



METABOOK

FILMS

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## **Part2 Pictures and Metabook Films Announce Deal for Television Docuseries Based on Upcoming *Twin Peaks* Origin Project**

**(NEW YORK: November 19, 2018)** Part2 Pictures and Metabook Films announced today an option deal for the upcoming true-crime title ***Blonde, Beautiful and Dead: The Murder Mystery That Inspired Twin Peaks*** by David Bushman and Mark Givens. Under the terms of the deal, Part2 Pictures, the Emmy-winning production company behind such programs as CNN's *This is Life with Lisa Ling*, *Dark Net* on Showtime, and Oprah Winfrey's *Belief* on OWN, will adapt a television docuseries based on ***Blonde, Beautiful and Dead*** in association with Metabook Films, Metabook's film and TV production arm. The companies will be taking the project to premium cable networks as well as streaming platforms.

***Blonde, Beautiful and Dead*** uncovers the story behind the real-life murder of a young woman from Sand Lake, New York, where *Twin Peaks* co-creator Mark Frost's grandmother lived. The mysterious lore surrounding the girl's death served as an inspiration for Frost in the creation of the character of Laura Palmer in the landmark television series. Frost will also write the foreword to the book.

*Twin Peaks*, which Frost co-created with David Lynch, became an instant cultural phenomenon upon its 1990 premiere on ABC. The series' long-awaited continuation, *Twin Peaks: The Return*, which aired on Showtime in 2017, was also a major television event.

"This is one of those stories that you can just see and feel the second you hear about it. It has all the texture and twists of *Twin Peaks* but has the beauty of being true crime with a current day investigation unfolding alongside the events of the past," said David Shadrack Smith, President of Part2 Pictures. "We're excited to take a multi-platform approach to it with Metabook and create something that lives across diverse media."

"This is such provocative subject matter that will appeal not only to *Twin Peaks* fans, but also to people who love true crime," said Metabook creator Benjamin Alfonsi. "With Part2's proven track record of producing riveting documentary entertainment for the past decade, we're thrilled to be working together on what we want to make a must-see television event."

The TV adaptation will closely follow the narrative and investigative course of the book, which is based on Bushman and Givens' years of research into the killing. The two co-authors will serve as consulting producers on the docuseries.

"We are beyond excited by this new partnership with Part2 Pictures that will allow us to bring the intriguing tale of Hazel Drew's brief life and tragic death to a whole new audience," said Bushman and Givens in a joint statement.

Executive producers will include David Shadrack Smith and Amy Bucher from Part2, and Benjamin Alfonsi from Metabook Films. Metabook CEO Christian Alfonsi and publisher Ken Siman will serve as co-executive producers.

The news is part of a strategy of developing unique IP for Part2, which celebrated its 10-year anniversary this year. The company is currently producing season six of the popular *This is Life with Lisa Ling* (CNN) as well as *Chasing Life with Dr. Sanjay Gupta* (CNN), and recently premiered *Story of Cool* with LL Cool J (MSNBC) and *Breaking Hate* (MSNBC).

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## **ABOUT PART2 PICTURES**

Part2 focuses on human-driven story telling across a range of genres, platforms and styles. Based in Brooklyn and founded in 2007 by David Shadrack Smith, the company has produced over 200 hours of award-winning programming, partnered with a dozen networks, filmed in 60 countries and created thought-provoking content around leading talent such as Lisa Ling, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Tony Harris and LL Cool J. Their series and films have reached audiences on Showtime, CNN, Discovery, NatGeo, PBS, OWN and their feature films and documentaries have premiered at Tribeca and Sundance. Their many credits include nearly 100 episodes of *This is Life with Lisa Ling* (CNN), *Scene of the Crime with Tony Harris* (ID), *Story of Cool* (MSNBC), *Belief* with Oprah Winfrey (OWN), *Dark Net* (Showtime), *Chasing Life with Dr. Sanjay Gupta* (CNN) and *Hard Time* (NatGeo), among many more.

## **ABOUT METABOOK®**

Metabook is a publishing company and production studio at the forefront of digital innovation. Metabook releases content across multiple platforms and in multiple genres. The company has published works from top authors, including #1 *New York Times* bestselling authors John Berendt and Wally Lamb, and produced related entertainment content featuring such talents as Elizabeth Banks, Laura Benanti, Kathleen Chalfant, Laverne Cox, Dana Delany, Janis Ian, Jeremy Sisto, Kathleen Turner and Alfred Uhry. Metabook Films co-produced with Double Take Pictures and Brownstone Productions last year's *Yours Sincerely, Lois Weber*, executive produced by Elizabeth Banks and Benjamin Alfonsi, which won Best Documentary at LA Shorts International Film Festival.