

"NATPE BUDAPEST HAS PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN  
OUR COMPANY'S GROWTH STRATEGY"  
EKİN KOYUNCU KARAMAN

RENEWED TURKISH TV SERIES:  
A COMPLETE GUIDE  
YAĞMUR ÇÖL

"I THINK AS A SECTOR, WE HAVE COLLECTIVELY SUCCEEDED  
IN CREATING A GENRE IN THE GLOBAL MARKET"  
SELİN ARAT

# EPISODE

NATPE BUDAPEST 2024



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# Exploring the World of Content From Türkiye to the Globe

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Oben Budak



Hello everyone,

We are thrilled to participate in NATPE Budapest for the first time. In this issue, we have covered in-depth topics to provide you with comprehensive insights into Turkish television. You can find out more about the exciting new digital projects launching this summer and the ones renewed for next season in Yağmur Çöl's articles. Additionally, we have a detailed article covering the series that concluded this season.

Our new interview series, *Women Behind The Magic*, highlights successful women in the Turkish TV industry. Our first guest Selin Arat, Director of International Operations at Tims Group, provided enlightening insights about the Turkish market in her interview.

We also spoke to Ekin Koyuncu Karaman, the Global Distribution & Partnership Director of OGM UNIVERSE, who discussed their expanding international presence, the company's progress, and their participation in NATPE Budapest.

Oya Doğan has written an article titled *We're Afraid We Have to Cancel Men*, addressing the issue of toxic masculinity in TV series, and anyone concerned with the rising problem of toxic masculinity will find something relatable in this article. Additionally, Burak Sakar's article on the 2023-24 season ratings provides a thorough evaluation of the season with detailed statistics.

We also concluded an interview with the acclaimed musician Murat Evgin, who has made significant contributions to Turkish TV series with his music.

I will be moderating the final panel of this year's NATPE Budapest on behalf of *Episode Magazine*. We invite you to join us for the conference titled "Driving Efficiency Through," featuring esteemed speakers Akos Erdos, Sophie Ferron, Rodrigo Nascimento, and Victoria Yarmoschuk.

Enjoy...

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## END OF AN ERA: TURKISH TV SUSPENDS SUMMER SERIES

Türkiye, the world's third-largest exporter of TV series after the United States and the United Kingdom, is experiencing a significant shift in its television landscape this summer. Due to escalating production costs, producers and channels have made the difficult decision to suspend the production of summer series.

Typically, summer series in Türkiye commence at the beginning of the summer and, if successful in ratings, continue into the new season. Shows like *Love Is on the Air* and *Love for Rent* are prime examples of this trend.

Reports suggest that the cost of producing a single episode has exceeded 10 million Turkish Lira (310,000.00 USD), yet advertising revenues haven't seen a proportional increase. This situation has prompted producers and channels to suspend summer series. While the new season is scheduled to begin in September, another challenge may arise: a decrease in the number of series for the new season. Producers and channels may explore alternative methods to control costs, some channels may focus on formats or airing reruns of old series to cut down expenses.



The suspension of summer series marks a significant change in the Turkish TV industry. Although preparations are underway for the new season, the reality remains that the number of new series might decrease, reflecting the ongoing financial challenges faced by producers and channels.



## FORMATS TAKE CENTER STAGE ON TURKISH TV

This summer, Turkish television is experiencing a significant shift towards formats, largely due to suspension of summer series.

TV8 continues to lead this trend, renowned for its popular formats like *Survivor* and *MasterChef*. The new season of *MasterChef* is set to return, promising to captivate its dedicated audience once again. Additionally, *Çarkifelek* has recently begun its run and will continue throughout the summer.

Comedy skit shows are also maintaining their strong presence on Turkish TV. *Güldür Güldür* and *Çok Güzel Hareketler Bunlar*, will continue their journey.

*Dünya Güzellerim Tatilde* is also making a highly anticipated comeback. This travel show features the iconic trio of Bülent Ersoy, Safiye Soyman, and Banu Alkan as they embark on adventures across various countries.

Adding to the summer lineup, CNBC-e has returned to Turkish television with a promise to bring fresh content to viewers. One of the first projects announced by the channel is *Letterbox Türkiye*, a popular format based in UK. The Turkish version of the show will be hosted by the famous actor Yiğit Kirazcı.



## KENAN İMİRZALIOĞLU'S UPCOMING SERIES

The new Netflix Original Turkish series *Ayrılık da Sevdaya Dahil* (Separation Is Also Part of Love) is currently in production. Filming is scheduled to commence in October. The series, starring Kenan İmirzalıoğlu, is still in the process of finalizing its screenplay and casting. The script is being written by Yavuz Turgul, Kurtcebe Turgul, and Nilgün Öneş.



### TURKISH ADAPTATION OF ACCLAIMED SERIES 'RAY DONOVAN'

Orchestra Content has started preparations for the Turkish adaptation of the acclaimed American crime drama series, *Ray Donovan*.

The series, which has been broadcast in many countries around the world and has attracted great interest, is being adapted in Türkiye. In the Turkish adaptation of the series, the Emmy-winning actor Haluk Bilginer (*Persona*, *The Veil*) will portray the character Mickey Donovan.

Birol Tezcan adapted the script for the series, which was acquired from Paramount Formats. A full announcement, including details on the complete cast, is expected soon and will be updated on our website.

## TIMS&B'S UPCOMING SERIES 'SİYAH KALP (BLACK HEART)' UNVEILS STAR-STUDED CAST

Tims&B's highly anticipated new series *Siyah Kalp* (Black Heart) is currently in production and is set to air on Show TV in the upcoming season. Written by Ayfer Tunç and directed by Uluç Bayraktar, the series promises to deliver a compelling story centered around love and family relationships, focusing on the lives of twin siblings.

The main cast for *Siyah Kalp* (Black Heart) has been recently announced, featuring Ece Uslu (Black Rose) along with Esra Dermancıoğlu (*Magnificent Century: Kösem*, *The Brave*, *Fatmagül*), Işıl Yücesoy, (*The Father*) and Genco Özak. The full cast, including the leading man, is set to be revealed soon.



### NEW SERIES ALERT: STARRING MURAT YILDIRIM AND EBRU ŞAHİN

A new series starring Murat Yıldırım (*The Shadow Team*, *Aziz*) and Ebru Şahin (*Hercan*) is underway. The highly anticipated series is produced by TMC Film and is expected to air on NOW.

Directed by Recai Karagöz, who recently directed the acclaimed series *Farah*, the yet-to-be-titled series is already generating significant buzz. Murat Yıldırım will portray an architect named Demir, while Ebru Şahin will take on the intriguing role of Nazlı.



# We're Afraid We Have to Cancel Men: Toxic Masculinity in Turkish TV Series

IN RECENT YEARS, NOT ONLY THE COUNTRY BUT ALSO THE SCREENS HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED BY TOXIC MEN. AS HEROES ARE REPLACED BY ANTI-HEROES, THE DOMINANT VOICE BECOMES THE SHOUT OF THE MAN. THESE MEN SHARE COMMON TRAITS: AN ADDICTION TO ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE, SELFISHNESS, INFIDELITY, AND MAMA'S BOY ATTITUDES. ALTHOUGH THEY MANAGE TO CAPTIVATE THE AUDIENCE, IN THE END, THEY MAKE YOU THINK, "CANCEL THESE MEN."

OYA DOĞAN  
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When we take a look at the dramas we see on the screen; women need to fight "toxic masculinity" to reveal their own strength. Therefore, for a long time, Turkish television has regarded the construction of masculinity, centered around various forms of violence, as sacred. The situation has escalated to the point where almost every main male character in these series is constantly shouting, psychologically abusive, inflicting financial hardship, selfish, a mama's boy, domineering, cruel, jealous, and disappearing at the first sign of trouble. A new hero archetype is nearly being created. More accurately, heroes are turning into anti-men. Just like in real life... The purpose of these anti-men is to generate hatred on screen through various forms of violence, while women realize their own strength. The more hatred (haters) they have, the higher the ratings get. This creates an oxymoronic situation. On one hand, the audience says, "Cancel these men," but on the other hand, they can't stop watching and tune in specifically for these characters.

## CURSING CAPTAIN ALI WAS LIKE A FORM OF MEDITATION

In fact, this construction of toxic masculinity was initiated by the legendary Turkish TV series *Forbidden Love*, which aired on Kanal D from 2008 to 2010. The series has broken rating records every time it has been rerun over the past 14 years and will be broadcast again by the channel every Thursday this summer. Behlül, Bihter's forbidden lover, was an irresponsible, selfish, cowardly, and psychologically abusive 'anti-hero.' However, Kivanç Tatlıtuğ's good looks made viewers overlook everything.



Despite their anger towards Behlül, viewers kept tuning in. Behlül constantly ran away, but as a bonus, he brought in high ratings. He continues to fulfill this role successfully. Who can forget *Time Goes By*, which aired from 2010 to 2013? It vividly depicted the chaos and violence created by a father through the eyes of a young child. Captain Ali; cheated on his wife Cemile, inflicted physical, psychological, and financial abuse on his children, moved in with his mistress and kicked his children out, managing to drive the audience into fits of rage. During its broadcast, cursing Ali became a sort of meditation for viewers. Meanwhile, Cemile was learning to stand tall and discovering her own strength.

### REWRITING THE RULES OF MASCULINITY

Emir Kozcuoğlu from *Endless Love*, Kendal from *Black Rose*, Harun from *Broken Pieces*, Sancar from *The Ambassador's Daughter*... This list goes on. However, this male prototype has increased significantly in the last few years. They appear in almost every single series. The defining trait of these men is that they only appreciate what they have after they lose it. When it's within reach, they see it as worthless; when it's out of reach, it becomes precious to them. When they can't get what they want, they resort to insults, humiliation, and hitting below the belt, rewriting the rules of traditional masculinity. If someone had said 15 years ago that the main male character of a series

would have these traits, both the audience, the producers, and the channels would have rejected it. However, looking at Türkiye's highest-rated series today, we see that this has become the winning formula.

### THERE IS AN APP TO VIRTUALLY SLAP FATİH

In Türkiye, the name Fatih used to bring to mind Fatih Sultan Mehmet, who conquered Istanbul. Now, when the name Fatih is mentioned, women say, "Damn you, Fatih!" at once. This is because *One Love's* uncontrollable, angry, spoiled, disrespectful mama's boy Fatih manages to irritate viewers every week. There's even an app where women can vent their frustration by virtually slapping Fatih. *One Love* began with the promise of portraying the union of two families through the marriage of a conservative family's son and a secular family's daughter. It aimed to show how differences could be tolerated and both sides could understand each other with tolerance. The show successfully accomplished this, creating a diverse audience demographic that spans from Germany to Russia, from mansions to prisons. The result was women discovering their own strength, but the journey was filled with toxic masculinity.

### TIMUR'S SELFISHNESS EMPOWERED BAHAR

This season's highest-rated series was *Blooming Lady*. Bahar, who had given up her medical career and tirelessly devoted





herself to her husband, children, and mother-in-law, needed a liver transplant due to a sudden illness. Coincidentally, her husband Timur, who treated her poorly, refused to share a bed with her, and used her like a servant, had a liver that was a perfect match for the transplant. However, the selfish, scheming, deceitful mama's boy Timur refused to donate his liver to his wife, Bahar. This decision skyrocketed the series' popularity, as it featured a strong female character rising against a worthless man. Bahar would experience an awakening and learn to put herself first. And that's exactly what happened. As Bahar slowly discovered her own strength, Timur continued to hide behind lies, belittle Bahar, and undermine her at work. When the truth finally came out, Timur tried to weasel his way out and test Bahar's patience once again. As housewife Bahar transformed into Doctor Bahar, she often couldn't believe her own progress and would say, "Good job, Bahar." What truly empowered her was Timur's pure selfishness.

### REHA: THE MENTOR OF TOXICITY FOR FATİH

In the series *I Am Mother*, Karsu got married at a very young age and had three children. Karsu, who had never worked in her life, escaped her unhappiness through her children. That was until her husband Reha's betrayal. The main character of the series, Reha, practically wrote the book on how to be a truly terrible man. He constantly yelled, placed himself above everything in the world, was financially abusive, cheated, was a mama's boy, got bored easily, favored some of his children over others, and demanded to be treated as sacred. Reha was almost like a mentor to Fatih from *One Love*. Reha was the kind of husband every woman should run away from at first sight. Karsu realized this too late, but she did not surrender afterward. Reha's actions only made her stronger. Even though she sacrificed her

happiness for it, in the end, there was a strong Karsu on the screen.

Think about Dr. Neslihan Soysalan's husband, Serhan from the series *Wild Heart*. He is the manager of a hospital, and a father. However, there is profound unhappiness at home. Serhan is a man who cheats, is focused only on getting what he wants, can choose evil without a second thought, is capable of violence, can kidnap children, and uses his love for Neslihan to justify all of his actions. In short, he embodies a deeply entrenched form of toxic masculinity that should be avoided at all costs. However, as Serhan continues his behavior, Neslihan only grows stronger.



### TURKISH SERIES: A MIRROR TO REALITY

The hidden weapon of the Turkish series is women who come to realize their strength. In these fictional narratives, women often have to endure evil, humiliation, and neglect to discover their power. This portrayal of male characters reveals the harsh realities to the audience. The transformation of a hero into an anti-hero reflects real-life scenarios. Unfortunately, Türkiye has been ruled by "toxic masculinity" for many years. These men appear not only in series but everywhere in society, with the series serving as a mirror to reality.





The background of the poster features a scenic view of Dubai, including the Burj Al Arab hotel on the left and a traditional building with a wind tower on the right. A wooden bridge spans a canal in the foreground, surrounded by palm trees and a boat. A dark red diagonal shape cuts across the top right corner.

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EKİN KOYUNCU KARAMAN **GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION &  
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# “NATPE Budapest has played a crucial role in our company’s growth strategy”

By YAĞMUR ÇÖL



**W**e spoke to Ekin Koyuncu Karaman, the Global Distribution & Partnership Director of OGM UNIVERSE. She shared insights into the company's progress since its establishment, highlighting the success of their series, such as *Stickman*, *Lost in Love*, and introducing their latest series, *Dilemma* and *When a Man Loves*. Discussing their expanding international presence, Karaman also talked about their participation in NATPE Budapest and its anticipated impact on OGM UNIVERSE's growth and global reach.

