TASKMASTER SERIES 11 LAUNCHES AT 9PM THURSDAY 18TH MARCH ON CHANNEL 4

"Taskmaster is the show we need right now" ★★★★ **Anita Singh, The Daily Telegraph**

"Charming, batshit, hilarious...That something so pointless, so silly, so endlessly daft should exist is just delightful" ★★★★ **Lucy Mangan, The Guardian**

"I wish I had discovered it earlier as it's sublimely silly and funny" ★★★★★ **Deborah Ross, The Mail on Sunday**

"The funniest show on television" **Luke Holland, The Guardian**

Fresh from enjoying its best performance on record in its new Channel 4 home, BAFTA winning *Taskmaster* returns at **9pm Thursday March 18th**. Starring **Greg Davies** perched on his regal throne, and Little **Alex Horne** diligently taking notes to determine who will be the next *Taskmaster* champion.

A quintet of quivering comics sit in awe and fear, wondering if their resourcefulness, dexterity and creativity will be enough to impress the formidable Taskmaster. Series 11 will see actor **Charlotte Ritchie** (*Ghosts*, BBC One), acclaimed stand-up **Jamali Maddix** (*Hate Thy Neighbour*, Vice), BAFTA-winning comic **Lee Mack** (*Not Going Out*, BBC One), actor, writer, and comedian **Mike Wozniak** (*Man Down,* Channel 4), and BAFTA-nominated actor and comedian **Sarah Kendall** (*Frayed,* Sky One*)* battle it out in a series of stupefying tasks testing their ingenuity, and weeding out their stupidity.

WHAT THE PRESS HAVE SAID ABOUT TASKMASTER SERIES 10

"The funniest double act on television… Taskmaster is one of TV's most refreshing comedies. It's nonsensical, silly and different from anything else on TV" **Frances Taylor, Radio Times**

"Joyously ridiculous" **Victoria Segal, The Sunday Times**

"Greg and Alex make a strong double act… on screen they have natural rhythm" ★★★★★ **Christopher Stevens, The Daily Mail**

"it's still the same delightful, daft show" ★★★★★ **Steven Perkins, TV Times Magazine**

"it's still just as ridiculous and entertaining as ever" ★★★★★ **Lauren Morris, Radio Times Online**

"Anyone new to Taskmaster will quickly get the idea of its sublime silliness" ★★★★★ **The Mail On Sunday**

"impressive" ★★★★ **Boyd Hilton, Heat**

"weird and wonderful" ★★★★★ **Mike Ward, Daily Star**

"Its fun to watch not just because the tasks are silly, but also in the execution, as the comics come up with (mostly) inventive ways of making the magic happen" ★★★★ **Daily Mail**

"an entertaining return of a joyous show" ★★★★ **Steve Bennett, Chortle**

"the beauty of Taskmaster has always been its winning format" **Ian Hyland, The Daily Mirror**

"Surreal, downright silly and the most fun to be had on TV" **Veronica Lee, The I**

"there is nothing not to love" **The Sun**

"From the beginning its clear that this season… will be a winner. Proper laugh-out-loud TV" **The Daily Telegraph, SH**

"hilarious as usual" **Emily Baker, The I**

"The hilarity still comes in waves" **Lynn Gibson, Inside Soap**

"Extraordinary and hilarious" **Jennifer Kyte, Sunday Express**

"the novelty game show that struck comedy gold" **The Mail on Sunday**

"Still one of the most inventive- and definitely the most reliably funny- programme on TV**" Total TV Guide**

"*Crash landing onto its new home on Channel 4 after nine seasons on Dave, its only right that this brilliant, bonkers show reaches a wider audience"* **Sara Wallis, The Daily Mirror**

"The national service for comedians" **Joe Clay, The Times**

"it's ridiculously funny" **Mike Ward, Daily Express**

"it is still as funny, inspired and daft as ever in its tenth series" **Bruce Dessau, Beyond The Joke**

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Notes to Editors:

About Taskmaster

- *Taskmaster* is a BAFTA winning and International Emmy nominated comedy game show originally created by Alex Horne. Greg Davies stars as the all-powerful "Taskmaster" who, with the help of his loyal assistant Horne, sets out to test the wiles, wit and wisdom of five comedians through a series of strange and surreal challenges in what is the most hard-fought and ridiculous comedy entertainment format on TV.

- 95 episodes have been produced in the UK so far, with a further 41 ordered by Channel 4 as part of a landmark six season deal in 2020. Series 10 – 15 air on Channel 4 from Autumn 2020, following nine record-breaking series on UKTV's Dave.

- The show enjoyed its best performance on record with it's Channel 4 launch which reached 3.9 million consolidated views after the first episode, winning the majority share of young viewers 16 – 34's and making it the best-performing new entertainment show of this year (Broadcast, 2020). Since the programme's initial launch in 2015 on UKTV's Dave, *Taskmaster*'s audience has grown by 80% from series one to series nine.

- *Taskmaster* was crowned Best Comedy Entertainment at the BAFTAs 2020 and won Best Entertainment Programme at the Broadcast Awards 2018, having previously received two more nominations for both awards. It has also been nominated for Best Entertainment Programme at the RTS Awards, Broadcasting Press Guild Awards, the Broadcast Digital Awards, and the TV Choice Awards.

- The original *Taskmaster* programme and format combined has been sold into 106 countries, with 140 episodes of the format being made outside the UK including local versions of the show produced for VTM in Belgium, TVE in Spain, and TVNZ in New Zealand. While the original show aired on The CW in the U.S. in 2020.

- The format has seen huge success in Europe, with the Swedish version winning Programme of the Year at the Kristallen in 2020 and 2019 (Sweden's TV Academy Awards) and its fourth series for SVT reaching ratings of over a 50% market share in a primetime weekend slot. Norway's original version of Taskmaster, 'Kongen Befaler''s won Best Entertainment Show at the prestigious Golden Screen Awards 2020 where a second has been commissioned by Discovery. Two new series have been ordered for MTV in Finland after its first episode ranked in the top ten most watched shows in the country, and there are returning series for TV2 in Denmark.

- The Taskmaster YouTube channel has received over 120 Million views and has 509,500 subscribers.

- *#HomeTasking* had over 100 million impressions across all content on YouTube. Viewing grew by 42%, while subscribers grew by 85% since it launched on the Taskmaster YouTube channel. It was watched in 125 countries with viewers ranging from the US to the UK and from Moldova to Mongolia.

- The Taskmaster Book 200 Extraordinary Tasks for Ordinary People has sold over 130,000 copies.

- A Taskmaster boardgame was released in Autumn 2019 and entirely sold out a week after it went on sale. It has sold over 115,000 copies to date along with an expansion pack which was released this year along with the launch of the official Taskmaster shop.

- Taskmaster is working with Homeless Link; the national membership charity for frontline homelessness services, creating a virtual Taskmaster at Home event with all the money raised going to homeless charities across the UK. Having raised over £110,000, the virtual event is running throughout the winter months and further information can be found here.