stuck in a rut and wants a change in his life but doesn’t quite know what it is he wants. However, when he gets a call to go to Saint Marie, he seems to drop everything and gets on a plane with just a suit and two shirts! He shows up in Saint Marie with the intention of his wife following on afterwards because she is a botanist and he thinks she’d love the rainforest on the island, but I don’t think things are going to work out that way.

How does Humphrey get on with his new team?
To begin with, not very well at all – they think he is quite odd, a bit of an idiot and in the way. Of course, they are grieving the loss of their previous boss and don’t react well to some guy from London coming in and literally treading all over their investigation. However, gradually, as the series goes on, he begins to fit in as their little odd boss. They still think his methods are slightly off the wall, but as the series progresses, they become a good team.
Does Humphrey feel a very different character from ones you have played in the past? Obviously he’s not as young as some of the characters I have played in the past, but then I’m not as young either! I read that Jack Nicolson once said that two thirds of every character you play is yourself – you can never get too far away from yourself. So, Humphrey’s character is partly me, just a heightened, exaggerated version! There are probably also links to other characters I have played in the past.

How was it moving out to Guadeloupe for 6 months? It was amazing, but quite hard to begin with. I went out by myself first, then my wife and son followed a month later. It was hard to begin with because the pressure was on – not just starting a new job, but as the lead on a big, existing and popular series. It was tough again when my wife came out and she obviously had to find her feet with our son. When you have an 8 month old baby son, you are still working out how to look after him, let alone when its 35 degree heat! However, it soon all slotted into place. We were well looked after and lived locally, with our son going to the local crèche. My wife was teaching yoga to the cast and crew, which was great. I did miss England, which is natural when you are away from home. This is, until I got home and I thought, what am I doing back here? I want my flip flops back!

What was it like joining such an established cast? It was daunting to begin with because I have never joined an existing show and cast before and as it’s such a popular show, you don’t want to mess it up. I was really honoured and humbled by the BBC entrusting me with one of their most popular shows. That really meant a lot to me. I just wanted to assimilate myself but still keep the series familiar to viewers. Of course, it’s set in the same place, the other cast members are still the same, so not much has changed, but I want people to like it as much as they did before. I don’t think it would have been as easy as it has been if the established cast hadn’t made me feel so welcome. They were amazing.

What guest stars did you enjoy working with? Sophie Thompson who is in the first episode – she and I have done the last four jobs together! She is clearly following me around and I can’t seem to stop it! It’s always lovely to work with Sophie though. I have worked with quite a few before, including Adrian Scarborough and Phil Jackson. It’s lovely actually, it’s like they all come out to see you. One of my favourite people to work with though was Rhys Thomas who is in Episode 2. We are about the same age, both have kids and one night did an awesome karaoke off! We sang Under Pressure – he sang the Freddie Mercury bit and I sang the David Bowie bit, and it was awesome!
What can we expect from the new series of *Death In Paradise*?
The new series obviously has a new dynamic because we have a new lead character, Humphrey Goodman. It follows the same format that fans love and know about the show, but it has new experiences and encounters. The big thing for the group is adjusting and adapting to a new character – someone who, again, is foreign, but completely different to Richard Poole.

What effect does Richard’s death and departure have on the team?
The team loved Richard, even though he was quite odd! They adored and loved him, so his death is devastating for them, but at the same time, they owe it to him to solve his murder case and find out who the killer was. I think every episode they think about Richard and want to do the best they can in honour of him.

How does Humphrey fit into the team?
What’s great is that Humphrey isn’t trying to be Richard Poole; he’s a completely different character. He brings a lot of energy – and chaos! – but it’s great for the team, because he’s the complete opposite of Richard, who was very by the book and all about rules and logic. He was like a scientist in that way. Humphrey’s not like that at all; he’s the oddball and brings a lot of madness, but he gets the result.

How has being promoted to Sergeant changed Fidel?
In this series, Fidel’s trying to figure out what a sergeant does and how he slots into that role; you see him really try to figure out how it all works. It’s a big learning curve for him. Dwayne is guiding him, but obviously in Dwayne’s way and Dwayne’s rules. Dwayne knows
his stuff and is a great officer, but Fidel’s a sergeant now. Dwayne may think he knows best, but Fidel is his boss now!

**There’s some great guest stars in the new series. Who did you enjoy working with?**
I loved working with all of them, but Clarke Peters was particularly cool. I was so excited by him in *The Wire*. I also remember seeing him in a play in the West End when I was about seven and thinking ‘this is amazing, this is what I want to do!’ The guest stars keep getting more and more exciting every series.

**You’ve had huge success in the last 12 months. What’s next for you?**
I’m doing a play at the Royal Court called *The Pass* which is a brilliant story and really interesting subject matter. I’m also making a music album in Paris with some amazing musicians which is very exciting. I can’t wait to finally get that off the ground.
What can you tell us about the new series of Death in Paradise?
I think each series goes from strength to strength. The characters have been developed further, we’ve got loads more guest stars this year, some who have come from as far away as Hollywood so I hope the audience will feel like they’re getting more of what they’ve been craving over the last year.

What’s in store for your character Dwayne this coming series?
Dwayne is becoming more accepting of the new status quo at Honoré Police department and having these strange English detectives join the team. They’re a bit too meticulous for his liking, but Dwayne has developed into a very good policeman. He now uses his ‘streetwise’ much more to help solve the crimes.