#### **What is the current status of OGM UNIVERSE?**

OGM UNIVERSE is progressing well. It has been 1.5 years since its establishment, and while everything is still relatively new, having a production company like OGM Pictures, which has already proven itself and achieved significant success in both local and international markets, is undoubtedly a major advantage for us.

Operating under OGM, producing and distributing, has notably enhanced the brand's recognition, especially in foreign markets. We regularly encounter viewers and clients from various countries who have enjoyed our content on television and streaming platforms. In the recent past, while the focus was primarily on the names of the series, now foreign audiences are becoming more familiar with OGM Pictures and its signature style across all its productions.

As a team, we all have years of experience in the industry. Being part of OGM Pictures, and collaborating with such a young, dynamic, and creative team on content that we all genuinely love and resonate with is truly enjoyable.

The perception of our content is quite positive, and there is a strong reliance on its quality. For example, *Stickman*. *Stickman* is a unique project that may not cater to everyone's taste. However, broadcasting channels acknowledge the exceptional quality and intriguing nature of the series, keeping viewers engaged in anticipation of what will happen next.

Some companies make agreements with us, selecting a certain number of series without necessarily knowing the specific details of each. This is entirely due to the reputation and support provided by OGM Pictures.

OGM Pictures will continue to produce a set number of high-quality content each year, adding to our library. Buyers know that. This knowledge generates significant interest from foreign markets, making our work even more enjoyable.

Currently, our library offers a diverse selection of series including *Lost in Love*, *Miracle of Love*, *Stickman*, and *Broken Destiny*. Additionally, we are gradually adding OGM Pictures' OTT series to our catalog. For instance, we recently produced *Dilemma* for Amazon Prime Video, a captivating eight-episode series with a



strong cast and an intriguing storyline, which has been well-received by the audience. As our library expands and our content portfolio grows, we anticipate reaching out to additional channels and regions.

**Lost in Love has come to an end. What are your thoughts on the series finale?**

*Lost in Love's* 26th episode finale delivered a powerful and satisfying conclusion.

*Lost in Love* is a poignant story about healing, exploring marriages on the verge of collapse, friendships tested, and great loves that never had the chance to blossom. It follows two families, deeply entrenched in their pride and status, who face unexpected challenges and disasters, embarking on a journey of awakening.

Throughout the series, we saw each character pursue their own paths, discover their own truths, and heal both themselves and each other.

The final episode leaves us with a profound quote: "Sometimes we are reborn from the greatest disaster that befalls us. The beautiful thing is, if a person changes, the whole family changes."



It raises the thought-provoking question: is it better to be happy or to be right?

**Could you tell us more about your new series, *Dilemma* and *When a Man Loves*?**

We are thrilled to introduce our new series, *Dilemma* and *When a Man Loves* to our audience. Both series are part of our OTT series portfolio, catering to the evolving preferences of our viewers.

*Dilemma*, an intriguing eight-episode series produced for Amazon Prime Video, has garnered significant attention for its strong cast and compelling storyline. The series follows Neslihan Turhan, the host of the TV show "One Truth", whose life is upturned by the death of Lal Kaleli, in which her son, Can, is implicated. Caught between motherhood and the principles she believes in, Neslihan faces the most challenging dilemma of her



life. *Dilemma* has been well-received in several markets, including Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Benelux, and the Middle East, where Amazon holds the rights. While in other countries, it is available on OGM UNIVERSE.

*When a Man Loves* tells an entertaining and romantic love story. The series is centered around the accidental romance between Zeynep, a divorced mother of two, and her single, handsome, charismatic, and successful boss, Kenan. The series delves into themes of love, family, and second chances, resonating with audiences worldwide.

**How do you anticipate your participation in NATPE Budapest in June will impact your company's growth and international presence?**

Our upcoming participation in NATPE

Budapest is a key element of our growth strategy. We expect this event to significantly enhance our international presence by providing a platform to showcase our diverse portfolio of Turkish content, including our latest series, *Lost in Love*, *Dilemma*, and *When a Man Loves*. Through networking opportunities and meetings with key industry players, we anticipate establishing valuable partnerships and securing licensing deals in various regions. NATPE Budapest has played a crucial role in our company's growth strategy, enabling us to connect with new audiences and explore new markets for our content. We are excited about the potential impact of the fair on our company's future growth.

**What can we anticipate for the upcoming season? We are already excited to see what OGM Pictures will produce and OGM UNIVERSE will distribute.**

In the upcoming season, you can look forward to a thrilling range of new productions from OGM Pictures. We are already working on numerous exciting projects that are sure to captivate your interest. With OGM UNIVERSE as our distribution arm, we aim to delight our international partners with a diverse offering of high-quality content. We look forward to sharing more about our upcoming projects with you soon.



# The 2023 / 2024 Season on Turkish Television

BURAK SAKAR

The 2023/2024 season on Turkish television has concluded, featuring a total of 53 series, including 31 new ones. Four series stood out by surpassing an average rating of over 9, and 17 series have been renewed for the next season. Throughout the season, 1,014 episodes of local series were aired, totaling approximately 2,300 hours.

In the 2023/2024 season, a total of 53 series were broadcast across seven main channels. NOW TV, with 13 series, was the channel with the highest number of broadcasts, followed by TRT 1 and Kanal D, each with 10 series. Show TV's new series *Blooming Lady* ranked first with an average rating of 12.64. The series, produced by MF Yapim, achieved a rating of 14.96 in its 11th episode, marking the highest rating in the last three seasons. Show TV's ongoing series from the previous season, *One Love*, improved its performance in its second season, becoming the closest contender for the top spot with an average rating of 10.19. Kanal D's new series *Secret of Pearls* secured third place with an average rating of 9.91.

Out of the 16 series that continued from the previous season, six were renewed for the new season. Among these 16 series, 15 experienced a decline in average ratings, while *One Love* was the



## THE MOST-WATCHED SERIES OF THE SEASON

TITLE	CHANNEL	AVERAGE RATING
BLOOMING LADY	SHOW TV	12,64
ONE LOVE	SHOW TV	10,19
SECRET OF PEARLS	KANAL D	9,91
RED ROSES	NOW TV	9,34
AN ANATOLIAN TALE	TRT 1	8,38
THE OTTOMAN	ATV	6,98
FAMILY SECRETS	KANAL D	6,35
GOLDEN BOY	STAR TV	6,03
THE SHADOW TEAM	TRT 1	5,51
I AM MOTHER	SHOW TV	5,40





only series to see an increase, with a growth rate of 38.26%. The series *Back Streets*, *The Shadow Team*, *The Ottoman*, *An Anatolian Tale* and *Family Secrets* drew attention with their slight declines. Among the series continuing from the previous season, in addition to *One Love*, the series *Golden Boy*, *Family Secrets*, *The Ottoman* and *An Anatolian Tale* also delivered strong performances, each surpassing the 6-rating threshold.

31 new series began their journey. Of these 31 series, 20 concluded within the season, while 11 were renewed for the next. Show TV's series *Blooming Lady* became the most-watched new series of the season with an average rating of 12.64. Kanal D's series *Secret of Pearls* ranked second with an average of 9.91, and NOW's series *Red Roses* ranked third with an average of 9.34.

Show TV's *I Am Mother*, Kanal D's *Remember*, NOW's *Dirty Laundry*, *Wild Heart* and *The Brave* along with TRT 1's *Legend of the Black Tree*, *Saladin: The Conqueror Of Jerusalem* and *Fatih: Sultan of Conquests* were among the other new productions that were renewed for the upcoming season.

## BEST DEBUTS OF THE SEASON (First episode ratings)

TITLE	CHANNEL	FIRST EPISODE RATING	AVERAGE RATING
SECRET OF PEARLS	KANAL D	10,74	9,91
SALADIN: THE CONQUEROR OF JERUSALEM	TRT 1	7,36	5,04
RED ROSES	NOW TV	5,29	9,34
MY WONDERFUL LIFE	NOW TV	5,18	4,17
BLOOMING LADY	SHOW TV	4,93	12,64



## TV CHANNELS' PERFORMANCE FOR THE SEASON

TITLE	NEW SERIES	TOTAL NUMBER OF SERIES	RENEWED SERIES
ATV	4	9	1
KANAL D	5	10	3
NOW TV	11	13	4
SHOW TV	4	6	3
STAR TV	1	4	1
TRT 1	5	10	5
TV8	1	1	0







36 series concluded throughout the season. Among the six series continuing from the summer season, only TRT 1 series (Come What May and My Lovely Family) aired more than 13 episodes during the season. Of the new series that started, 13 lasted fewer than 13 episodes, and of these, 8 aired fewer than five episodes. While the primary reason for the conclusion of many series is low ratings, some shows ended despite achieving high ratings. For instance, Kanal D's series *Family Secrets* ended its run despite maintaining high ratings in its third season, finishing with an average rating of 6.35 and becoming the seventh most-watched series of the season. Similarly, last season, *Chrysalis* and *Forbidden Fruit* bid farewell to screens due to reaching the end of their storyline despite their high rating successes. Likewise, Star TV's series *Ömer* and ATV's *Deception* also concluded despite performing above the season's average for various reasons.

Throughout the season, 26 different production companies produced series. Ay Yapım led the way with a total number of six series, followed closely by OGM Pictures and O3 Medya, each producing five series. Among the top five most-watched series of the season, Gold Film was responsible for two (One Love, Red Roses) while MF Yapım (Blooming Lady), BKM (Secret of Pearls), and Köprü Film (An Anatolian Tale) each produced one.

## RENEWED SERIES

TITLE	CHANNEL	AVERAGE RATING	TOTAL NUMBER OF EPISODES
SALADIN: THE CONQUEROR OF JERUSALEM	TRT 1	5,04	28
RED ROSES	NOW TV	9,34	19
BLOOMING LADY	SHOW TV	12,64	16
FATIH: SULTAN OF CONQUESTS	TRT 1	4,45	15
THE OTTOMAN	ATV	6,98	164
I AM MOTHER	SHOW TV	5,40	26
REMEMBER	KANAL D	4,51	14
THE BRAVE	NOW TV	4,85	34
SECRET OF PEARLS	KANAL D	9,91	17
BACK STREETS	KANAL D	2,77	679
ONE LOVE	SHOW TV	10,19	66
GOLDEN BOY	STAR TV	6,03	73
LEGEND OF THE BLACK TREE	TRT 1	2,83	15
AN ANATOLIAN TALE	TRT 1	8,38	142
WILD HEART	NOW TV	4,54	36
DIRTY LAUNDRY	NOW TV	4,17	30
THE SHADOW TEAM	TRT 1	5,51	111

All the statistics and analyses in this article are based on 20+ABC1 rating data.

# Renewed Turkish TV Series: A Complete Guide

YAĞMUR ÇÖL

As summer approaches, the Turkish TV series season that began in September is drawing to a close. This past season has seen intense competition, with shows like *Blooming Lady*, *An Anatolian Tale*, and *One Love* achieving high ratings. While some series ended due to declining ratings, many others are confirmed to return in the next season.

Here is a comprehensive list of the Turkish TV series that have aired their season finales and are confirmed to return for the upcoming season:



## BLOOMING LADY

*Blooming Lady*, premiered on Show TV on February 13. Starring Demet Evgar, Buğra Gülsoy, and Mehmet Yılmaz Ak, the series has consistently topped the ratings since its debut. It tells the story of Bahar, a devoted mother and wife who returns to her career as a doctor after 20 years and decides to build herself a new life.

Globally distributed by MADD Entertainment and produced by MF Yapım, *Blooming Lady* aired its season finale with the 16th episode on June 11 and will continue into the new season.



## ONE LOVE

Show TV's most-watched series for the past two seasons, *One Love*, premiered its first episode on October 28, 2022. Since then, it has remained one of the most viewed and talked-about series in Türkiye.

Naturally, *One Love* is among the series continuing into the new season. Initially portraying a realistic conflict between two families, one secular and one conservative, the series deepened its narrative in the second season and continued to be a conversation starter. Produced by Gold Yapım and represented globally by Global Agency, the series aired its season finale on Friday, June 7.



## I AM MOTHER

Starring Demet Akbağ and Özge Özpınırçı, *I Am Mother* is one of the series that premiered this season, with its first episode airing in December. Viewers must have missed strong female characters, as the main character, Karsu, quickly became an audience favorite.

*I Am Mother* focuses on Karsu, a mother of three, who moves from Adana to Istanbul and rebuilds her life.

Broadcast on Show TV, the series is produced by O3 Medya and distributed globally by Echo Rights. The series wrapped up this season on June 12 and will prepare for the upcoming season.



### SECRET OF PEARLS

Written by Yılmaz Erdoğan, *Secret of Pearls* began its run in January. Starring Hazar Ergüçlü, Selma Ergeç, Kubilay Aka, and Yılmaz Erdoğan, the series tells the story of Azem, trying to rebuild his life after being released from prison, and Dilber, a nightclub dancer.

Produced by BKM and distributed internationally by Kanal D, the series aired its season finale on May 30 and is set to continue into the new season.

### THE OTTOMAN

*The Ottoman*, starring Burak Özçivit, has completed its fifth season. The series, premiered on November 20, 2019, remains popular with a wide audience.

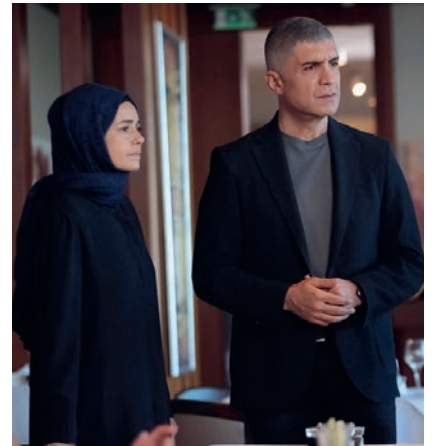
Produced by Bozdağ Film and distributed by ATV Distribution, *The Ottoman* aired its season finale on June and will return for its sixth season.



### REMEMBER

Starring Ekin Koç and Serra Arıtürk, *Remember* premiered on Kanal D on February 28 this year. Starring Ekin Koç and Serra Arıtürk, the series follows Umud, who possesses an extraordinary memory, recalling every single moment in vivid detail.

Produced by MF Yapım and distributed by MADD Entertainment, *Remember* aired its season finale on June 5 and is among the series that will carry on into the next season.



