

**PRESS RELEASE**4<sup>th</sup> February 2016**7 WONDER EXPANDS TEAM TO FUEL FURTHER GROWTH AND SUCCESS**

**7 Wonder**, one of the UK's fastest growing TV independent production companies, has made three new appointments to fuel further growth, following a recent influx of commissions and company developments.

The production company has added Executive Producer, Jeremy Lee to the team, who joins from UK indie NERD, where he developed and produced hit series *The 80s: 10 Years that Changed Britain* and *The 90s: 10 Years that Changed the World* for Channel 4.

Prior to NERD, Jeremy was Executive Producer at Fresh One, where he produced Emmy nominated Channel 4 campaigning series *Don't Stop the Music*, Grierson nominated *Notes from the Inside with James Rhodes* and cutting edge documentary *Burgled*. He also developed and executive produced titles such as the Idris Elba fronted *How Hip Hop Changed the World* and *How Clubbing Changed the World* for Channel 4, nostalgia documentary strand, *Rewind...* and hit format *Supernanny*, during his time at Ricochet.

Jeremy has already started working with the 7 Wonder team and has landed a commission from Channel 4 for *How Rom Coms Ruled our World* (w/t) – a 90-minute special that celebrates the greatest rom coms ever made; from *When Harry Met Sally* and *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, to this year's latest film in the *Bridget Jones* franchise. The series will feature an international star studded cast of rom com royalty to reveal why the genre boasts some of Hollywood's finest and highest grossing moments of recent years.

7 Wonder has also hired Patrick McMahon as Head of Development to boost the company's slate of innovative, popular factual content. Patrick previously served as Head of Development at Boomerang, part of the TwoFour Group, where he built the company's development department from scratch, focussing on popular factual programming, formats and features for all major broadcasters. He was responsible for securing a number of primetime and daytime commissions, including *Posh Pawnbrokers* for Channel 4 Daytime and *Bargain Fever Britain* for ITV. Prior to that, Patrick spent time at RDF, Zig Zag, Maverick Television, Princess Productions, Films of Record and Chocolate Media. He brings to the role a wealth of experience, having developed or directed on a number of successful, award-winning series; from hit British comedy series *The Friday Night Project* for Channel 4, to RTS winning hospital series *Bizarre ER* for BBC Three.

Mandy Bishop has also joined the company as Head of Production of its new Birmingham office, within The Library of Birmingham. With a career spanning over 20 years, Mandy has previously held roles at Endemol – where she managed several fast turnaround series, large production teams and budgets out of its Birmingham office, and Catalyst TV – where she was responsible for the company’s offices, productions and finances in the Midlands. She has also worked for Maverick Television and the BBC. Her credits include *Embarrassing Bodies*, *Live from the Clinic* and *How to Look Good Naked* for Channel 4, *Last Chance Salon* for TLC, and hit BBC series *House Invaders* and *Garden Invaders*.

Alongside 7 Wonder’s Executive Producer Sarah Trigg, Mandy will oversee the company’s regional production output of 37 hours (and counting) of programming, which includes ambitious new health series *Over My Dead Body* (w/t), fronted by Davina McCall and national cooking show *My Kitchen Rule* – both for Channel 4. She will also work with founders Liza Abbott and Alex Fraser to develop longer-term growth strategies for the company.

Liza Abbott, CEO of 7 Wonder says, “This year marks our second birthday and we are incredibly proud of how far we have come in such a short space of time. We firmly believe in creating a destination for both on-screen and off-screen talent, and building a collaborative team that’s passionate about what we do – so Jeremy, Patrick and Mandy make the perfect fit. It was always our intention to expand the team and open an office in Birmingham, but the fact that we have been able to do so, sooner rather than later, is a testament to our hard work.”

Alex Fraser, Chief Creative Officer of 7 Wonder says, “We are delighted to welcome Jeremy, Patrick and Mandy on board. They’re joining at a really exciting time, with the company enjoying rapid growth and I’m sure they will play an integral role in driving future success.”

7 Wonder was founded in 2014 by Liza Abbott, Alex Fraser and Simon Ellse, and is backed by 7 Network Australia. It opened its regional office within The Library of Birmingham in January 2016, and since launching has secured major commissions from key broadcasters such as ITV, Channel 4, BBC Two, BBC Four, CBeebies, Sky 1 and Arts.

## **ABOUT 7 WONDER:**

Launched in the Spring of 2014, 7 Wonder is committed to collaborating with the best talent, on and off-screen, to deliver quality, bespoke and beautifully executed content across all non-scripted genres. It is a joint venture between Seven Network in Australia, Alexandra Fraser, Liza Abbott and Simon Ellse.

**ABOUT SEVEN NETWORK:**

Seven is Australia's most-watched broadcast television platform.

The network is expanding its presence in media, driving its leadership in the creation of content and delivering that content anywhere, anytime to the biggest audiences.

The company is expanding its presence in the further delivery of its video and publishing content beyond its three digital broadcast channels and across an array of platforms, including Hybrid Broadband Broadcast Television. Seven is also expanding into SVOD with Presto, a joint venture with Foxtel in Australia.

Seven is now creating more content than at any time in its history and is expanding its presence in international content production with the formation of two new international production companies: 7Wonder and 7Beyond. These two new businesses underline a key part of its strategy for today and in the future: the expansion of our leadership in the production of content.

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