



Production Begins on New OLN Original Series, “Word Travels”

-- 13-part series by Vancouver-based Omni Films explores the lives
behind the byline of two of Canada’s top travel writers --

Toronto, ON (August 8, 2007) – OLN together with Vancouver-based Omni Film’s Lifestyle Division announced today that production has started on “**Word Travels**,” a new 13-part, 30-minute original series that examines the real lives of two working travel writers Robin Esrock and Julia Dimon, as they journey to 12 exotic countries on six different continents and compete for the best stories while under the pressure of filing deadlines. Principal photography is scheduled to last approximately 13 weeks. A broadcast date has not yet been announced.

In this unique glimpse into the seemingly glamorous world of professional travel journalism, Esrock and Dimon battle demanding activities, exhausting schedules, bumpy public transport and a quirky cast of international backpackers. From Colombian carnivals to Jordanian camel trekking; to sexy stag parties in Latvia to dogsledding through the Northwest Territories, nothing will stand in the way of getting a good story.

Esrock’s extreme travel column “Modern Gonzo” has developed a cult following online and is published internationally in newspapers including the Vancouver Sun, the South China Morning Post and the Chicago Tribune. His co-host Dimon is a nationally-syndicated columnist for Metro news and her “Road Warrior” column appears Wednesdays in the daily paper in Toronto, Vancouver, Ottawa, Edmonton and Calgary. Throughout her career she’s traveled through over 50 countries, from the depths of the Great Barrier Reef to the tops of Macchu Pichu. Will these two writers survive the assignment, or crack under the pressure?

“**Word Travels**’ is anything but your average travelogue,” said Patrice Baillargeon, executive producer for OLN. “We are visiting amazing places with this exciting new series, but the focus is definitely on the unexpected trials and tribulations that come with adventuring abroad in the world’s wildest locations.”

“Travel writing sounds like a dream job, but it’s full of unusual challenges,” said Heather Hawthorn-Doyle, Head of Omni Lifestyle and Executive Producer. “Esrock and Dimon are the perfect personalities to introduce us to this dynamic world. The duo’s unique writing talent, experience, and off-beat chemistry ensure the action will be fast and the images unforgettable.”

For over 25 years, Omni Film Productions Limited (www.omnifilm.com) has produced over 175 hours of drama and comedy series, award-winning documentaries, factual and lifestyle series. Their diverse productions begin with a compelling story and are then produced with integrity and quality. The result is over 75 national and international awards.

For more information, contact:

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OLN is Canada's destination for adventurous entertainment. Going beyond the comforts of home, OLN's experience-based programming reveals the insatiable human drive for adventure. Riveting and rugged, OLN's fearless line-up pushes the limits with series like *Survivorman*, *Mantracker*, *Beyond Boundaries*, *The Amazing Race* and *Extreme Survival*; and covering internationally-renowned events including the *Tour De France*, *Iditarod*, *Dakar Rally* and *Professional Bull Riding*. Visit OLN on the web at www.tsn.ca/oln. CTV Inc. is the managing partner of OLN.

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