### RED ROSES

Produced by Gold Film, *Red Roses* premiered its first episode last December. The series, which has attracted great attention since its debut, stars Özgü Namal, Özcan Deniz, Mert Yazıcıoğlu, and Hazal Türesan. It follows Meryem, who was married off at a very young age into an Islamic sect and is now battling for her daughter's freedom.

*Red Roses* achieved high ratings throughout the season and will continue into the next. The series, broadcast on NOW and globally distributed by Global Agency, aired its season finale on May 20.



### THE BRAVE

Starring Miray Daner and Denizcan Aktaş, *The Brave* is among the series that will continue into the new season.

The show premiered its first episode on NOW on September 21 and follows the revenge-filled story of Halil İbrahim Karasu, who returns to his small hometown after many years. The series, produced by Medyapım and part of the MADD Entertainment catalog, aired its season finale with its 34th episode.



### DIRTY LAUNDRY

*Dirty Laundry*, starring Ayça Bingöl, Ceren Moray, and Cansu Tosun, portrays the intertwined lives of maids and their employers in a wealthy neighborhood of Istanbul. The series, which made its debut on September 24, aired its season finale with its 32nd episode and preparations for the next season are ongoing.

Produced by Medyapım, the series is distributed worldwide by MADD Entertainment.



### FATİH: SULTAN OF CONQUESTS

TRT 1's new historical drama *Fatih: Sultan of Conquests* premiered this year, on February 27.

Starring Serkan Çayoğlu, Selim Bayraktar, Seçkin Özdemir, and Tuba Ünsal, the series aired its season finale on June 11 and will continue into the new season.

Produced by Miray Yapım, the series is distributed worldwide by TRT Sales.



### GOLDEN BOY

*Golden Boy*, starring Afra Saraçoğlu and Mert Ramazan Demir, will also proceed with its third season.

The story unfolds when Ferit, the 'golden boy' of a wealthy family, decides to marry Seyran. Their lives change dramatically as Seyran becomes the new bride in a family full of betrayals.

Produced by OGM Pictures and distributed globally by Echo Rights, the series aired its season finale on June 7.



### WILD HEART

*Wild Heart* tells the story of Ali, who was kidnapped at a young age and eventually forced to work for his captors. The series stars Halit Özgür Sarı, Simay Barlas, Dolunay Soysert, Yurdaer Okur, and Bertan Aslani. *Wild Heart* is continuing into the next season after its season finale aired on June 1.

Produced by NTC Medya, the series airs on NOW and is distributed internationally by MADD Entertainment.



### LEGEND OF THE BLACK TREE

*Legend of the Black Tree*, featuring a cast that includes Olgun Şimşek, Emre Kılıncım, Meltem Akçöl and Özlem Conker, is among the TRT 1 series continuing into the new season.

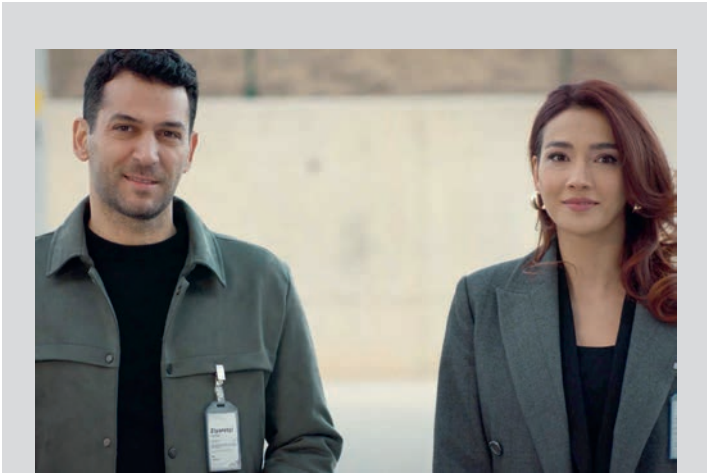
The series, produced by Motto Yapım and distributed by TRT Sales, premiered on February 23 and aired its season finale on June 7.



### SALADIN: THE CONQUEROR OF JERUSALEM

Among the TRT 1 series continuing into the new season is *Saladin: The Conqueror Of Jerusalem*.

The series, which made its debut last November, stars Uğur Güneş and Tuvana Turkey. Produced by Akli Film and distributed by TRT Sales, the series aired its season finale on June 10 with its 28th episode.



### THE SHADOW TEAM

*The Shadow Team*, which has been running for four seasons, is confirmed to continue into its fifth season. While the lead actor Murat Yıldırım will not be returning, Aybüke Pusat, Yunus Emre Yıldırım, and Sarp Levendoğlu are said to continue in the new season.

The series, produced by TİM&B Production and distributed by TRT Sales, aired its season finale on June 9.



### AN ANATOLIAN TALE

TRT 1's series *An Anatolian Tale*, which has been running for four seasons and consistently achieves high ratings, is confirmed to continue with its fifth season.

Featuring Berk Atan and Gülsim Ali, the family drama focuses on the lives of three cousins. Produced by Köprü Film and internationally distributed by TRT Sales, the series wrapped up its current season with its 142nd episode, aired on June 8.

SELİN ARAT, **DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, TIMS GROUP**

“I think as a sector, we have collectively succeeded in creating a genre in the global market”

By ÖZLEM ÖZDEMİR



**F**rom the development of an idea to the production stage, from the release to global sales... Women have left their mark on every phase and success of the Turkish content industry. I'm not just referring to screenwriters, directors, behind-the-scene crews, or our internationally renowned actors. TV executives, drama directors, those managing local or global digital platforms, producers, top executives in production companies... These are individuals whose career journeys, experiences, and insights we need to get to know more closely. Therefore, we are starting a new interview series in Episode, featuring successful, attentive, and talented women who hold critical roles in the Turkish content industry. With our guests, we will discuss not only their current projects but also their career journeys, turning points, industry insights, challenges they've faced, and their sources of inspiration.

Our first guest, is Selin Arat, Director of International Operations at Tims Group. Having chosen to be involved in the arts since childhood, Arat combined her passion for cinema with her analytical intelligence in a unique way. When she joined Tims in 2009 with the intention of establishing a film department, she witnessed the greatest development in Turkish content history with the release of *Magnificent Century*, which also paved a new path in her career. Enjoy the interview...

**First of all, we would like to get to know you a little better. What did you do during your education, and what were your first experiences in your professional life?**

After attending Uskudar American Academy, I was so ready to go study in the US because I knew they had a system called liberal arts, where you could literally "shop around" with courses until you discovered what you were really passionate about. I was always torn between engaging in artistic endeavors, such as dance, music and theater, but at the same time I was also very rational, analytical, and good at math. So, I struggled at first to find how I could mix these two. I ended up studying at Clark University in Massachusetts, US, where I majored in Screen Studies with a minor in Theater Arts; which I combined then with an MBA in Marketing. I frequently acted in plays throughout primary and high school as well as during college. But I also enjoyed acting behind the scenes as an assistant stage director and/or director's assistant. I had also done editing for school newspapers throughout my education. After graduating from college, I worked at a marketing company that started out in Mass and then moved to Queens, New York, the city of my dreams. It was a business-to-business marketing job, where you would cold call on businesses and try to sell them products that included useful tools such as stamps.com, which printed stamps straight from the computer etc. Living in such an expensive city, I wasn't very happy with the money I was making and when they told me they could not sponsor me with an H1B visa that I would need to be able to stay in the country, I decided to go back to Türkiye for a short while to get my bearings about the next chapter of my life. It was life that made the decision for me. I was on a set as

a production assistant with the TV series called, *Üzgünüm Leyla*, produced by the late legendary director and wonderful person, Ömer Kavur who gave me my first job in this business. And 9/11 happened. Watching the Twin Towers get attacked by planes on the decrepit TV set of a house in the village where we were shooting, filled me with a mixture of emotions, but the clearest one was that it was a sign for me to stay in Türkiye and not go back to New York, where I could easily have been trapesing the streets as the attack happened. I have remained in Türkiye and the production business since then.

**What influenced your decision to work in this industry, and what were your initial aspirations related to the industry or your career?**

I grew up watching Hollywood classics with my grandparents and being prone to the performing arts, I always found myself either on stage or watching a performance. So, as I explained in the previous question, I practically found myself in this business. But which path to follow took a while to settle as I juggled between departments. I wanted to be a director as soon as I saw *Vertigo* by Hitchcock. I said to myself, this is the kind of filmmaking I should be engaged in. I found his virtuosity in playing with the audience's emotions to be just impeccable. But then when I started working on sets, I saw the heavy responsibility that came with being a director and I thought that I couldn't handle it. And since I had to make money, I could not just throw myself out there as an actress and rely on random jobs to come by, if any. So, I wanted to continue on in a more stable path which was in the executive track.

**You have been the Director of International Operations at Tims Group for a long time. But let's start from your early days. What productions were on air during your first year, what was happening in international operations, and what was the situation like when you first started?** When I first came to Tims, it was December 2009. Tims then had 4 shows on air at that time, *Kavak Yelleri* (Daydreamers), *Melekler Korusun* (The Angels), *Es-Es*,

and *Bir Bulut Olsam* (If Only I Were A Cloud) all of which had already made their mark on the television landscape of the time. And preparations were underway for *Küçük Sırlar* (City of Lies) which featured so many of the A list stars of our time. I arrived here coming fresh out of a freelance period where I worked on the international journey of Nuri Bilge Ceylan's films and I actually interviewed with Timur Savcı to start a film department within the company. We had worked on a couple of films before, so we knew each other. He said to me, "Selin, we are working on this period drama called *Magnificent Century*; it's a huge undertaking, so we cannot deal with film right now." Well, the rest is television history to say the least. But before *Magnificent Century*, there were only a couple of international deals that were made at the company. We were hearing about other series such as *Binbir Gece* (1001 Nights) and *Gümüş*, having successful Arabic dubbing that started making them popular in the Middle East. However, once *Magnificent Century* hit the screens in the beginning of 2011, that changed Turkish television forever.



***Magnificent Century* is an iconic series in our country and also a production that paved the way for Turkish series to be watched worldwide, continuing to be watched to this day. What impact did this production have on both the Turkish content industry and the global industry in 2011? What did it teach you personally?**

Moving on from my previous answer, yes Turkish series had started making some waves in the international TV landscape, but *Magnificent Century* certainly acted as a catalyst in turning those waves into a boom worldwide. I think it definitely showed other producers that quality period drama can be realized without bankrupting a company. And that when you have a drama whose core is based on universal themes, coupled with high production quality, there is no reason it shouldn't find resonance with audiences across the globe. Individually, having seen the 13-year-long journey of the show, that hasn't lost momentum, it has shown me the importance and difficulty of creating an evergreen product that never goes out of date. You can only name a few of those evergreen shows in the global world; *Friends* is one of them, not just by the funny quotes or scenes people remember from it, but by the recent numbers of viewing the show is still able to gather on different platforms. *Magnificent Century* is like that. Countries relicense it even after it has aired for a couple years, after its prime time, not to mention its great success on YouTube.

**Did you encounter any interesting experiences in the field of international sales or promotion during that period?**

I remember during the shooting of *Magnificent Century*, many tourists would go to Topkapi Palace to look for where the series was being shot, and when they would be directed to our studios, we would occasionally get some sheikhs esteemed wives who offered quite large numbers to just get a glimpse of the principal photography. Also Russia decided to license a Turkish series again, so many years after the first *Çalikuşu* that was quite successful there, and they



wanted to give our series a try so they started out with only 12 episodes. When the show became a phenomenon in the country, the phone lines to the channel were jammed due to the viewers calling to ask if the show was cancelled by the government as they had had to stop broadcast after 12 episodes.

Just recently, I was checking into a hotel in London and as we were chatting with the receptionist as to where I was from, I asked whether she watches any Turkish dizi, and let's see if any of them is ours, and right out she said, "Yes I'm watching this show about the Yaman family." And I asked, "You mean *Çukurova* (Bitter Lands)?" And she said yes. I could not believe the coincidence. But really this shows you the penetration and the popularity of Turkish series, which are now a household name in the global arena.

**Tims&B is a major production company that produces multiple content in the same season. Alongside TV series like *The Oath*, *Bitter Lands*, *The Trusted*, and *Deception*, you have also produced digital series for platforms like Netflix and BluTV. *Bitter Lands* is progressing**



**very successfully internationally. As the Director of International Operations at Tims&B, what strategies do you plan and implement to promote each of your series better worldwide and to get them broadcast in more countries?**

We don't approach every project with the same attitude as each content defines its own journey. And not every project needs to be launched at Cannes; sometimes a project that is more catered toward the Latin audience can be introduced to the world at Cancun, for example. From the get-go, we diligently work on the international title, the key artwork of the series and all the audiovisual material such as trailers to be able to cater to the audiences worldwide. And sometimes, if certain things don't work in some territories, we make new calibrations or polishes.

**What tasks take up most of your time while managing the entire international operation?**

It's a mixture of financial, legal and creative aspects for me. In addition to making sure the deals are made and carried out to the best of our interest, I also monitor the material traffic, deciding on the cutting of the short episodes that we call commercial hour. So, in a nutshell, supervising and steering the distributors and the post studios, take up most of my time.

**Over the years, the number of content fairs and events has increased, and new fairs have started to be held in different countries and regions. From your first fair experience to today, how have fairs benefited you both personally and in terms of management?**

When I first entered this business, cinema was qualitatively and quantitatively superior to television, but I have witnessed that change over the last 15 years with television taking over as the most lucrative form of content. Hence the markets have proliferated and fragmented all over the world moving out of the standard posts such as Cannes and the US. Personally, I use markets for networking and enhancing my knowledge of the industry since our distributors are already out there working their sales chops. I find the conferences, panels or keynotes I attend very nourishing.

**What are your predictions/insights about the share and impact of the Turkish content industry in the global market in the near future?**

I think as a sector, we have collectively succeeded in creating a genre in the global market. Our content is known as “Turkish” series or dramas and we have even coined the term, “dizi.” We are still going strong globally as the second biggest exporter after the English-speaking countries, but my only concern is the expectations of the global audience can be restrictive sometimes. I always use the “fat actress” analogy here; you know a heavy actress who succeeds in the archetypal “fat lady” roles is always expected to stay that way and if she tries to lose weight or change her appearance in any form, it is kind of frowned upon which seems to be the case with Turkish series that try to innovate themselves and try different things. When I hear buyers use the expression, “typical Turkish series,” I find

that worrying to be honest. So, I think we need to find a way to keep innovating without losing our dedicated buyers and beloved viewers across the globe.

