

German distributor ZDF Enterprises has unveiled its MIPCOM line-up. The Kids offer includes 'H2O - Mermaid Adventures' (26x24'), an animation series combining comedy, friendship and adventures, both on land in Dolphin City and in a marvellous and magical undersea world. The animated series is taking the original concept of the live-action series to a whole new level. While exploring the mysterious Island of Mako, three quite ordinary teenage girls fall under a spell that changes their lives. From now on, whenever water splashes any one of them, they are transformed into mermaids. Endless situations and missions draw the three friends into the incredible underwater world where they make new friends: Bernie the hermit crab, Zita the inquisitive eel, Teddy the kid turtle, Sue the mystical manta ray and Carlotta the diva-jellyfish - and have endless fun and wonderful, enchanting adventures under the sea.



Also coming up is 'Marcus Level' (52x13'), an animated series revolving around Marcus who, when he gets the latest version of his favourite video game 'Gorbar and the Valley of the Seven Light Towers', tells himself that while his parents are gone during the weekend, he'll finally be able to explore all of its worlds. As soon as he turns on the gaming console and sticks in the game card, a flash of white lightning jumps out of the screen and Marcus suddenly finds himself transported inside the video game in the place of his hero Gorbar the Magnificent. It's obvious that things aren't going to be easy neither for Marcus, nor for Gorbar in Marcus' home.



And in 'Skinner Boys' (26x24') world explorer Augustus Skinner has died, but his three teen grandsons have inherited the big, old Skinner Mansion and its contents. And Grandpa Skinner also left them a big surprise... The Skinner Boys are now Guardians of the Lost Secrets... a collection of artefacts across the world that possess incredible powers. Grandpa Skinner also appointed a fourth Guardian, their feisty teenage cousin, Tara. As the anonymous Guardians of these artefacts, Tara and the boys must dedicate their lives to protecting them against the forces that would use their powers for evil and endanger the planet.



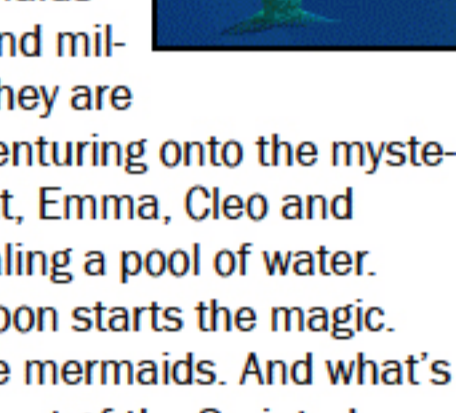
Returning to MIPCOM is scripted series 'H2O - Just Add Water' (78x26' + 3x90'). Until 'H2O - Just add Water', mermaids belonged to the realm of fantasy and fairy tale. But ever since three Australian girls found out that they were genuine mermaids, the teen world has never been the same again. The live-action adventures of our three mermaids have travelled all over the world and found millions of devoted fans everywhere! Now they are back: totally re-mastered in HD. When venturing onto the mysterious island of Mako on a full-moon night, Emma, Cleo and Rikki end up trapped in a cavern concealing a pool of water. As they enter it, the light from the full moon starts the magic. They soon realize that they have become mermaids. And what's more: they've got magical powers.



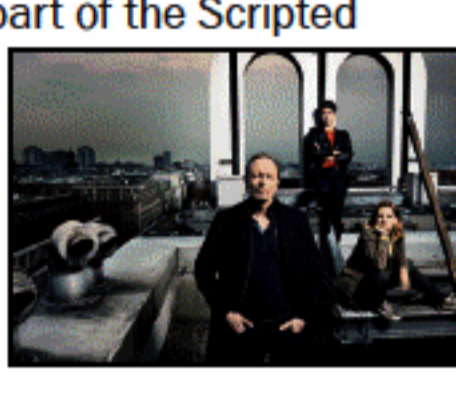
Also part of the Scripted offer is 'The Team' (8x60' - 4x115'). Criminals don't stop at borders, and neither should the police. 'The Team' portrays a group of European police officers fighting international crime throughout Europe. 'The Team' consists of forensics, legal and IT experts, along with profilers and psychologists; their cases take them to Europe's major cities. And 'Tellus' (6x50') is a crime drama about a group of young activists who have executed eco-motivated sabotages the last four years. Their first mistake accidentally kills someone and they need to make a decision: to stop or become more effective by doing selective murders. And 'The Fall' (5x60' + 6x60' or 3x90'). In its first season, 'The Fall' pits hunter against huntress: high-powered Detective Superintendent Stella Gibson and maddeningly clever serial killer Paul Spector. Brought in as an outsider to run the team, Stella feels a certain hostility, but she knows the psychology of serial killers. Her team explores the case from every angle, uncovering an intricate web of lives entangled by the murders, including members of both the killers' and the victims' families. In the second season, we see the hunt for Spector become increasingly desperate as the net tightens around him and he becomes psychologically ever more dangerous. Since the killer is known to the audience from the start, 'The Fall' is less a whodunit than a cat-and-mouse game that gains in intensity as the drama unfolds.



