

Press Release

For Immediate Release

DO TRAVEL WRITERS HAVE *THE* DREAM JOB?

Travel adventure show WORD TRAVELS returns to OLN on Sunday, January 18 (8:30 P.M EST) to reveal the “truth behind the byline”

Hot, young travel writers Robin Esrock and Julia Dimon share their unique experiences and perspectives as they explore 13 thrilling new travel destinations in season two of Word Travels.

(December 15, 2008, Vancouver) From the paradise oceans of The Maldives to the war zones of Sri Lanka, **WORD TRAVELS**, premiering Sunday, January 18, 8:30 P.M. EST, follows the extraordinary lives of **Robin Esrock** and **Julia Dimon**, two of Canada’s most popular travel writers, as they hunt down exciting stories to file for their readers. This season they’ll travel to (in order) **Sri Lanka, Korea, The Philippines, Canada’s West Coast, Slovenia, Romania, The Maldives, Turkey, Ukraine, Taiwan, Jamaica, Belize, and Mexico.**

Each kick-ass new half-hour episode of **WORD TRAVELS** gives viewers the real goods about professional travel journalism. Whether coping with jetlag, deadlines or cultural differences, Robin and Julia throw themselves into the action looking for the most dramatic and interesting stories to tell their readers - while testing their own emotional and physical limits.

This season on **WORD TRAVELS**, Robin’s tireless quest for adventure gets him set on fire in Taiwan, beaten up in a Mexican wrestling ring, and pressing “the button” at a Ukrainian nuclear missile base. Julia chases human interest stories with a cultural and often quirky angle such as “feminism and food” in Eastern Turkey, jungle survival in Belize, and paranormal activities in Transylvania.

Edited to stunning visuals with a music video edge, and featuring international and Canadian indie music, it’s no wonder this hit documentary series has returned to OLN and airs worldwide on National Geographic’s Adventure channel. And the adventures will continue: Robin, Julia and their film crew from Vancouver-based Omni Film Productions are already gearing up to film 13 exotic new adventures in 2009.

About the Hosts

Julia Dimon is a nationally-syndicated columnist for Metro News. This brave and beautiful young woman's weekly column "The Travel Junkie" chronicles several demanding backpacking journeys she’s taken around the world. Freelance adventure writer **Robin Esrock** has travelled to over 80 countries and has been published in over a dozen major newspapers worldwide. In Canada, he writes for MSN, Outpost and Chill Magazine, and his website www.moderngonzo.com has a cult-like following.

With millions of readers in Canada and beyond, Robin and Julia are the perfect guides into the real world of travel writers. Robin’s commitment to hunt down exciting adventures without losing his sense of humour, or trademark hat, has enabled him to attract a global online and print audience. Julia, with her take-no-prisoners personality, not to mention her unique iron stomach, has an uncanny ability to find powerful stories and connect with cultures while battling the

demands of a weekly column. Together, their unique experience, talent, and chemistry ensure the show's action is thick, and the images unforgettable.

WORD TRAVELS mirrors the world it discovers; unpredictable, emotionally charged, beautiful, and full of surprises.

WORD TRAVELS, season two, is directed by Michael Bodnarchuk (*Sri Lanka, Korea, The Philippines, The Maldives, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine*), Jordan Kawchuk (*Taiwan, Jamaica, Belize, Mexico*), and Peter Steel (*Canada's West Coast*).

WORD TRAVELS' Robin Esrock and Julia Dimon are also the series' writers and associate producers, and developed the project with Heather Hawthorn-Doyle, Head of Omni Life, a division of Omni Film. Executive producers of the series are Brian Hamilton, Michael Chechik and Heather Hawthorn Doyle; senior producer is Deborah Wainwright; director of photography is Sean Cable; series editor is Peter Steel; sound recordist is Paul Vance; story editor is Deborah Wainwright; music composer is Anne Leader.

WORD TRAVELS is produced by Omni Film Productions Ltd. in association with OLN and with the participation of the Rogers Cable Network Fund, Rogers Telefund, the Province of British Columbia Film Incentive BC, and the Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit Program.

Vancouver-based **Omni Film Productions Limited** is one of Canada's most respected television production companies, producing top quality programming in a wide variety of genres. Since 1979, Omni has produced over 175 hours of television dramas, documentaries, factual and lifestyle series and children's programming garnering over 75 national and international awards. Along with **WORD TRAVELS**, soon to number 39 episodes, Omni's series include **ROBSON ARMS** and **ALICE, I THINK** (both for CTV and The Comedy Network), **THIS SPACE FOR RENT**, **EDGEMONT**, **STUNTDAGS**, **MAKE SOME NOISE**, **THE ODYSSEY**, **CHAMPIONS OF THE WILD**, **ANCIENT CLUES**, **QUIET PLACES**, **HEALTHY HOME**, **HI-TECH CULTURE** and, most recently, the mini-series **DRAGON BOYS** and the series **BUFFALO AIR**. Omni is currently in production on the 13 x hour-long drama series **DEFYING GRAVITY**, a Canada-U.S. co-venture for CTV and Fox Television Studios, which will air in Canada on CTV and Space, in Britain on BBC, and in Germany on ProSieben.

www.omnifilm.com

Please visit: www.wordtravels.tv and www.olin.ca

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Repeat Showing – Episodes of **WORD TRAVELS** will be repeated, the same evenings as their initial broadcast, at 11:30 pm EST

For more information, DVD screening copies, interview requests, photos, etc., please contact:

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