How has the dynamic changed on set following the departure of Ben Miller and the arrival of new cast member, Kris Marshall?
The dynamics on set have stayed pretty much the same. We’ve had two very funny guys as the lead – one whose sense of humour is slightly dryer than the other, but two people who are always up for having a good time. They’re both very hardworking – it is a lot of work for the lead guy in the series. Obviously once the work is done though, they both enjoy themselves, go out to dinner and have fun with the cast and crew. The leading man always has to be in the thick of it, and both guys were quite happy to take up that mantle and be the life and soul of the party. As far as their on screen characters are concerned, Richard Poole and Humphrey Goodman are different, particularly in their approach to solving the
crimes. What keeps them both interesting is the supporting characters around them such as Dwayne, and the way they react to the new arrivals. As long as they are not local, they’re going to have a certain way of working that is going to be different to the locals and that’s what brings the comedy.

What has it been like filming on the beautiful island of Guadeloupe?
Filming in Guadeloupe is a dream come true, particularly because the island that my parents live on is literally a two hour ferry ride away! I was fairly familiar with the local surroundings for this reason, but to be out there filming a TV show is amazing! How many people in their career get to go and film in the Caribbean? I’m one of the small community of actors that have acquired that privilege. At the same time though, if you have to do a scene running through a jungle in 100 degrees, then you might not be so happy to be on the island!

Is it difficult for you to blend comedy with drama in the show?
Not really, because I don’t like going in for the gag. I have always believed that comedy comes out of real life situations. I’ve been known to laugh harder at dead straight cowboy films than comedies before. Just look at Blazing Saddles – it was inspired by real cowboy movies. Experiencing that kind of comedy was a big learning curve for me. I think that playing for the laugh has not really worked for me. I tend to play for real and if the scenario is funny then we will laugh anyway!

What is it about this show that sets it apart from other series?
What sets Death In Paradise apart is that unlike other genres where the characters have been brought up in the same scenario – Death In Paradise takes a detective and puts them in a completely alien surrounding where people do things completely different. The cases get solved but you see the characters learning from each other, culturally and professionally.
Bringing some much-needed sunshine to UK screens in January, BBC One returns to the idyllic Caribbean island of Saint Marie, for a brand new series of *Death In Paradise*.

The team is left stunned and heartbroken when Chief Detective Inspector Richard Poole (*Ben Miller*) is found brutally murdered with an ice pick following a university reunion he was attending.

Battling their grief and determined to catch the killer of their friend, Camille (*Sara Martins*), Fidel (*Gary Carr*) and Dwayne (*Danny John-Jules*) are joined by new detective, DI Humphrey Goodman (*Kris Marshall*) to help them get to the bottom of the tragic and mysterious case. Unfortunately, Humphrey’s naturally bumbling and accident-prone ways mean he doesn’t make a great first impression.

With the crime scene a remote villa only accessible by car, all the attendees of the reunion are prime suspects. However, after 25 years of not seeing one another, who could possibly hold a grudge against Richard? Did trip organiser, Angie (*Sophie Thompson*) have an ulterior motive for the reunion? Has Richard’s old flame, Sasha (*Helen Baxendale*) got something to hide? Or has Sasha’s husband, James (*Mark Bazeley*), finally let his jealous streak take over?

To make matters more complicated, the murder appears to have been committed in plain sight of all of those at the party. How did someone stab Richard with no-one seeing? Humphrey is increasingly baffled and, still not feeling part of the team yet, takes solace in knowing that at least his wife will soon be joining him on the island. If only he can just solve this case first and show his new team what a brilliant detective he is…
The sun-drenched drama continues as another mysterious murder washes up on the sandy shores of Saint Marie.

When a stand-in working on the set of a zombie film being shot on the island suddenly dies on set, Humphrey and the team are called to investigate the murder. The victim appears to have been poisoned, but why would someone want to murder a lowly stand-in who had only been on the island a week?

Having gained all the evidence, it all seems to point towards the idea that the film’s lead actress, Lexi Cunningham (Michelle Ryan), was actually the intended victim in a plan gone wrong. From here, the team quickly focus their investigation on three key suspects: film director Carl Collins (Rhys Thomas), script writer Arnold Finch (Peter Davison) and on-set runner Susie Jenkins (Hannah Tointon). But why would any of them want their lead actress dead?

With the three suspects in mind, Humphrey and the team start to discover that the world of filmmaking is just as duplicitous and scheming as one might expect. The film set is teeming with ruthless ambition, creative jealousy and behind-the-scenes affairs. All three suspects have motive, but which one did it?
In the third episode of the new series, DI Goodman and the team are called to investigate the death of an old school friend of Fidel’s, Carlton Parish (Steve Cole), who has been shot at his home.

Last seen at an art viewing held at a gallery owned by connoisseur, Leo Pascal (Adrian Scarborough), Carlton was in attendance with wealthy, older woman, Dorothy Foster (Sharon Small). Witnesses also claim to have seen Carlton having an altercation with Marc Campese (Tristan Gemmill), the owner of private member’s club, The Reef Club. With only a call from Carlton claiming that a woman was going to kill him to go on, Humphrey and the team start analysing their suspects.

They soon discover that Carlton made his living as a male escort and as a result, has sparked motives in a number of disgruntled female exes, including the ‘Dragon Lady’ (Josette Simon) herself, Judge Ann Stone and Marc Campese’s wife, Lauren (Vinette Robinson). Did any of the loved-up women have reason to kill Carlton?

With emotions running high, Fidel is finding it tough to investigate his old friend’s murder, forcing him to confront some long-buried issues. Will he be able to put these aside in order to bring his friend’s killer to justice?