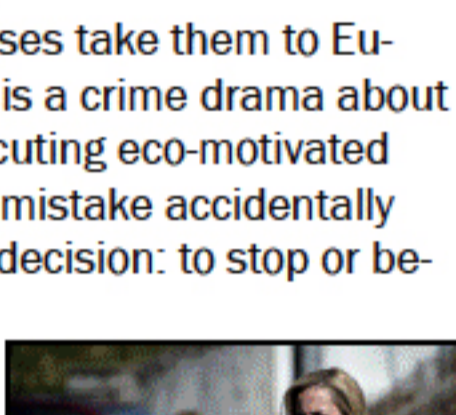
The Factual offer includes 'Apocalypse Neanderthal' (1x90' or 2x50'). 40 000 years ago, the steppes of Eurasia were home to our closest human relative - the Neanderthals: long considered as dim-witted cave dwellers, physically strong but lacking our brains and social skills. But now, new genetic and archaeological discoveries prove they were everything we thought they weren't: hearty, technologically savvy, and cultured - more like us than we ever imagined. Then why did they disappear? Scientists are searching for answers in an epic quest that spans the globe - from the ice fields of Greenland to the steppes of Southern Russia, to a Volcano site in Southern Italy. And they come to the conclusion: It was not war with Modern Man that killed off the Neanderthals - it was a genuine apocalypse, the eruption of a super volcano that might have sealed the fate of our closest human relatives. A second season is coming up of historical factual series 'Last Secrets of the Third Reich' (Season 2 - 5x50'). Season 1 of this documentary series touched a nerve among fans of history while blowing some fresh air into the musty files of the Nazi era. Concentrating on little-known but still haunting aspects of WWII, the series searches relentlessly for pieces of the puzzle of the Third Reich. In Season 2, we pore over Hitler's recently rediscovered medical records and examine the fate - suicide or murder? - of Hitler's paladin Rudolf Hess. Off the Brazilian coast, the camera teams record the rediscovery of the mythical U-513 submarine. Secret missions are part of the fact and fiction of wars, and here they range from foolish rescues to brutal assassinations. With long-lost art works still emerging today, it is no wonder that the treasures of the Third Reich continue to fascinate fortune hunters! Thus we, too, join the fray in search of Nazi gold.



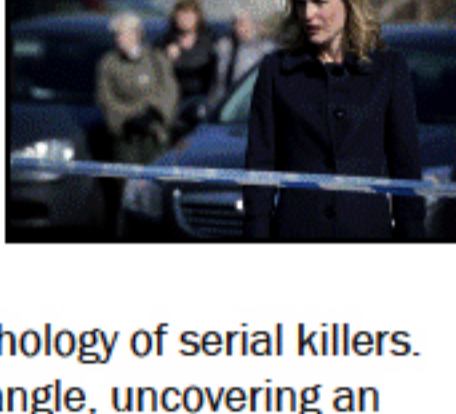
Another three-part factual series is 'The Ascent of Civilization' (3x50'). Democracy, science, theatre, plumbing, modern roads, laws, the Olympics, conquering the seas, the discovery of America, and the onset of globalisation - you'd be hard-pushed to find a more eclectic list of achievements. They're all at the heart of modern society, but their origins were passed down to us through the ages. It's an inheritance that leads us back to the world of three ancient trailblazer cultures - the world of the Greeks, the Romans and the Vikings. At the Unscripted front ZDFE is rolling out quiz format 'Quiz Champion' (1x150'). Germany's hardest quiz has challengers duking it out against five great experts in a direct duel of knowledge, and only the candidate that does better than the experts in the major fields of general knowledge stands a chance of winning half a million euros and the title of Quiz Champion. It's all or nothing here. If you want to be the Quiz Champion, being good just isn't enough - you have to win all of five duels.