**Industry professionals can have different observations about the popularity, viewership, and spread of Turkish content. From your perspective, what are your insights?**

There are so many elements that have been referred to over the years, which I agree with, such as the richness of the culture, which gives birth to a colorful palette of content, but one of the comments I remember from an American lady who came to visit our *The Oath* set a few years ago, who was a member of a Turkish Dizi Appreciation Group resonates. She said she was unable to watch Anglo-Saxon series anymore because they lacked “feeling.” She said she was able to feel every moment of a Turkish series to her bones, with the acting, music and editing which enhanced her enjoyment. And I think that’s a pretty good summary from an outsider’s perspective.

**In my opinion, the Turkish content industry is one where women are more prominent. We see women in critical roles both in creative fields and in management. There are successful screenwriters and directors, as well as TV and platform executives, and managers in production companies like yourself in significant positions. How do you view the Turkish content industry in this regard? While all these developments are very positive, do “glass ceilings” still exist?**

True. Most of the bosses in this industry are male but they are mostly employing women in key roles. Honestly, ever since this question came up, I have been secretly “feeling” myself to see if I’m suppressing anything or auto-censoring myself, having become blind to the actual glass ceiling, but in my personal experience, I have not met with a glass ceiling, maybe because I don’t work in a strictly corporate environment. The only way up for me at this point would be to become a partner in the company. And I don’t as-



pire to that because I am at liberty to do what I want, and I already have a say in the company which I think is essential for work satisfaction and personal fulfillment to know that your input matters.

**You meet and work with many colleagues and numerous individuals who influence the global content industry. When you consider the same question in an international context, what are your observations?**

In the global arena, I notice the circulation between rival companies can be quite volatile. And I have often seen female executives leave at the top (the most possible top they can achieve within that particular company) and move onto set up their own companies which is admirable.

**As we are closing the season, preparations for the new season are accelerating. What are Tims&B's preparations and plans for the new season?**

Tims&B has wrapped the 2023-2024 season, but we have been working hard for the upcoming season on a number of linear and digital shows that we can't wait to start principal photography on. We have 3 dramas in preproduction, two of them to be shot outside of Istanbul; and two other series in development, one being for Netflix. Also, we are looking forward to the second season of *Shahmaran* as well as our new show *Istanbul Encyclopedia* before the year is through.

**You mentioned that you are working on a significant and highly anticipated historical drama similar to *Magnificent Century*. Can you share 'a' bit more about the project?**

It is based on a very solid novel, and it depicts the other layers of the Ottoman society we didn't get to see much of on *Magnificent Century* which was mostly centered on the royal court. And the script is progressing so smoothly that as soon as we can secure the financing, we are itching to start working on it because we believe it can carry Turkish series to yet another level.



#### RAPID-FIRE QUESTIONS

**Is there a moment, event, or experience that you think changed your approach to the industry or your profession?**

It was a couple of years after I returned from the US and was on the verge of making a decision between a career on sets and the business track because of a job offer I got to be the executive assistant for Abdullah Oguz. I was a bit confused about which direction to take as I had a number of things I liked doing and was good at. My mother drew me a chart of pros and cons between "artistic" vs "executive" tracks, where it outright revealed that even though I liked engaging in artistic endeavors (as a director and actress), my analytical skills outweighed and my lifestyle expectancy was more along the lines of a stable career path. After that I left sets as a director's assistant, and moved onto the executive track, from which I never looked back as I kept going up the ladder. And I occasionally got to satisfy my performative chops on stage and on screen thanks to cameo roles and some individual endeavors.

**What do you consider to be the turning point in your career?**

I would say the conversation I had with Timur Savcı, a year into *Magnificent Century's* phenomenal success, whereby I expressed how much I liked working with him as his assistant, but the direction the company was taking meant that I would have to devote my time 100% to international operations where we could steer the direction of the company together, and he agreed. It is this meeting of the minds and similar attitudes to business that keeps us working together for 15 years I think.

**What song, place, object, or action uplifts you during moments of crisis?**

Yes it's definitely music for me. Whenever I need a pick-me-up song, I always resort to those feel-good 80s songs. But my number one is "Ya mo b there" by Michael McDonald and James Ingram. Depending on the size of the crisis, the second song to move right onto is "Burning Heart" by *Survivor*.

**What do you think is the most important factor for achieving success in teamwork?**

It's tough to pinpoint one thing. But I can say it is a mixture of respect and empathy. If you empathize with everybody's situation and respect them, especially their time, this is for all levels in the hierarchy, then the job will get done without a hitch and any delays or hard feelings. Otherwise, second guessing the superiors and the tasks given by them or keeping them in the dark about the progress, complicate the process.

**Which novel or historical figure do you find the most inspiring?**

I would have to say *Jitterbug Perfume* by Tom Robbins. It encompasses so many themes that speak to me - especially the search for immortality is one of the underlying reasons for my choice of industry as I love being a part of dream-making; taking people away from their daily, sometimes mundane realities and showing them a whole different perspective.

# Turkish TV's Summer Lineup

YAĞMUR ÇÖL

**T**ürkiye, one of the largest exporter of TV series globally, is experiencing a significant shift in its television landscape. Rising production costs have led producers and channels to make a tough decision: suspending summer series.

Despite this, Türkiye's television industry is still set to offer some exciting new and returning shows this summer. Here's a list of what you can look forward to watching:

## YALAN

Kanal D's summer project, *Yalan* (The Lie), premiered on May 27th. The series follows the story of Melike, who, after spending 20 years in prison, finds herself in a world full of lies.

Produced by Süreç Film, Ali Gündoğdu, and İnci Gündoğdu, the series stars Aslıhan Güner, Feyyaz Duman, Eylül Tumbur, Yeşim Ceren Bozoğlu, Özge Borak, and Emir Benderlioğlu.

## RU

This summer, one of the must-watch series on digital platforms is *RU*, featuring Meryem Uzerli. The series premiered on GAİN on May 24 and delves into an unconventional love story between a 38-year-old woman and an 18-year-old man.

The cast includes Burak Berkay Akgül, Hira Koyuncuoğlu, Emre Karayel, Gökay Türkmen, Zafer Algöz, Şevval Sam, Derya Alabora, Gonca Vuilateri, Kartal Can Ermiş, Beril Kayar, and Sevgi Temel, alongside Meryem Uzerli.





### DOORS OF DESTINY

The TOD Original series, *Doors of Destiny*, premiered on May 23 and continues to release new episodes weekly. The cast includes Birkan Sokullu, Esra Bilgiç, Cem Bender, Erkan Can, İbrahim Selim, Alper Saldıran, Selen Uçer, Elçin Afacan, Naz Çağla Irmak, Engin Yüksel, Enes Külahçı, and Elçin Zehra İrem. The storyline follows Sinan, a highly skilled computer genius who prefers to avoid social interactions. His life takes an unexpected turn when he meets Nevra.

### ANOTHER SELF

Netflix's Turkish series *Another Self* is returning with its second season this summer. The new season continues with the story of Ada, Leyla, and Sevgi as they face new challenges and embark on a new life in Ayvalık.

Starring Tuba Büyüküstün, Seda Bakan, Boncuk Yılmaz, and Aytaç Şaşmaz, the second season of *Another Self* will be available on Netflix worldwide on July 11th.

### KÜBRA

Starring Çağatay Ulusoy, the Netflix Original series *Kübra* returns with its highly anticipated second season on June 6.

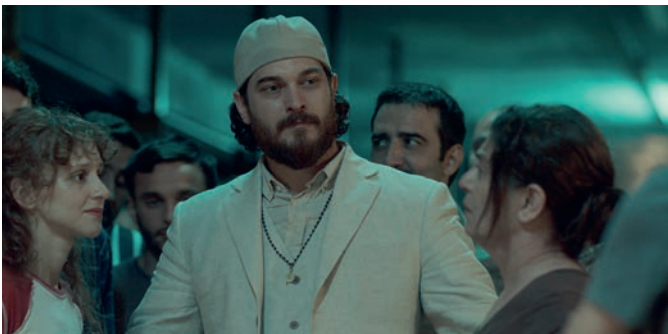
The synopsis for the second season reads: Gökhan, who sees the truth about Kübra as another test of his faith, now faces his true struggle. Every decision he makes that defines him as 'Semavi' comes with a price; he must confront not only his enemies but also his loved ones and even himself.

Produced by OGM Pictures, the series features Aslıhan Malbora, Ahsen Eroğlu, Nazan Kesal, Ahmet Mümtaz Taylan, and Erdem Şenocak alongside Çağatay Ulusoy.

### FORBIDDEN LOVE

The unforgettable Turkish series *Forbidden Love* will be re-aired on Kanal D 16 years after its first broadcast, on its original day and time slot. Known as a summer classic, the series had many re-runs before, but this time it will be aired during prime time.

Adapted from the novel by Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil, the series features prominent actors such as Beren Saat, Kıvanç Tatlıtuğ, Selçuk Yöntem, Hazal Kaya, Nebahat Çehre, Zerrin Tekindor, and Nur Fettahoğlu. *Forbidden Love* has become one of the most memorable Turkish TV series, with the forbidden romance between Behlül and Bihter set to captivate audiences once again this summer.



MURAT EVGİN

# The Magical World of Theme Music

By OBEN BUDAK

I WANT TO CREATE THINGS ON A GLOBAL SCALE NOW. I'VE CREATED ENOUGH IN TÜRKİYE. NOW I SEE THE SAME THINGS OVER AND OVER. AND THE SAD PART IS, I NO LONGER HEAR ANY MELODIES IN SERIES. VARIOUS ARPEGGIOS, HARMONIES COMING UNDER THE IMAGES. THAT'S FINE, BUT WHEN YOU TURN OFF THE SERIES, THERE SHOULD BE A MELODY THAT STICKS WITH YOU. THE MAIN ELEMENT OF FILM MUSIC IS THE TUNE, THE MELODY. I SEE THAT THE INDUSTRY HAS DRIFTED AWAY FROM THIS.



**F**or a long time, Murat Evgin has been one of the first names that comes to mind when it comes to TV series soundtracks in Türkiye. What he has produced has become a very important milestone in his musical career. While adding his unique touch to every project he is involved in, he has made a mark on viewers' minds with his timeless melodies. In the early days of his music career, he struggled to get his music videos aired within the Turkish system, but nowadays, thanks to TV series, his songs have reached a much wider audience, extending far beyond Türkiye's borders. As he prepares to celebrate his 25th year in music, I wanted to sit down with him and talk about the industry.

**When did you decide to start composing soundtracks for television series, aside from constantly producing for your own albums?**

When I studied Radio, Television, and Cinema at Marmara University, I wanted to combine my education in cinema with music. I began by composing music for competition shows. I created songs and theme music for the content show *Ben Evleniyorum* (I am Getting Married). I also composed the soundtracks for the Turkish remake of the American series *Revenge*, titled *Sahra*. That was my first major series.

**You were the youngest composer of your generation working on TV series soundtracks.**

At that time, such projects weren't as popular. Everyone preferred to be on stage. I decided to continue both singing and composing TV series soundtracks for a long time. Then, documentary and TV series soundtracks started to gain more importance.

**How did you expand internationally? I saw the interest in you firsthand at Content Americas.**

My international journey began with neighboring countries, starting in the Turkic Republics and places like Bulgaria and Romania. Later, I collaborated with a British production company on a six-part documentary series called *Myths and Monsters*. I accepted the project because it excited me. While working on it, I asked where it would be aired, and they said, "Netflix America!" I certainly did not expect such a thing. In 2017, I had the opportunity to become the first Turkish composer to work with Netflix America. After that, we did a project called *The Stewards*. *The Stewards* were the first royal family of the United Kingdom. We made a four-part docuseries about them. As I mentioned, Turkish TV series had also become quite famous by then, and the series I had worked on until 2016-2017 were popular in Arab countries and the Balkans.

**What sparked Latin America's interest in you?**

My career there began because of the series *Elif*. I first saw the posters for that series at Mipcom. At Mipcom in France, I saw posters of *Elif* everywhere. I was wondering, what is *Elif*? It turned out to be a series from Kanal 7. I actually joined the series in its 4th season, and suddenly, I started receiving messages from Latin America. It turned out that the series had been sold to more than 40 countries and had become one of the most beloved series among Latin viewers. In fact, after that series, 1,300 girls in Colombia were named Elif. That series gave me the opportunity to become known in Latin America. Latin children started memorizing the Turkish songs written for the series. Mothers sent us videos of their children singing. This helped us strengthen our presence in Latin America even further.



**Can you explain a bit about composing music for TV series?**

I generally create a theme music for all of the important characters. It's a tradition that originates from Wagner in opera to compose music for characters or specific settings.

For instance, in a series, there might be a mansion that is featured frequently, and you create a theme for that mansion. When you see that mansion, music plays that describes it, and you understand it. For example, the character Mesut Komiser played by Şevket Çoruh in *Back Streets* was a truly pivotal character. He had fought against terrorism in eastern Türkiye, had a marriage that didn't work out, and his wife didn't let him see his child... He was a broken character. I had an old saz (a traditional Turkish string instrument) in my studio, which wasn't in very good condition, with rusty strings. I used that saz when I played Mesut's theme music. I thought it reflected his character well. The saz produced broken sounds, not perfect ones, but it suited Mesut Komiser very well.

**Do you use the computer right away for your works, or do you start by exploring ideas with your guitar before turning to computer? Your analog side seems to be stronger.**

I start everything with the guitar first. After that, an arrangement is made, similar to what we do for albums. When I first started in 2004, live instruments in TV series music were very rare, almost never used. I wanted to incorporate live instruments just like in albums, and that immediately improved the sound quality. Now, live instruments are commonly used in Turkish TV series, including strings, trap drums, and guitars. Without live instruments, the music tends to sound like a demo. Especially our traditional Turkish instruments cannot be imitated by a computer at all. Therefore, there is a great need for live instruments.





