

A+E NETWORKS® AND HARLEQUIN TO PARTNER ON FRANCHISED SLATE OF ORIGINAL SCRIPTED MOVIES, WEB SERIES, BOOKS AND DIGITAL CONTENT TO AIR IN THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD - Corporate Harlequin



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New York, NY, March 31, 2016

A+E Networks® and Harlequin have formed a creative partnership to produce a slate of original scripted movies, web series, books and digital content that will extend around the world and across multiple platforms. The deal was today announced by Rob Sharenow, EVP/GM, A&E, Lifetime and LMN, A+E Networks.

A+E Networks, home to among the most powerful entertainment destinations for women and Harlequin, a leading publisher of women's fiction, together will franchise several scripted dramatic movies based on original stories and bestselling novels that will include a narrative throughline of mystery, romance, thriller, suspense and more. Content will be made available across A+E Networks' channels and content partners globally.

"We are excited to work with Harlequin, a company that shares our passion for entertaining women with compelling stories of empowerment," said Sharenow. "We are especially excited with the global scope of this deal that will enable us to bring great storytelling for women both in North America and to our channels and content partners around the world."

"Harlequin is at the forefront of creative storytelling, bringing new and engaging content to a global audience in different formats," said Craig Swinwood, Publisher and CEO of Harlequin. "We are thrilled to be working with a media company as innovative as A+E Networks to deliver compelling entertainment through immersive transmedia experiences."

Roma Roth will executive produce the first film in the franchise via her Reel World Management banner which is set to begin production in May in Canada.

About A+E Networks

A+E Networks®, LLC. is an award-winning, global media content company offering consumers a diverse communications environment ranging from television networks to websites, gaming, watch apps and educational software. A+E Networks is comprised of A&E®, Lifetime®, History®, LMN®, FYI™, VICELAND, H2™, A+E Studios™, History en Español™, Crime & Investigation Network™, Military History™, Lifetime Real Women®, A&E IndieFilms®, A+E Networks International®, A+E Networks Digital® and A+E Networks Consumer Products™. A+E Networks channels

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Contact

Melanie Dulos

Harlequin

(416) 391-7008

melanie.dulos@harpercollins.com

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and branded programming reach more than 350 million households in over 200 territories. A+E Networks, LLC. is a joint venture of Disney-ABC Television Group and Hearst Corporation.

About Harlequin

Harlequin (Harlequin.com) is a global publisher of commercial fiction and a worldwide leader in romance fiction, with titles issued worldwide in as many as 32 languages and sold in up to 93 international markets. The company publishes more than 110 titles monthly and more than 1,300 authors from around the world. Harlequin is a division of **HarperCollins Publishers**, the second largest consumer book publisher, and has operations in 11 countries. For more information, please visit Harlequin.com and Facebook.com/HarlequinBooks. Follow Harlequin on Twitter: [@HarlequinBooks](https://twitter.com/HarlequinBooks).

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