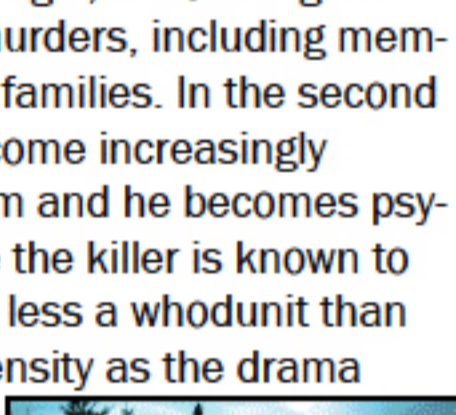
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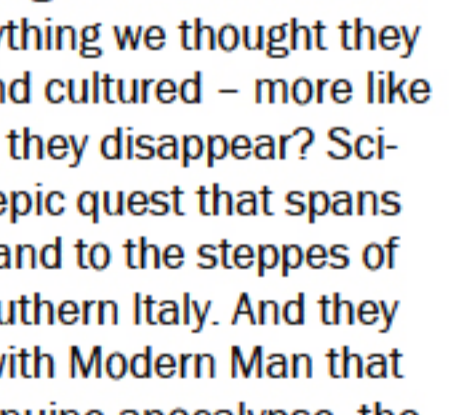
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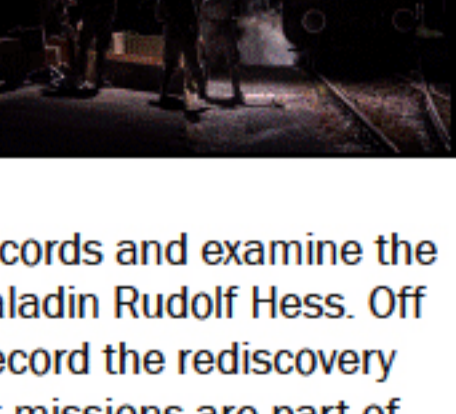
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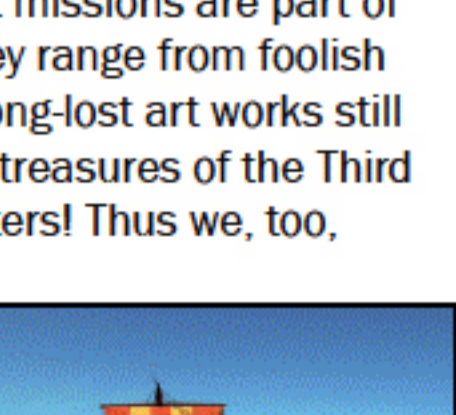
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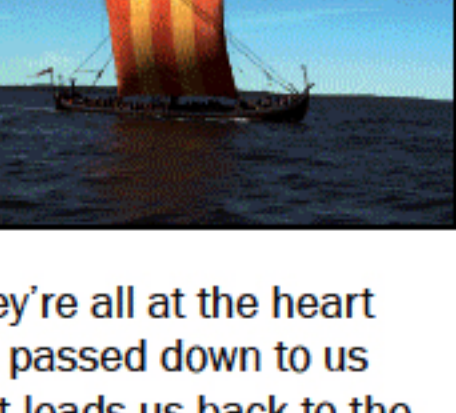
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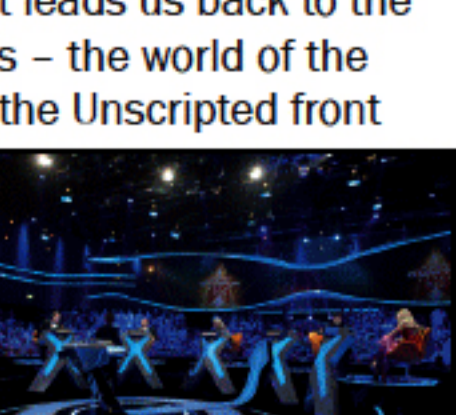
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