**The unique quality of live instruments is, in fact, irreplaceable, but now even visuals are being created by computers. What do you think about AI-generated works?**

Yes, I take this as that AI still has a way to go. At least in music, it won't replace everything immediately. I've listened to some music produced by AI, and it really lacks that 'human touch', as the Americans say, and that 'human touch' is very much needed. What I've heard tells me that. Remember when computer-generated music first appeared, we had a similar misconception. We thought that live instruments would no longer be used. In the early 1990s, albums were released with almost no live instruments. But for live instruments it's a different story; a guitarist playing their guitar or a qanun or oud player performing is something that can't be imitated, in my opinion. AI will be something that assists us in the production process, not something that replaces us, but rather helps us with our work.

**What kind of projects would you love to compose music for? For example, a superhero series or a horror series?**

This job is similar to acting; once you get involved in a certain type of project, similar offers tend to follow. Just like how Jim Carrey played the same roles for many years or how the late Kemal Sunal received similar project offers for a long time. When I started composing music for daily series, I began receiving numerous offers for daily series. In recent years, I have composed music for some documentaries. I created the soundtracks of the Netflix documentaries *I'm Glad I Did*, which chronicles Metin Akpınar's life, and *Sweetie*, which tells the story of Yıldız Kenter's life. Now, this has become a style in my career.

**What are your aspirations, both in your career and for your 25th year in music?**

I want to create things on a global scale now. I've created enough in Türkiye. Now I see the same things over and over. And the sad part is, I no longer hear any melodies in series. Various arpeggios, harmonies coming under the images. That's fine, but when you turn off the series, there should be a melody that sticks with you. The main element of film music is the tune, the melody. I see that the industry has drifted away from this. I think one of the reasons for this is that every producer has a composer close to them. When it's the screenwriter's uncle's son or the producer's neighbor, it doesn't work out. Of course, there are people producing good work, but there are no unforgettable film soundtracks or melodies that stick with people. At the moment, the only thing I am concentrating on is composing a soundtrack for series abroad.



# The Final Chapter: Turkish TV Series That Concluded This Season

This season in Turkish television has been highly competitive, leading to the conclusion of several prominent series. Some shows wrapped up due to low ratings, while others simply reached the end of their narratives. Here is a list of the series that have concluded their run:



## THREE SISTERS

*Three Sisters*, which has been airing for three seasons on Kanal D, is among the series that concluded this season.

Starring İclal Aydın, Reha Özcan, Özgü Kaya, Almıla Ada, and Melisa Berberoğlu, the series revolves around the lives of three sisters. *Three Sisters* concluded with its 84th episode and was produced by Süreç Film, with international distribution by Kanal D Distribution.



## TEARS OF A BRIDE

*Tears of a Bride*, which had its debut this season, concluded with its 13th episode, telling the tragic story of a young girl named Yeşil. The cast includes Sude Zülal Güler and Feyyaz Şerifoğlu, along with Ekin Mert Daymaz, Sinan Tuzcu, Sinem Uslu, and Doğukan Polat. Produced by Bozdağ Film, the series is distributed worldwide by TRT Sales.

## TALE OF ASHES

The TRT 1 series *Tale of Ashes*, which debuted on February 15, concluded with its 10th episode on May 2. Produced by Vernant and globally distributed by TRT Sales, the series stars Gökhan Alkan and Sevda Erginci and tells the love story between Arat, the son of a wealthy family, and Özge, who comes from a more humble background.



## STREET BIRDS

ATV's series *Street Birds*, featuring Hande Soral, Başak Gümülcinelioğlu, Görkem Sevindik, İlayda Alişan, Almira Tauna Albay, and Efekan Can, also concluded with its 54th episode. The story follows five friends who take in an abandoned baby, and their lives take a dramatic turn when a dangerous man discovers the child. *Street Birds* is globally distributed by ATV Distribution.



## ÖMER

The series *Ömer*, starring Selahattin Paşalı, Gökçe Bahadır, Barış Falay, and Merve Dizdar, concluded after two seasons with its 54th episode.

The series revolves around the love story between Ömer, who leads a conservative life, and Gamze, an older widow. Produced by OGM Pictures, Eccho Rights holds the global distribution rights for the series.



### FAMILY SECRETS

Kanal D's hit series *Family Secrets*, which has been running for three seasons, had its finale. Produced by Ay Yapım and distributed by MADD Entertainment, *Family Secrets* is a crime drama that tells the gripping story of prosecutor Ilgaz and Ceylin. Starring Kaan Urgancıoğlu and Pınar Deniz, the series concluded with its 95th episode.



### THE FATHER

After taking revenge for his brother's death, Cezayir Türk, the son of a prominent family, fakes his own death and starts a new life. However, everything will change after he meets Firuze.

Starring Oktay Kaynarca, Ebru Özkan, and Pelin Akil, ATV's *The Father* concluded with its 68th episode.



### NO MERCY

One of this season's new series, *No Mercy*, wrapped up with its 20th episode on NOW.

Starring Çağatay Ulusoy, Sümeyye Aydoğan, Onur Saylak, Alper Çankaya, and Erdal Özyağcılar, the series revolves around Dağhan, who returns from military duty to find his world turned upside down, with his girlfriend gone and his brother in danger. Produced by Ay Yapım, *No Mercy* is globally represented by MADD Entertainment.



### LOST IN LOVE

Star TV's *Lost in Love*, which premiered last November, focuses on the relationship between Mete and Naz, both from affluent families, and how their relationship takes an unexpected turn with the involvement of Naz's servant, İncila.

Featuring a cast that includes Uraz Kaygıaroğlu, Cemre Baysel, and Asude Kalebek, the series concluded with its 26th episode. Produced by OGM Pictures, *Lost in Love* is globally distributed by OGM UNIVERSE.



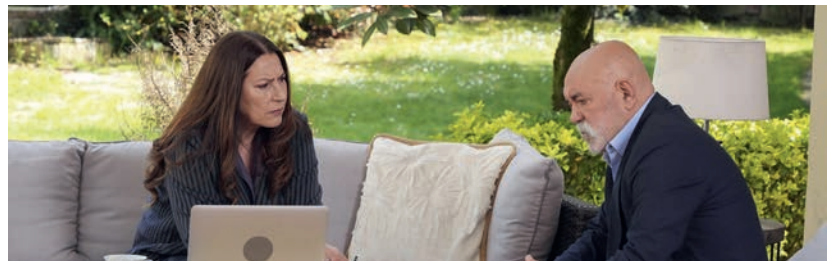
### FOR MY FAMILY

*For My Family*, first aired on ATV in 2021, concluded with its 132nd episode. The series tells the love-filled story of four siblings who face all challenges together. The cast includes Celil Nalçakan, Cüneyt Mete, Simge Selçuk, Yiğit Koçak, Halit Özgür Sarı, Onur Seyit Yaran, Fadik Sevin Atasoy, and Ahu Yağtu. Produced by NGM, the series is globally distributed by ATV Distribution.



### MY WONDERFUL LIFE

*My Wonderful Life*, produced by Ay Yapım, concluded with its 30th episode. The series tells the story of Şebnem, who claws her way to the top of society's ladder but is haunted by her past. Featuring a cast that includes Hilal Altınbilek, Onur Tuna, Yiğit Özşener, Serkan Keskin, Nesrin Cavadzade, Sumru Yavrucuk, and Gökçe Eyüboğlu, the series aired on NOW and internationally distributed by MADD Entertainment.



### DECEPTION

*Deception*, which has been running for the past two seasons, concluded with its 71st episode. Featuring actors such as Vahide Perçin, Mustafa Uğurlu, Feyza Sevil Güngör, Berkay Ateş, and Ercan Kesal, the series focuses on Güzide's seemingly perfect family life that suddenly falls apart. Produced by TIMS&B Productions, *Deception* aired on ATV and is globally represented by Inter Medya.



# LISTINGS

**NATPE BUDAPEST**

2024

## BAHAR

Mankind has been tested for centuries on the verge of good and evil. Our identity is determined by our destiny, and our destiny is determined by the choices we make on the verge of both. Co-produced by MISTCO and ÜS Yapım, *Bahar* is the story of a young girl who is struggling to keep the goodness inside despite all darkness around. After witnessing the murder of her father, she is trying to prove that Aysun (her stepmother) committed the murder. On the other hand, the love between Bahar and Demir who met just days before the murder grows day by day but becomes even more impossible since Aysun is obsessively attached to Demir and determined to win Demir at any cost.

**Genre:** Drama - 114x45'

**Original Title:** Kader Oyunları

**Producer:** MISTCO & ÜS Yapım

**Cast:** Ali Yasin Egemen, Türkü Su Demirel, Hilal Yıldız, Isabella Damla Güvenilir



## LOVE UNDER THE RAIN

Angsar and Nazym are on the same plane that flew from Almaty to Nur-Sultan. This flight changed their fate radically. Both of them are going to defend a project related to a case that is very important to them. However, the direction and purpose of the projects are contradictory. Angsar is a great businessman's son. He is going to receive millions of funds to build a hotel complex in Arshaly Sai Natural Park on the slopes of the mountains in case his father defends the project to the board of directors of the investment corporation "BEKINVEST". The entrepreneur is on the board, too. Nazym is an active member of the volunteer group that protects the Arshaly Sai area in the nature reserve where the hotel complex will be built.

**Genre:** Melodrama - 23x45'  
2021



## THE WAVE OF FATE

18-year-old Tolky, burdened with familial struggles due to her father's gambling, which leads to threats and insurmountable debts. After her mother's tragic death, Tolky faces danger from debt collectors. Seeking refuge with family friend Kanysh, she discovers a complex history: Kanysh and her father had a promise of becoming in-laws. To honor this pact, Tolky reluctantly agrees to marry Ali, facing resistance from Kanysh's wife, Zaure. As the narrative unfolds, the plot delves into Tolky's challenges, including conflicting emotions and societal expectations, raising questions about her ability to find happiness amidst adversity.

**Genre:** Melodrama - 20x50'  
2021



### WHEN A MAN LOVES

This is an entertaining romantic love story series, based on the accidental romance of a divorced mother of two children, (Zeynep) and her single handsome, charismatic and successful boss, (Kenan). Zeynep is a divorced mother of two children, in her early thirties. She works as an assistant in one of the most prominent women's clothing companies of the country. She has devastated when her ex-husband (Okta) left her for another woman. Zeynep loses her faith in men and love until she meets Kenan. Kenan is one of the country's most successful businesspeople and he is a single handsome, charismatic, intelligent, sporty man in his late thirties, who is pursued by many women. Yelda, who will be Zeynep's boss, is one of the women who is after Kenan and intends to carry the business partnership they have just started with Kenan into marriage. Marriage is not an easy step for Kenan but when he gets to know Zeynep, his mind starts to change because he falls in love with her. Everything is going to change for Kenan.

**Original Title:** Erkek Severse

**Director:** Ömür Atay, Zeliha Orman

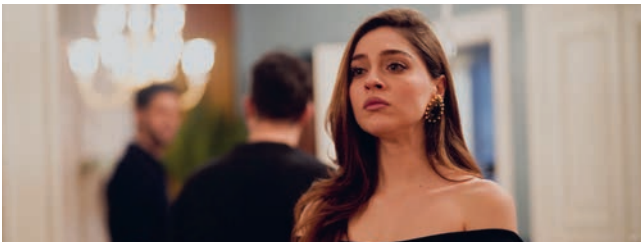
**Cast:** Alperen Duymaz, Büşra Develi, Yasemin Allen, Görkem Sevindik, Yağızcan Konyalı, Tolga Güleç

**Broadcaster:** beIN CONNECT

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 26x45'

**Year:** 2022



### LOST IN LOVE

Mete and Naz, from affluent families, are bound by a childhood promise. Mete returns from studying abroad to fulfill his promise to marry Naz. However, fate intervenes when he meets İncila, Naz's loyal servant. Both Mete and İncila carry emotional scars, and their unexpected connection complicates Mete's feelings. Amidst family rivalries and secrets, the story delves into love, trust, and competition.

**Cast:** Uraz Kaygıaroğlu, Cemre Baysel, Asude Kalebek, Şenay Gürler, Ceyda Düvenci, Tamer Levent

**Broadcaster:** STAR TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 85x45' (Expected)

**Year:** 2023



### DILEMMA

Neslihan Turhan is the host of the TV show "One Truth". She touches people's lives, sheds light on the stories that remain in the dark, and built her career on the principles of justice. Her life is upturned by the death of Lal Kaleli, in which Can, her son, is implicated. Caught between motherhood and all the principles that she believes in, Neslihan faces the most challenging dilemma of her life.

**Original Title:** Dügüm

**Director:** Can Ulkay

**Cast:** Bergüzar Korel, Caner Cindoruk, Serkan Altunorak, Kaan Miraç Sezen

**Production Company:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster:** Amazon Prime Video

**Genre:** Drama, Thriller

**Duration:** 8x45'

**Year:** 2024

### NEXT ROOM

Sevgi Ersoy, a famous TV presenter whose career is on the decline, suddenly marries Fikret Alabey, one of the country's leading businesspeople. This unexpected marriage shocks everyone. Sevgi and Fikret have unhappy marriages. Getting their dream of a new beginning won't be easy for the couple. Because their marriage means their very different families also come together. Combining these two completely different families under the same roof will create more problems than Sevgi and Fikret expected. This will change the lives of all family members, especially their mothers, who initially strongly opposed this marriage. Most of all, it will affect their children, Taylan and Şelale, who have to live in adjacent rooms...

**Cast:** Şevval Sam, Caner Cindoruk, Onur Seyit Yaran, Derya Pınar Ak, Nazan Kesal, Melek Baykal

**Broadcaster:** STAR TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** TBA

**Year:** 2024





## MIRACLE OF LOVE

Ali Tahir was a brave commander who fought in the Battle of Sakarya in 1921. During the battle, he made a costly mistake that led to the death of many of his soldiers. However, he managed to turn the tide of the battle and was shot in the process. Miraculously, he was resurrected by the "Water of Life" and never aged again. In the following years, he became an agricultural educator and married Leyla. However, Leyla couldn't handle his never-aging and committed suicide. In 1968, he changed his name to Esref and became a school inspector. He fell in love with a teacher named Süreyya and they got married. However, their marriage ended after Süreyya discovered hints from his past. In 2023, he changed his name to Kemal and met Harika, a young and beautiful writer who entered his life unexpectedly. Will Harika be able to help Kemal find the answers he has been searching for over a decade?

