



VIRGIN TV  
BRITISH ACADEMY  
TELEVISION AWARDS



Press Release  
13 May 2018

(For immediate release)

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED:  
VIRGIN TV BRITISH ACADEMY TELEVISION AWARDS IN 2018**

**'THIS COUNTRY' AND 'THREE GIRLS' WIN TWO BAFTAs EACH  
SEAN BEAN WINS LEADING ACTOR AND MOLLY WINDSOR WINS LEADING  
ACTRESS**

**CHANNEL 5 WINS FIRST BAFTA SINCE 2011, FOR 'CRUISING WITH JANE  
MCDONALD'**

**FELLOWSHIP PRESENTED TO KATE ADIE  
JOHN MOTSON RECEIVES SPECIAL AWARD**

London, 13 May 2018: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts has announced the winners of the Virgin TV British Academy Television Awards, celebrating and rewarding the very best programmes and performances of 2017. The ceremony was hosted by Sue Perkins at the Royal Festival Hall, London, and presenters included: Anita Rani, Ashley Walters, Bradley Walsh, Clare Balding, Claudia Winkleman, Dermot O'Leary, Emma Willis, Greg Davies, Jodie Whittaker, Joely Richardson, John Bishop, Martin Freeman, Michelle Keegan, Sir Mo Farah, Nish Kumar, Noel Clarke, Ore Oduba, Victoria Derbyshire and Wunmi Mosaku.

There were two awards for **This Country**, written by [BAFTA Breakthrough Brits](#) Daisy May Cooper and Charlie Cooper. The mockumentary, depicting life in rural Britain, received the BAFTA for *Scripted Comedy* and **Daisy May Cooper** won *Female Performance in a Comedy Programme*.

The BAFTA for *Leading Actress* was awarded to another [BAFTA Breakthrough Brit](#), **Molly Windsor**, for her performance in **Three Girls**. The drama also won *Mini-Series*, adding to the three BAFTAs it won at the British Academy Television Craft Awards in April.

**Sean Bean** won the BAFTA for *Leading Actor* for his portrayal of a priest at the centre of a troubled community, in the drama series *Broken*.

In the *Supporting Actor* category, **Brían F. O'Byrne** received the BAFTA for his performance as a bereaved father in *Little Boy Blue*, a depiction of the true story of the murder of Rhys Jones. **Vanessa Kirby** took home the BAFTA for *Supporting Actress* for her role as Princess Margaret in *The Crown*.

The BAFTA for *Male Performance in a Comedy Programme* was awarded to **Toby Jones** for his performance in *Detectorists*. **Graham Norton** won the sixth BAFTA of his career, winning for *Entertainment Performance*, his third for *The Graham Norton Show*.

In the *International* category, the BAFTA was awarded to **The Handmaid's Tale**, the adaptation of Margaret Atwood's dystopian novel.

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In the drama categories, **Peaky Blinders** won the BAFTA for *Drama Series*, and docu-drama **Murdered for Being Different** was presented with the award for *Single Drama*.

**Casualty** was awarded the BAFTA for *Soap & Continuing Drama*, a category that recognises exceptional talent in delivering long-running continuing dramas. *Casualty* last won this award in 2007.

The BAFTA for *Entertainment Programme* was awarded to **Britain's Got Talent** for the second time and **Murder in Successville**, with [BAFTA Breakthrough Brit](#) Tom Davis as one of its nominees, received the award for *Comedy Entertainment Programme*.

**Love Island** received the BAFTA for *Reality & Constructed Factual*, and Channel 5 won its first BAFTA since 2011, for **Cruising with Jane McDonald** in the *Features* category.

The first winner of the *Short Form Programme* category, introduced this year to recognise programmes of between three and 20 minutes, was awarded to seaside comedy drama **Morgana Robinson's Summer**.

*News Coverage* was awarded to Sky News' **The Rohingya Crisis**, and the award for *Current Affairs* was presented to **Undercover: Britain's Immigration Secrets (Panorama)**.

**Ambulance** received the BAFTA for *Factual Series, Single Documentary* was awarded to **Rio Ferdinand: Being Mum and Dad** and **Basquiat – Rage to Riches** won the award for *Specialist Factual*.

**The Grand National** triumphed in the *Sport* category, while the award for *Live Event* was presented to **World War One Remembered: Passchendaele**, following its two BAFTA wins at the recent British Academy Television Craft Awards.

The Special Award was presented to **John Motson OBE** in recognition of his outstanding contribution to sports broadcasting. Motson leaves the BBC today at the end of a 50 year career.

The Fellowship, the highest accolade the Academy bestows, was presented to **Kate Adie OBE**. A truly groundbreaking news journalist, Adie is one of a very small number of women to have reported from hostile environments around the world.

Virgin TV's Must-See Moment, the only award voted for by the public, was won by Blue Planet II for the "Mother Pilot Whale Grieves" moment.

Red carpet highlights, backstage interviews with the winners, clips of the nominated programmes and all the latest images from the night's events are available at [www.bafta.org/television](http://www.bafta.org/television).

## ENDS

### For further information, please contact:

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BAFTA celebrated its television craft nominees with a day of dedicated panels, Q&As and filmed interviews. The content is now available at BAFTA Guru, our hub of inspirational creative insight and advice. BAFTA's activity to support creative talent includes BAFTA Breakthrough Brits, the BAFTA Scholarships Programme and BAFTA Crew, all of which are currently open for applications, as well as BAFTA Elevate and a year-round programme of masterclasses. BAFTA's Guru Live festival of inspirational masterclasses, panels and Q&As with BAFTA nominees in film, games and television will take place in London on 15 and 16 September.

#### **About BAFTA**

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) is a world-leading independent arts charity that brings the very best work in film, games and television to public attention and supports the growth of creative talent in the UK and internationally. Through its Awards ceremonies and year-round programme of learning events and initiatives – which includes workshops, masterclasses, scholarships, lectures and mentoring schemes in the UK, USA and Asia – BAFTA identifies and celebrates excellence, discovers, inspires and nurtures new talent, and enables learning and creative collaboration. For advice and inspiration from the best creative minds in working in film, games and television, visit [www.bafta.org/guru](http://www.bafta.org/guru). For more, visit [www.bafta.org](http://www.bafta.org).

#### **About Virgin Media**

Virgin Media offers four multi award-winning services across the UK and Ireland: broadband, TV, mobile phone and landline. Our dedicated, ultrafast network delivers the fastest widely-available broadband speeds to homes and businesses and we're expanding this through our Project Lightning programme, which will extend our network to 17 million premises. Virgin Media offers its TV customers a world of connected entertainment powered by its smallest, smartest and fastest set-top box, the Virgin TV V6. Virgin TV has also increased its investment in boxsets, catch up services as well as launching exclusive TV shows, including *Ash vs Evil Dead*, *Kingdom*, *Full Circle*, *Imposters* and US drama *Good Behavior*, all premiering in the UK and brilliantly brought together by Virgin TV. Our interactive Virgin TV service brings live TV, thousands of hours of on-demand programming and the best apps and games to customers through a set-top box, as well as on-the-go through tablets and smartphones. Virgin Mobile launched the

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