



## RTS West Of England Announce Nominations For Annual Awards

Shortlist includes hit dramas Sherlock, The Abominable Bride and Poldark filmed in the West Country.

WEST OF ENGLAND

Awards 2017

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

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**13.02.17**

The Royal Television Society West of England today announce the shortlist of nominations for its annual awards, in association with Evolutions Bristol, in the fields of on-screen talent, craft, digital creativity, natural history, drama, regional television news and across a range of factual programming.

Drama filmed and produced in the region dominates the awards this year with a host of primetime and critically acclaimed dramas nominated including BBC's Sherlock: The Abominable Bride, Poldark and The Living and the Dead and E4/Netflix's Crazyhead (all filmed at The Bottle Yard Studios and on location in Bristol, facilitated by Bristol Film Office). In film, Swallows and Amazons (directed by award winning local director Philippa Lowthorpe) is up against Sixteen from Seize Films.

BBC Studios Natural History Unit has a total of 19 nominations for a wide range of programmes it has made - notable shows include landmark series Planet Earth 11, New Zealand: Earth's Mythical Islands and Tribes: Predators and Me. Documentary film Jago: A Life Underwater, from Underdog Films has eight nominations - it tells the story of an 80 year old sea nomad called Rohani, against the spectacular backdrop of the Togan Islands in the Coral Triangle.

In On-Screen Talent, children's favourite Andy Day goes up against new natural history talent Patrick Aryee, Jo Brand for her Sport Relief walk and wildlife cameraman Vianet Djenguet for his personal film for BBC's Natural World exploring his beloved Congo. In Factual, nominated shows include Hugh Fearnley Whittingstall's Saving Africa's Elephants: Hugh and the Ivory War (from Keo Films), Heroes of Helmand: The British Army's Great Escape (Testimony Films), The Somme 1916: From Both Sides of the Wire, BBC Studios and Yeti: Myth, Man or Beast (Icon Films).

In News, three reporters from ITV News West Country (Caron Bell, Health Correspondent Katie Rowlett and Richard Payne) feature against Andrew Plant, from BBC Points West. In News Coverage, the Inside Out Special - Inside Amazon is pitted against Points West: Meningitis Special and Halliwell: Double Killer from ITV News West Country.

Director of Creative Industries at UWE, Bristol and TV producer and chair of RTS Bristol, Lynn Barlow says: "It's been another strong year of submissions and all the nominations demonstrate the outstanding quality of individual creativity and the strength of creative industries in and around the city."

"At this year's awards in March, we will be launching the findings of research from the University of the West of England into the film, television and animation industries in the city, which will reveal just how big the industry is, how many millions of pounds it generates for the local economy and how many jobs there are."

The RTS West of England Awards will take place on Sunday March 19th at the Bristol Old Vic.

Countryfile presenter and host of the Strictly Come Dancing tour, Anita Rani will present the awards, which will be a very special evening to celebrate the achievements of the regional creative community.



## NOTES

Tickets are on sale FROM 20th FEBRUARY from the Bristol Old Vic box office for £45 including VAT. Please call 0117 987 7877. If you are a nominee, please let the Bristol Old Vic know when booking tickets and please state your company name, so they can seat you in an area near the stage.

Sponsors of the RTS West of England Awards include Evolutions Bristol, BBC Studios Natural History Unit, Doghouse Post Production, Icon Films, Tigress Productions, Films at 59, The Bottle Yard Studios and Bristol Film Office, BDH, ITV, Plimsoll Productions and Hotel du Vin & Bistro.

For more information on the RTS go to [www.rts.org.uk/bristol](http://www.rts.org.uk/bristol)

For more information on the awards, please contact Suzy Lambert, Awards producer on: [suzy.lambert@rts.org.uk](mailto:suzy.lambert@rts.org.uk)

## EVOLUTIONS

**Evolutions Bristol** are delighted to return to the 2017 West of England RTS Awards as the headline sponsor.

Offering an end to end post production service including production offices, workflow consultancy, offline and final post with some of the best talent in the country, we are proud to be an integral part of the South West post production community.

With recently expanded facilities in Bristol as well as our three Soho facilities and VFX team, Evolutions provide offline an integrated post production workflow to enable our clients to work across the region and deliver high quality programmes in all genres wherever they are based.

Once again we congratulate all of this year's nominees for the hard work that has brought them this far!

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