**Original Title:** Yüz Yıllık Mucize

**Director:** Hilal Saral

**Cast:** Birkan Sokullu, Ebru Şahin, Zerrin Tekindor, Necip Memili, Hümeyra

**Year:** 2023

**Production Company:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster:** Star TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 38x45'

**Language:** Spanish & Arabic

## STICKMAN

Tamer faced early life challenges, working to support his family while his peers played. He turned adversity into a game to preserve his inner child. After a tragic incident, he excelled academically and became a successful game developer.

He married Berrin, and when his game struck gold with a \$300 million investment, he bought a mansion. This reunited his family, including his estranged parents Aysel and Bülent, bringing immense joy.

Peri, a private bank manager with a traumatic past, endured her mother's abandonment and cared for her ill sister, Naz. After a heartbreaking betrayal, she contemplated ending her life but unexpectedly crossed paths with Tamer. They discovered their shared pain and found solace in each other's company.

**Original Title:** Çöp Adam

**Director:** Çağrı Vila Lostuvalı

**Cast:** Engin Altan Düzyatan, Elçin Sangu, Sedef Avcı, Salih Kalyon, Füsün Demirel

**Year:** 2022

**Production Company:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster:** Star TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 88x45'

**Language:** Spanish & Arabic



## BROKEN DESTINY

After five years in a coma, Toprak wakes up to a family he doesn't remember. Aydan, his fiancée, has loved him since they were kids, but he has amnesia. His mother, Keriman, encourages him to marry Aydan and move on with his life. Five years ago, Fidan lost her husband and baby in a terrible car accident. She lives in Şile with her sick father and stepmother, working to pay off the huge debt they owe the loan shark who wants to marry her.

When a twist of fate brings these two together, Fidan cannot believe her eyes. Toprak looks exactly like her dead husband, although he doesn't recognize her. Yet, something stirs within Toprak... Toprak and Fidan unravel the mystery of Toprak's past and his uncanny resemblance to Fidan's deceased husband as Fidan becomes Burak's nanny.

**Original Title:** Toprak ile Fidan

**Director:** Eray Koçak and Atilla Cengiz

**Cast:** Osman Aydın, Hazal Adıyaman, Asuman Bora, Hilal Tüfekçi

**Year:** 2023

**Production Company:** Stellar Yapım

**Broadcaster:** Star TV

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 121x45'

**Language:** Spanish & Arabic



### FATIH SULTAN OF CONQUESTS

Şehzade Mehmet first suppresses the rebellion of Şehzade Orhan, who had taken refuge with the Byzantines, and ascends to the throne upon the death of his father Sultan Murad II. Having established order in a short time, the most important goal for Sultan Mehmed II is the conquest of Istanbul. In the drama which sheds light on the life of Fatih Sultan Mehmed, one of the most important rulers of Ottoman history, the significant stages of the life of Eyüp al Ansari, a prominent figure in the Islamic world, are also covered with a story that runs parallel to Fatih's life.

### SALADIN THE CONQUEROR OF JERUSALEM

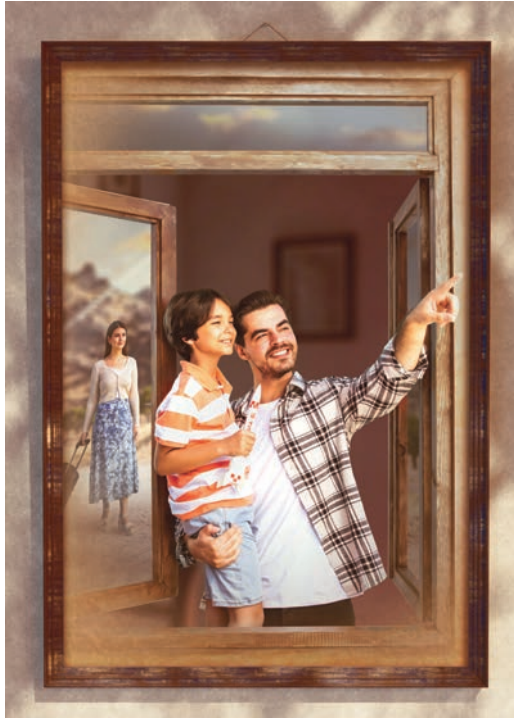
Despite the challenges, Selahaddin remains steadfast in his mission, driven by the words and guidance of Nureddin Zengi. As he navigates through political turmoil and personal conflicts, he gathers a loyal following who believe in his vision for a united Islamic world. His strategic acumen and unwavering faith lead him to several significant victories, bolstering his reputation as a formidable leader. The culmination of his efforts is marked by the triumphant liberation of Jerusalem, a momentous victory that fulfills the prophecy and dream that guided his life. Selahaddin's conquest of Jerusalem not only restores the Holy City to Muslim control but also solidifies his legacy as a hero and unifier of the Islamic world.



### LEGEND OF THE BLACK TREE

Celal Aga, who covets all the lands in his region, seizes the lands of all the aghas and has his last rival Osman Aga killed. Osman Aga's wife Raziye gives birth to a son that night. To protect her son from the wrath of Celal Aga, who has another daughter, she gives him to Celal Aga's wife Asiye through Naile Kadın. Ömer is now the son of Celal Aga, the murderer of his father. The daughter born to Celal Aga's wife Asiye is a secret. Years pass and Ömer grows up as Celal Aga's son. Sultan returns to the town claiming to be Osman Aga's daughter and seeks revenge. Fate reunites two people born on the same night.





### AN ANATOLIAN TALE

Taner, a young inventor in Gedelli, drops out of Science High School to support his family after losing his father. His mother puts pressure on him to get married, but Taner cannot forget his childhood sweetheart, Dilek. Taner, along with his cousins Veysel and Ramazan, nurtured a dream of building an aeroplane for years. They finally achieved it and successfully convinced a company to see their creation and invest in it. An engineer is sent to Taner without his notice. This engineer is his long-lost love, Dilek. He returned years later. Taner now finds himself in a moor, surrounded by love from all sides, on the verge of being reunited with his beloved Dilek.



### CODE NAME: SWIFT

Yiğit Efe, after his parents passed away an aspiring aeronautical engineer living with his grandmother and aunt, participated in a technology competition organised by "Company", aiming to develop a drone named "Swallow." The company recognizes Efe's talent linked to his parents' past work and assigns Selim to take over Efe's project. Selim, becoming close to Efe, resigns from the company due to ethical concerns. Efe forms "Team Swallow" with a diverse group to overcome challenges posed by a malevolent engineer, Aspar, ensuring the project's success.



### THE SHADOW TEAM

Following a terrorist attack on a Turkish SIHA (Armed Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) factory, the country is increasingly the target of foreign intelligence services. It is revealed that the attack was organised by foreign intelligence services. Senior government officials appoint Mr. Mete to eliminate this threat once and for all. After his appointment, Mr. Mete assembles a team of the best in their respective fields. However, there is only one condition to become a member of this team: the team members will be officially considered dead and no one, not even their loved ones, will know they are alive. From now on, these heroes will live in the shadows among the crowds.



### LOVE IN PIECES

The story of Ela and Kılıç, born into influential families in their hometown. Despite having feelings for each other, they never express their emotions. After university, Ela becomes a successful lawyer in Istanbul, while Kılıç returns home to improve the town. When Ela's father dies suspiciously, she returns, uncovering his affair with her sister-in-law. Kılıç helps cover up the truth to protect the family. Conflict arises as Kılıç plans to build a hotel on Ela's father's land, while she wants to continue her father's business. Their conflicting plans test their love with the interference of Behice, who loves Kılıç, and Gökhan, who falls for Ela. Despite the challenges, Ela and Kılıç unite to improve the town and overcome obstacles to be together.

O3 MEDIA



### SAFİR

Feraye, a textile design student and housekeeper at the mansion of the wealthy Gülsoy family in Cappadocia, has a flaw in her affection for one of the family's heirs, Yaman. Feraye's father, Muhsin, has married Cemile, who constantly tortures the family. The eldest child of the Gülsoy family returns to Cappadocia, where his grandfather has big plans for him. Yaman plans to propose to Feraye, but she meets Bora, a shady character. Bora is hospitalised and Yaman keeps silent to protect his family. Yaman is now forced to marry Aleyna because of threats from eyewitnesses.

Aleyna deceives Feraye. This leads to her insane behaviour. Ateş rescues her and they learn that she is expecting a baby. Both lovers are unable to reveal their truths, and Ateş will eventually fall in love with Feraye.

Drama, 45 min.

### THE OTTOMAN

With Ertugrul Gazi's sickness, the Kayı tribe started to struggle both with outside enemies such as the Byzantine Empire and Mongolians and power struggles between the youngest son of Ertugrul Gazi, Osman, and uncles of him, Dündar and Gündüz. The young and brave Osman will fight both internally and externally to defeat his enemies and empower the Kayı tribe in Anatolia.

Drama, 45 min, 422+ Episodes





### THE FATHER

Cezayir Türk, a member of secret service must now avenge his brother. He fakes his own death for the two things dearest to him in this world: his family and his nation. As he tries to start over and start a family in Tashkent, everything starts to fall apart when he is made and forced to return to Istanbul.

**Drama, 45 min, 113+ Episodes**



### STREET BIRDS

Homeless, living off of selling handkerchiefs to passersby, five friends find a baby lying in a trash bin. The motherly instincts of Mercan kick in and the buddies decide to take the baby under their care. They name the baby Gülayşe. When the bully Çatal notices the baby, he moves to hurt her, and the chaos begins. While they were trying to escape Çatal, the friends hurt him and accidentally caused the death of a woman who was looking for the baby.

Time flies and the five are now adults. They own a café called "Ateş Kuşları" as the things seem to have settled down. This will soon change and everything will soon start to fall apart when Barbaros, a policeman, comes looking for Gülayşe.

**Drama, 45 min, 67+ Episodes**



### FOR MY FAMILY

When both their parents die on the same day, Kadir has to take on responsibility and care for his little siblings. The unfortunate siblings have to face everything life throws at them. They navigate ups and downs of life through poverty and homelessness.

**Drama, 45 min, 315+ Episodes**



### A LITTLE SUNSHINE

Hakan and Elif were a happy couple until one day an accident reveals all Hakan's lies. Firat, brother of Dila and uncle of Güneş is behind this accident. Güneş sheds a bright light on Elif's dark life and Elif takes Güneş under her wings with the support of Firat and their story begins.

**Drama, 45 min, 117 Episodes**



## FARAH

Adapted from the award-winning Argentinian series *La Chica Que Limpia*; *Farah* is the story of an Iranian woman, who had to run away from her country and is struggling to live in Istanbul, working as a cleaning lady in order to maintain the treatment of her son. Farah was one of the brightest students at one of Iran's leading medical schools, until months before she had to flee. But she and her entire family ruthlessly pay the price for a man's failure to reciprocate her love, and Farah flees to Türkiye, unaware that she is pregnant with a boy. Seven years later, this woman with a bright future is forced to work as a cleaning lady in order to provide for herself and her son. Farah's son Kerim has a disease called "Bubble Boy Disease". He spends most of his time at home, in a sterile room free from germs, since his innate immune system is very weak. He can only go out in his special costume for an hour or two once a week, and it takes Farah's momentary carelessness when Kerim's health suddenly deteriorates. One night while cleaning, Farah witnesses a mafia murder. She begs the hitman Tahir to let her go, promising to keep her mouth shut and offers to clean the murder scene. That's what she does best, and in order to escape death, she cleans the crime scene without leaving a trace. The following day, Farah finds out that the victim of the crime is a policeman; a dear friend to her neighbour Gonul and her big brother Chief Inspector Mehmet (Firat Tanış). Farah decides to testify and goes to the police station where she meets Tahir, who has been detained by Mehmet. Leaving the station at once, Farah decides to leave the country, however, fate has its own way and she suddenly finds herself at a hospital. While she tries to get away, a deadly injured man is being brought to the E.R. Farah intervenes in order to rescue him, unaware of the fact that the man she tries to rescue is the leader of the mafia and Tahir's boss - Ali Galip. This instinctive act takes her to the middle of the mafia-police war and an unpredictable love with her hunter Tahir, in the first season. With Farah's son Kerim, all three together, create a family, against all odds around them. But the love between Farah & Tahir will be tested even harder in the second season when Kerim's dead father Behnam comes back to Istanbul to get his "family" back.

**Title:** Farah

**Duration:** S1: 47 TV Hours / S2: 42 TV Hours

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** O3 MEDYA

**Cast:** Demet Özdemir, Engin Akyürek, Firat Tanış, Rastin Pakhanad, Feyyaz Duman, Hatice Aslan, Sera Kutlubey, Senan Kara, Lale Başar, Oktay Çubuk

## INDEFENSIBLE

Awarded by The Academy of Canadian Cinema and TV as "The Best Daily Series" at the 38th Prix Gémeaux Awards *Indefensible*; is an engaging, unifying and captivating new daily legal series. It plunges us into the world of Lapointe-Macdonald Law Firm and its criminal defence team. A realistic universe built of human dramas, from the smallest to the largest, all imbued with the same emotion: fear. Fear of being condemned for an act that the accused may or may not have committed. From ordinary citizens to career criminals, everyone is entitled to full answer and defence and the presumption of innocence. At the heart of the series, a combative, endearing team of criminal lawyers passionate about justice. A tight-knit family, full of contradictions, crooked and endowed with great humanity. The cabinet is the home of countless twists and turns, rich in emotions and tensions. Our criminalists bring to life the human story behind crime: murder cases, intertwined with countless criminal cases that make their hearts beat faster. *Indefensible* takes viewers on a real adventure, who is undeniably trying to find out who is telling the correct version of the facts. He becomes a "juror", seeking to discover what will become "his" truth. What verdict would he have given? We will be captivated by the touching and disturbing causes they defend as well as by their personal, ethical, emotional and psychological issues.

**Title:** Indefensible

**Duration:** S1: 120x30' / S2: On Air / S3: Approved

**Genre:** Crime Drama

**Production Company:** Pixcom & Quebecor Content

**Cast:** Sébastien Delorme, Anne-Élisabeth Bossé, Michel Laperrrière, Martin-David Peters, Nour Belkhira, Marilyse Bourke



## EGO

The Koraslan Family is one of the most well-known families in the tourism industry in Türkiye. Sibel and Tuncay are both involved in their family business. On the other hand, the Ozturks are a middle-class family, Burhan being the father, who lost his beloved wife 2 years ago, his daughter Elif and son Arda. Elif is engaged to Erhan, a frank and brave man who works in the finance department at the Koraslan Family's firm. Burhan loves Erhan as his own son and relies heavily on him. When Erhan asks for money to invest on the stock market, he hypothecates his house in return for a huge loan. Things turn for the worse and Erhan loses the all money. The Ozturk Family could lose their house unless Erhan mends the situation. Meanwhile Sibel, who got unexpectedly abandoned by the man, who she had fallen in love with for the first time in her life, suddenly learns that she has a cyst in her womb and if she doesn't conceive soon, she will not be able to bear children. Elif, Erhan and Sibel's lives will completely change, when Sibel decides to get pregnant with Erhan's baby and makes an indecent proposal in the amount of 3 million.

