

Television International



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Published: 20 May 2009

National Geographic Television International (NGTI) today announces that it has acquired almost 20 hours of new programming from deals with four independent producers – two of which are new business partners.

Science title Catching Cancer (1 x 52) is being produced by Australia's December Films, in association with Pemberton Films for ABC Australia. This fascinating programme asks whether cancer can be 'caught' and sets off on a global pursuit of infectious cancers, as well as the tools being developed to protect people. Using evocative computer animation, a cancer cell is tracked over its epic journey from 'birth' to ultimate domination and the rules of the cancer 'lottery' and the impact of germs are also revealed.

The second producer partner new to NGTI is underwater specialists Liquid Motion Film. Water Colours (3 x 50/6 x 25) is a new series filmed in the South Pacific, close to Liquid Motion's base, and provides a pioneering breakthrough in communication between underwater species. Capturing spectacular images, it uncovers the truth about exactly how fish see and manipulate colours – and each other – in their world. Water Colours has already collected more than 20 international awards during its production, including Best Film at the Santa Barbara Ocean Film Festival and a Merit of Excellence at Celebrate the Sea Film Festival in Australia.

Chris Fletcher, acting head of acquisitions and co-productions at NGTI comments: "The acquisitions market is extremely competitive at the moment but the National Geographic brand, coupled with our long-standing reputation in factual sales, continues to attract leading independent producers from around the world. I am delighted to welcome the intriguing new titles from Liquid Motion and December Films to our catalogue — and am happy that Essential Television & Film and Towers Productions continue to provide us with such excellent programming to represent."

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