

Premier Writing Solutions

Content@PremierWritingSolutions.com

This sample is a sci-fi TV show review for an entertainment website.

Will BBC America's Dirk Gently Live Up to Douglas Adams' Legacy?

Fans of Douglas Adams have something they can look forward to: Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency is set to premiere on BBC America on Saturday October 22 at 9 pm. It's being produced in partnership with Netflix, and in December, it will be available for streaming worldwide.

Dirk Gently is a private detective who doesn't believe in investigating – instead, he trusts the fundamentally interconnectedness of the universes to lead him to a holistic solution. The series is inspired by and loosely based on the two Dirk Gently novels, Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency and The Long Dark Tea-Time of the Soul, but with a new plot. Creator Max Landis, who also wrote the movies Chronicle and Victor Frankenstein, has reportedly retained the distinctly quirky bent that Douglas Adams' properties are known for while crafting edgy and modern storylines.

Viewers who only know the author from The Hitchhiker's Guide series won't find the characters recognizable, but they should see the same particular brand of humor Adams is known for. Landis, whose professional resume is fairly short, has a lot to live up to. It's unusual to see such an iconically British project debut solely in America – it's not slated to air on BBC UK before or after its American run. BBC did air an adaption of Dirk Gently in 2010 with a different cast and creative team as well as a radio version in 2007.

Dirk Gently Features a Strong Cast

Samuel Barnett, who previously delivered memorable performances in Penny Dreadful and The History Boys, among many other films and television shows, stars as Dirk Gently. Elijah Wood plays the Doctor Watson to his Sherlock Holmes, albeit reluctantly. Other recognizable faces include Neil Brown Jr (Straight Outta Compton) and Richard Schiff (The West Wing).

The series' first episode, Horizons, was directed by Dean Parisot. He also directed Galaxy Quest, a movie so good that Star Trek fans voted it an honorary part the cannon. Additionally, he directed the Jim Carrey movie Fun with Dick and Jane and a slew of individual episodes for long-running shows, such as Monk, Modern Family, and Masters of Sex.

In an interview for BBC America, executive producer Arvind Ethan David recounts adapting the book for a school play at the age of 16. Douglas Adams came to see it and told him it should be a TV show. David says "When your god tells that to you and you're 16, you spend the rest of your life trying to make that true." Hopefully the finished product will be as good as previous BBC adaptations of Adams' works.