**Title:** EGO

**Duration:** 40 TV Hours

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Pastel Film

**Cast:** Alperen Duymaz, Melisa Aslı Pamuk, Ahmet Kayakesen, Rüya Helin Demirbulut, Derya Beşerler

## ADELA

Adela and Andreea are two sisters, who were raised by their parents, Nuti and Mitu, in their poor home in a slum near Bucharest. One day, the secret identity of Adela is about to be revealed, when her biological grandfather decides to repair his past mistakes. However, before bringing Adela to her real father, the old man dies and Nuti and Mitu bury him in the garden, and the truth seems to be forever buried along with him. Presented with this new opportunity, Nuti and Mitu decide to send their own daughter Andreea in Adela's place, since the real father of Adela is the powerful media mogul, Paul Andronic. Nuti becomes increasingly obsessed with living in the mogul's mansion, and when she realises she is not welcomed by the rich, snobbish family, she begrudgingly accepts to live in the annex house for the time being. Although Nuti and Andreea seem like strong allies and committed to take what is owed to Adela, they will face a lot of trials and tribulations in keeping the secret.

**Title:** Adela

**Duration:** 159 TV Hours

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** Dream Film Production

**Cast:** Mara Oprea, Oana Mosneagu, Alecsandru Dunaev





### TYCOON / TAJKUN

Vladan Simonović is a tycoon, hated in Serbia because of the wealth he gained during the disintegration of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. Although he was able to run his company from the shadows, and to some extent the economy of the entire country, the politicians now in power, put him on a kind of pillar of shame, using him to strengthen their political authority. At the same time, the same politicians are cooperating with Simonović's rivals and plan to turn themselves and people from their closest surroundings into a new class of tycoons who are unconditionally loyal to them, with a seemingly clean past. Therefore, the assassination attempt on Simonović will not make him a victim in the eyes of politicians and the media under their control. On the contrary, that attack will make him even more isolated and vulnerable, making him conduct the investigation into his assassination attempt by himself. He is a persecuted man, forced to take drastic measures to preserve himself and his company. Besides his public and secret enemies, he is in conflict with his son, but also with the rest of the family, which is only kept together by his wealth.

**Title:** Tajkun

**Duration:** S1: 10x50' - S2 In Production

**Genre:** Action

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Dragan Bjelogrić, Tihana Lazović, Vuk Jovanović

### ALERT SQUAD

Behind each disappearance lies a hidden reality. Every single minute counts when the Missing Persons Unit is working a case. Driven by hope, bound by courage and determination, the team investigates with one clear objective: to recover the missing alive. *Alert Squad* is a police-driven series built on human drama. With its 3rd season it was awarded by The Academy of Canadian Cinema and TV as "The Best Annual Series" at the 38th Prix Gémeaux Awards.

**Title:** Alerts

**Duration:** S1: 24 TV Hours - S2: 25 TV Hours

**Genre:** Crime Drama

**Production Company:** Pixcom

**Cast:** Mylène St-Sauveur, Frédéric Pierre, Sophie Prigent



## THE WELL / BUNAR

*The Well* is an existential story. The search for deeper meaning. Search for an answer to the question why we exist in this world. The main protagonist, a philosophy professor Radomir Pavlović is in search of the meaning. He is at the peak of his powers in the beginning of the road. He is young enough, in his forties, by Selimović's standards, yet not old enough to understand what he will encounter in his path. He is into everything, and yet not up to anything.

**Title:** The Well / Bunar

**Duration:** 12x50'

**Genre:** Drama

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Milica Janevski, Denis Murić, Boris Milivojević, Nataša Ninković, Igor Đorđević



## THE CLAN / KLAN

The murder of Tigar, the biggest mafia boss in this part of Europe, shook the Serbian underground to its foundations. Many want to take his place. The cards are open again. Everyone wants their piece of booty and they are ready to do anything to win it... On the margins of that world, Shock and Pasha, provincials and not overly successful petty thieves, are just beginning their careers which will take them to unimaginable levels... This is their path; their story.

**Title:** The Clan / Klan

**Duration:** 24x50', 3 Seasons

**Genre:** Thriller, Crime

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Gorica Popović, Aleksandar Cvetković, Srđan Timarov, Petar Benčina, Dejan Karlečik, Feđa Štukan, Nedim Nezirović, Aleksandar Dimitrijević

## NO TRESSPASSING

When the police detain his daughter Miona together with a well-known Belgrade dealer, Dejan Matić decides to stop working in his architectural bureau, and together with his daughter moves to Dol, his father's home village. Despite Miona's resistance, he is carrying on with his idea, hoping to separate his daughter from bad company and habits, and to renew the mutual closeness, lost during Miona's growing up and Dejan's career building. Uncle Velibor is waiting for them in the family house in Dol, ready to help them adapt to the new environment. He also introduces them to the conflict divided Dol - a returnee from abroad and a wealthy entrepreneur, Maksa wants to cut down a forest in the area known as 'ban' in order to erect a modern hotel complex. He has the support of Borivoj, the owner of a local shop and cafe, the self-proclaimed "mayor" of Dol. On the other hand, he is resisted by Dejan's uncle Velibor, but also by Vera Jakovljević, a teacher from Dol, and Dejan's love from his youth.

**Title:** No Trespassing

**Duration:** S1: 10 TV Hours & S2: In Production

**Genre:** Crime Drama

**Production Company:** TS Media powered by Telekom Srbija

**Cast:** Nataša Ninković, Vojin Ćetković, Milutin Mima Karadžić, Branka Pujjić, Žarko Laušević, Ivana Zečević



## Series

**ANOTHER LOVE**

*Another Love* tells the powerful story of an anchorman and a prosecutor, drawn into an affair filled with tension and passion as they seek to reveal the dark truth about a mysterious serial killer. The gruesome murder case hits the headlines thanks to coverage by Kenan, who crosses paths with Leyla when they both go in pursuit of the killer. While the two fall in love, Leyla uncovers uncomfortable truths about her father that leave her in the midst of a gut-wrenching dilemma, facing a tough choice between justice and her family. As the dramatic and fast-paced drama evolves, dark secrets reveal grim past ties between Leyla's father and Kenan and a time of reckoning between them approaches.

**TIMS&B Productions****Genre, Duration****Drama****49x1 Commercial Hour****ONE LOVE**

*One Love* tells the captivating story of the idealistic Doga falling hopelessly in love at university with the charming Fatih, a man from a devout family whose values clash with those of her mother, creating a moving drama as they seek to overcome their differences. Doga's life plans are turned upside down and her mother is shaken to the core when she refuses to have an abortion and instead marries him. With her devastated mother convinced that religion will doom their marriage, Doga and Fatih face a battle for their love to triumph over this culture clash. Her mother too faces a struggle that triggers major changes in her attitudes, enriching a complex love story that brings together two families who are worlds apart but share the same deep truths.

**GOLD FILM****Genre, Duration****Drama****First Season: 95x1 commercial hour****Second Season: Ongoing production****Weekly, Prime Time****Show TV****VENDETTA**

*Vendetta* tells the moving story of Dilan and Baran and the marriage they are forced into to end a blood feud, triggered by an attack on Baran's parents, which leaves him struggling to bring peace to a conflict-filled family. The powerful drama revolves around a treacherous uncle's plot to get his hands on the family fortune by pressuring Baran to take revenge. Desperate to prevent a spiral of violence, Baran vows instead to marry his enemy's daughter and, discovering that this is Dilan, finds himself torn between love for her and hatred of her family. Despite hostility around them, Dilan and Baran realize the spark between them is set to erupt into a passion that will either blossom into love or bring devastation.

**Unik Film****Rains Pictures****Genre, Duration****First Season: 201x1 Commercial Hour****Second Season: Ongoing Production****Kanal 7****RED ROSES**

*Red Roses* tells the poignant story of Meryem, married off at 14 in an Islamic sect, and now battling bravely to prevent her daughter Zeynep suffering the same fate as the bride of the sheikh's grandson. Guided by her sister-in-law, a former sect member, they realize they must flee to save Zeynep from the sect's powerful clutches. Fearfully hiding her plans from her cruel husband, Meryem must first earn money as a carer in the home of secular psychiatrist Levent, who agrees to help her. Despite their clashing religious and progressive beliefs, Meryem and Levent are drawn together emotionally, but the turmoil in their lives deepens as the identity of his daughter is revealed.

**GOLD FILM****Genre, Duration, Drama, Ongoing production, Weekly, Prime Time, NOW**





## TWO OF US

*Two of Us* is a heart-warming and captivating singing reality show in which a parent and their child bid for stardom in a contest filled with enthusiasm, excitement, and love. With 10 families competing on each show and three voted off weekly, the combination of talented performers and deep personal ties is a recipe for powerful entertainment. Viewers hear moving stories from the contestants, revealing family pride and admiration, before they perform a song they have chosen themselves. Only the best make it through to the 13th week final and the chance to win a conservatory scholarship in a show where there are no losers but an unforgettable journey of discovery for contestants and viewers alike.

**Genre, Duration**  
**Family Singing Show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



## UPRISING KITCHEN

*Uprising Kitchen* is an intriguing and entertaining cooking show in which a first-class chef, a housewife, and a novice compete to produce the best dish, with the experienced cooks facing unique challenges to even out the contest. The amateur cook has \$100 to spend on ingredients, the housewife \$20, and the master chef just \$5, filling the show with fun, frustrations and ingenuity. The master chef must work with a tiny counter, while the rivals have bigger areas, and cards drawn from a lottery machine enable contestants to set challenges for their rivals. Culinary experts finally pass judgment on the dishes, bringing disappointment or joy in a show as inspiring for viewers as it is for the contestants.

**Genre, Duration**  
**Cooking show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



## FOREVER YOUNG

*Forever Young* is a fun and inspiring dating show in which a protagonist and three suitors, all aged over 60, seek love through young avatars who resemble their youthful selves. In the setting of an elegant old train, the participants are represented by avatars with whom they communicate through ear pieces, watching the speed dating on a monitor. Helped in their decision by photos of the suitors in their youth, the protagonist reveals their choice by sitting with their chosen avatar before the actual mature date emerges. This innovative and enlightening format turns the idea of dating on its head, with young avatars giving voice to older singles young souls, showing their inner vitality remains strong.

**Genre, Duration**  
**Dating**  
**Access Primetime / Primetime**



## OUR SONGS

*Our Songs* is a thrilling singing contest with an innovative scoring system that fires up 10 contestants to perform at their best, showcasing weekly themes such as golden oldies, rock or folk songs. The five judges rate the singers in two groups of five, awarding 10 points to one singer and 7, 3, 5 and 1 to the others. As each judge grades them, singers have the chance to rise or sink further, sharing their delight or sadness with their families as they sit together in the audience. The two highest scorers battle it out in the night's final with the winner earning a place in the end-of-series grand finale and the chance to be crowned the *Our Songs* champion.

**Genre, Duration**  
**Singing talent show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



## REAL LOVE

The Japanese reality show *REA(L)OVE* injects a gripping twist into the format, bringing together 20 contestants seeking romance but burdened with a deep secret, leaving viewers to discover whether love survives or dies when the truth emerges. Diverse characters such as fraudsters, adulterers and bankrupts reveal their secrets over three days, with host celebrities keeping their eyes on their journey and guiding viewers to empathize with contestants easily. The show reveals from close quarters the emotional rollercoaster experienced by the contestants as reality dawns over nine episodes. Ultimately, each must decide whether they can fall in love with their prospective partner once they find out the truth. For some love may blossom but some hearts are bound to be broken.

**Genre, Duration**  
**Reality Dating Show**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



## MATCH THE FAMILY

*Match The Family* is a fun and fascinating contest challenging two teams of three players to use intelligence and quick wits to identify family members of a person in the studio. With prize money rising to \$50,000 over five rounds, teams race against time to pick out the person's father based on a childhood photo shown on a screen. They then identify the person's mother, sibling, child and partner over four more rounds, based on close-up examinations, voices, questions and stories the candidates tell. The top team competes in the final quick-fire quiz, answering personal questions about the family in a show full of high tension, thrills and entertainment.

**Genre, Duration**  
**Gameshow**  
**Weekly, Prime Time**



### I AM MOTHER

*I Am Mother* tells the gripping story of Karsu, a resilient mother of three who relocates from Adana to Istanbul, and bravely starts anew in the bustling city after enduring a life-altering trauma. This drama navigates her journey of resilience and renewal, as she confronts the challenges of rebuilding her life. It portrays the complicated dynamics of family bonds, the strength of a woman's spirit, and the journey towards liberation from a burdensome past. "I Am Mother" is a story of mothers and daughters, laughter and tears, and the universal quest for self-discovery. A series where every viewer will find a piece of themselves reflected in the heartwarming and sometimes heartbreaking moments of life.

**Duration:** 80x45'

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** O3 Medya

**Commissioning/Originating**

**Broadcaster & Country:** Show TV

### CHRYSALIS

Nalan is a young, beautiful and innocent girl who works as an architect in a big hotel. She has started dating Sedat, a young and good looking man, and the successful heir of said hotel. Nalan soon sees that Sedat is not necessarily the prince charming she had been dreaming of. But even when Nalan finds out that his former affair is still ongoing, she chooses to ignore it, desperate to start her new life, and blossom into the woman that she hopes she is destined to be.

**Duration:** S1: 150x45', S2 103x45'

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** OGM Pictures

**Broadcaster & Country:** Kanal D (Türkiye)



### KARA

In '98, a single night became the turning point for Kara and Zeynep. It's a night that casts a shadow over Kara's family, altering their lives forever. Years later, seeking revenge and closure, the grown-up Kara infiltrates the world of Zeynep, where love blossoms amidst the echoes of that fateful night.

