



Gemini Awards Should Celebrate Canadian Talent

Toronto – September 8, 2011 – The Writers Guild of Canada Executive Director Maureen Parker today issued the following statement regarding the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television's decision to award its Best Dramatic Series Gemini to *The Borgias* and its best Dramatic Mini-Series award to *Pillars of the Earth* - both co-productions on which Canada was a minority partner:

"The WGC believes that the Gemini Awards, created to honour the best of the Canadian Television industry, should celebrate productions showcasing the talents of Canadian producers, directors, performers, screenwriters and more. Recognizing an international co-production employing minimal Canadian talent implies that to get the best, you have to look elsewhere. This is simply not true.

"The Gemini process is flawed. But there is a simple solution. Excellence in co-productions should be recognized in an international category – as they are at the BAFTA awards. That way, the Canadian television awards can do what it is designed to do – shine a spotlight on Canadian shows. Our talent deserves it."

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