**Duration:** 85x45'

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** Most Production

**Commissioning/Originating**

**Broadcaster & Country:** Show TV

## ÖMER S2

Ömer's life turns upside down when he falls in love with Gamze, a relationship that his conservative father will never approve of. Gamze is a middle aged woman who returns to her old neighbourhood after her divorce. While struggling to start over her life as a single mother, she finds an unexpected comfort in Ömer's love, who is much younger than her. We will witness over time the struggles that Ömer and Gamze will try to overcome, their fight against the strict rules and the conflicts that both of their families will go through.

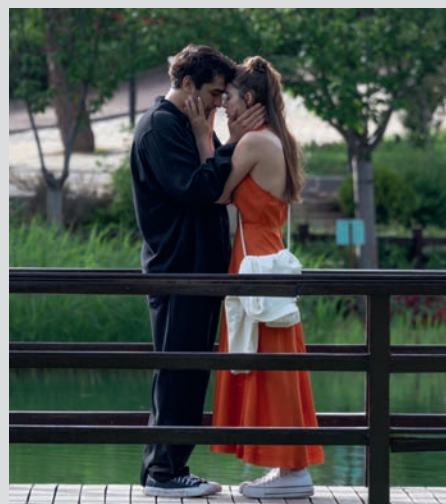
**Duration:** 80x45'

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** OGM Pictures

**Commissioning/Originating Broadcaster &**

**Country:** Star TV



## GOLDEN BOY S2

Seyran returns to Gaziantep to marry Tarik. However, Ferit decides to go after her, to save her from the marriage. When Seyran and Ferit are finally reunited, Tarik appears, and a conflict breaks out, ending with Tarik shooting Ferit. He is badly injured and rushed to the hospital, where Seyran is met by Ferit's family, who are all very angry. Ferit makes it through surgery and when he wakes up, he insists on marrying Seyran. Although his family opposes at first, Ferit's love for Seyran is undeniable, and the two get married.

**Duration:** 131x45'

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** OGM Pictures

**Commissioning/Originating Broadcaster &**

**Country:** Star TV



## REDEMPTION S2

When Hira is lying in the morgue, she suddenly wakes up. She leaves the hospital, walking down the road, when she's hit by a car. Realising Hira has lost her memory, the driver, Esin, decides to substitute Hira for the dead wife of her disabled brother, giving Hira the name Firuze. Orhun, who thinks Hira is dead, is devastated. One day while walking on the beach, he sees Hira but she doesn't recognize him and runs away. After the encounter, Orhun asks for Hira's grave to be opened and a DNA test to be done, convinced Hira is not dead.

**Duration:** 273x45'

**Genre:** Drama

**Rights Holder:** Karamel Yapım

**Commissioning/Originating Broadcaster &**

**Country:** Kanal 7



### LOVE AND PRIDE

The Köksoys live in an ancestral mansion as a wealthy and rooted family. With three daughters, the family is sinking and on the verge of losing everything. In a state of great panic, they contemplate how to escape the impending disaster when Tolga enters their lives like a savior. He is the heir to a wealthy and established family. If one of the daughters marries him, life will continue as it used to, affluent and secure. The idea is considered for the eldest daughter, Mercan, to marry him. However, Mercan rebels against this imposition, finding Tolga excessively arrogant and frivolous. Despite Tolga and Mercan being attracted to each other, Mercan's high pride and Tolga's spoiled attitude build thick walls between them. However, unlike Mercan, there is someone who desires him passionately- the middle daughter, Gül. Tolga shifts his focus from Mercan to Gül. As they drift towards marriage, Tolga's heart remains with Mercan. Mercan, too, has fallen in love with him. The girls' mother insists on a quick marriage because Tolga will rescue them from the financial crisis. However, Tolga is just as submerged as them and desires this marriage for his own salvation.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** TBA

**Production:** MGE & Inter Medya & Yeşil Yapım

**Cast:** Deniz Çatalbaş, Batuhan Demir, Ceylan Batı, Ali Pınar, Betül Şahin, Lara Aksüt

### DECEPTION

Güzide Yenersoy is a respectable family court judge living in Istanbul. With a marriage of 30 years and two children, Güzide Yenersoy has what could be described as the epitome of a perfect family. Her husband, Tark, is an experienced and successful lawyer, running his own law firm. Her son, Ozan, is a construction engineer working at a prestigious company, while her daughter, Oylum, is studying medicine in the Netherlands, upon her mother's insistence. From the outside, Yenersoy family has a picture-perfect life based on trust and love, but the truth is completely different from this false reality. Although everything seems to be going well, Güzide is not aware that the events buried in the past will come to light again. Every member of her family, whom she loves and dedicates her life to, is lying to Güzide. She does not know that Oylum has made the decision to go to the USA to realize her dream of studying modern dance. While Oylum is counting down for the day she will go to New York, her family friend Tolga, whom she met by chance at the airport, becomes her partner in secret. Oylum is not the only one lying to Güzide. After not receiving the promotion he was expecting, Ozan follows his friend's advice of investing in crypto money, but he gets himself into huge trouble by sinking his father's friend's entrusted money. However, her husband is the one who commits the betrayal that will change Güzide's life forever. Tark has a second family, which he has been keeping secret for five years. When her husband's betrayal is revealed, Güzide finds herself confronting the reality that her life has been a lie.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** TBA

**Production:** TMS&B Productions

**Cast:** Vahide Perçin, Mustafa Uğurlu, Ercan Kesal, Feyza Sevil Güngör, Berkay Ateş, İlayda Çevik





## LEYLIFER

Meryem, formerly known as Maria, travels to Istanbul with her husband Kemal and children for his sister's wedding. However, their plans to return to their home in Spain are abruptly disrupted when Kemal goes missing and is later found dead in a burned-out car with a woman Meryem has never met. Believing that Kemal was murdered, Meryem vows to stay in Istanbul until she finds his killer. However, she must navigate a new life in a foreign land, among a family who is wary of her and a community who struggles to accept her. Despite the challenges, Meryem finds unexpected love with Aziz, the designer of her wedding ring, Leylifer. Their paths become illuminated by Leylifer's light, and Meryem begins to reclaim her identity in this new home.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 120x45'

**Production:** Caracol Television & Alim Yapım

**Cast:** Camila Duarte Çakır, Can Verel, Burak Sarımolalı, Berna Keskin



## LIKE THERE'S NO TOMORROW

The meeting of popular and successful actress Manolya with experienced journalist Hakan for an interview changes both of their lives. In the brief time they spend together, they lay out secrets they have never shared with anyone else, their past relationships, and the failures within those relationships. As Manolya and Hakan grow closer while discussing love, hate, relationships, sex, jealousy, and the spirit of the times, they seek ways to establish honest and open communication, only to realize that it's not as easy as it seems.

**Genre:** Romantic

**Duration:** 4x35'

**Production:** CB Media & GAIN

**Cast:** Tuba Büyüküstün, Halit Ergenç

## POISON IVY

Macide, the daughter of a poor family who has studied psychology and is not happy in business life and seeks to heal others, falls in love with the elder brother of Ahmet, Kazım Işık, who is known as the smartest and the most successful businessman in the country. She has just met and fallen in love with the man with a great passion. Moreover, Kazım Işık is married to Nermin. Macide's love is not unrequited. Kazım passionately embraces Macide, who is by his side at his weakest moment... But will he be able to protect her from the cruelty of the rich and powerful life he created? Will Macide be able to preserve the purity, innocence and sensitivity she had when she first met Kazım? Or worse yet, when everyone makes her a "queen" out of false reverence... This is the story of a young woman who falls in love for the first time on her way to heal herself by healing others, following the healing she received from her father. The story of a man who has everything he wants in life, but perhaps mostly for this reason, looking for a companion in unhappiness and loneliness... *Poison Ivy* is a love story that tells that when two souls find each other despite the whole world, even themselves. Everything stands in front of them but still, they meet. However, no one can illuminate another's darkness.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 83x45'

**Production:** TMC Film & Alim Yapım

**Cast:** Neslihan Atagül Doğulu, Kadir Doğulu, Sarp Levendoğlu, Zuhâl Olcay





## SCORPION

Perihan Emgen, her daughter, grandchildren and her son in law Fikret, who she only tolerates for her daughter Berna, live under the same roof comfortably and prestigiously due to Perihan literally clawing her way to the top. Ferda, daughter of the famous Perihan Emgen who was abandoned at the age of one, runs a hair salon with her daughter Merve and is deeply loved by all the women in her neighbourhood. Ferda, blames her mother's abandonment for all of her troubles. Her step sister Berna is married and has three children. In a quest to avenge her mother, Ferda has an affair with Fikret, her step sister's husband. No matter how much Perihan tries to prevent this relationship, she never succeeds. Ferda is determined to take the life that is took from her. And while doing so, she accidentally causes the death of her sister. Berna's death changes everyone's lives forever. While the news drops in like a bomb, Perihan's granddaughter Duru, who studies in the United States, arrives at the house for the funeral. Ferda has no desire to stop and while the Emgen household are mourning the death of Berna; she pays the family a surprise visit with her daughter Merve. Calling Perihan, "mother" shocks everyone in the family. Now, everyone in the family find out Perihan's secret. Ferda's stubbornness and Perihan not wanting her, causes a great war between the mother and daughter. This war will also change the lives of Ferda's neighbours Ipek and Aras and will drag all of the young ones to a drift between love and hatred.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 91x45'

**Production:** 1441 Productions

**Cast:** Demet Akbağ, Evrim Alasya, Bekir Aksoy

## THE TRUSTED

Marashli is an ex-soldier who has left the special forces in order to open up a second-hand bookstore and spend more time with his sick daughter, Zelis. His life changes when the beautiful Mahur Turel walks into his bookstore. Mahur's life is saved by Marashli that day when she accidentally gets herself into trouble. From now on the destiny of the two characters will be interwoven irrevocably. Mahur is the precious daughter of Aziz Turel, one of the most powerful businesspeople in Türkiye. She gets into trouble because of a photo she takes that day which puts her life in constant danger. But her fearless persona is almost impossible to contain... at least by anyone other than Marashli who is now employed with keeping Mahur safe as her personal bodyguard. Mahur is a workaholic who has withdrawn from life after the untimely death of her mother. She watches the videos her late mother recorded for her to fill the emotional void in her life. The veil of mystery behind her family liaisons start to unfold around the same time Marashli is hired to be her bodyguard. She will start to discover the real and dark intentions of the ones who are closest to her. On this journey, Marashli will become her closest ally, the person whom she trusts the most, and her lover. That is until she finds out who Marashli really is...

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 74x45'

**Production:** TİMS&B Productions

**Cast:** Burak Deniz, Alina Boz





## BLUE CAGE

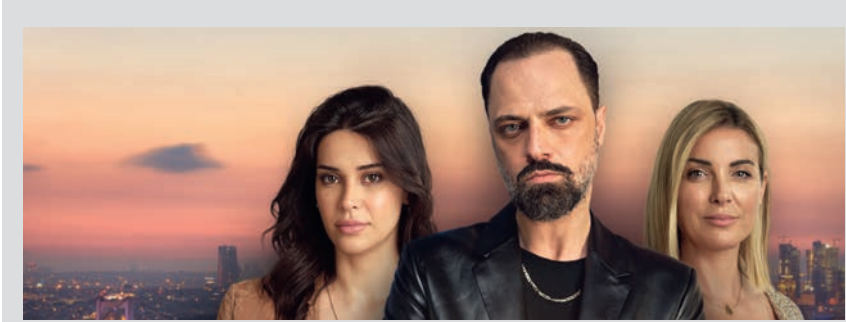
Ali took his children and wife with him after finding out about his wife Ayda's unfortunate and deadly illness; he moves in with his father-in-law Salih, who runs a boutique hotel in Çamlıkıyı. Ayda dies shortly after they move and the whole family deplores it. While their pain is still fresh, Ali, who sails one night, notices a raft drifting on the horizon and saves the woman inside, regardless of the storm. The name of the mysterious woman he saved is Defne. Ali brings Defne to the hotel as a "Guest of God", who suffers from temporary amnesia due to an accident and does not remember what happened to her. Defne, who regains her memory piece by piece, is truly a swindler. Defne, who unexpectedly comes face to face with Ozan, whom she thinks she has left in her past, has no choice but to seek a way out for herself. In Çamlıkıyı, where once only the sound of the waves crashing ashore was heard; in the triangle of Ali, Defne and Ozan; it is now inevitable that there will be irreversible eventful days and passionate love and that secrets and family relationships will be unclocked.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 78x45'

**Production:** O3 Medya & Inter Medya & Telemundo Global Studios

**Cast:** Caner Cindoruk, Damla Sönmez, Serkan Altunorak



## ANOTHER CHANCE

Most of the time, life comes as it knows. It is the same for Sadi Payaslı, Ankara's indomitable bully. Sadi Payaslı's past will follow him in Karabayır High School, where he was appointed as a geography teacher, leaving his dirty past behind. One of the children who came to Karabayır High School from the reformatory has a very special meaning for Sadi. But both are unaware of this. Another thing that Sadi Payaslı is not aware of is, the love and interest of Songül, the unruly policeman of the Public Security Branch, with whom he came from Ankara. Moreover, his life will turn into a dead end when he confronts her beloved Derya, whom he left behind unintentionally 17 years ago but never forgot. But with his unshakable sense of justice, he will balance his life and take care of 5 convicted students from the reformatory.

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 138x45'

**Production:** BKM

**Cast:** Ertan Saban, Devrim Özkan, Özge Özberk

## TUZAK

*Tuzak* tells the story of three siblings Mahir, Umut and Umay whose springs of life were taken from them. Who is bad, who is real, who is fake? In such a mixed-up world, three siblings Umut, Mahir and Umay who came together for a common purpose, find out that they don't have the bond they thought they had. On the other hand, Güneş, Güven and Mete are the siblings, each one of whom believed that their father's approval and their comfortable lives were more important than each other. Umut, as he is taking revenge from this family he hates, he goes through his biggest conflict thanks to Güneş, the girl whom he believes to be the love of his life with each passing day. Güneş doesn't know the real identity and purpose of Umut whom she knows as a dirty lawyer Çınar Yılmaz. She will entrust her family's and her own future to this man whom she falls in love with..

**Genre:** Drama

**Duration:** 82x45'

**Production:** Acunmedya & Fabrika Yapım

**Cast:** Akın Akınözü, Benu Soral, Talat Bulut, Rıza Kocaoğlu



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