



METROPOLITAN PICTURES

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METROPOLITAN PICTURES PULLS TV SHOW “QUIET DESPERATION”

May 25, 2011 – Metropolitan Pictures, LLC announces today that it has ceased broadcasting QUIET DESPERATION, the highest-rated, locally-produced “Reality Sitcom” in New England. Since December 2010, “QUIETD” has been airing every Friday evening at 11pm into 2.7M homes over 5 states on the MyTV New England network, and has received unprecedented press – including features by NPR, ABC's Chronicle, The Boston Phoenix, Boston Globe, Boston Herald and more – and garnering among the highest ratings on the network.

However, the recent purchase and sale of the Derry, NH-based station by Carlisle One Media, Inc. helmed by president Bill Binnie (New Hampshire industrialist and former political candidate, president of Carlisle Capital Corp. ^[1]), has resulted in a sudden increase in station censorship standards which the producers feel, if conformed to, would detract from the narrative and creative integrity of the show.

“When we started broadcasting on MyTV, we had the full support of the General Manager and Program Director. We worked with them to ensure there wouldn’t be FCC violations, and they were fully behind our cutting-edge creativity and social currency,” says Scott A. Matalon, President of Metropolitan Pictures. “MyTV was committed to developing original ‘indie’ entertainment, and they understood what that meant. The new owner doesn’t share that vision, and rather than compromise this show’s integrity or engage in an ongoing conflict with them, we made a professional decision and we made it ourselves.”

“Principal filming has been completed according to the original standards we agreed to with MyTV management when we made our broadcast deal. Now that we’re more than halfway through the season what are we supposed to do, re-shoot it?” asks Metropolitan Pictures Creative Director Warren Lynch, adding, “Our experience with MyTV prior to the sale proved “QUIETD” is a successful TV show for an edgy adult market and has real value for our sponsors. There are many adult-oriented broadcasters out there, and we’re confident one will get behind the show and help us take it to the next level.”

“Bill Binnie is a long-time Republican who ran unsuccessfully for the US Senate, has had a career marred by controversies involving overseas labor, political contributions and business ethics, has been investigated by the US House Committee on Oversight, and now he owns our station^[2],” says Rob Potylo, Writer and Director of the show. “Last week they (MyTV) ran an infomercial for tooth whitening instead of a repeat episode they had already broadcast – simply because of the new owner’s personal taste. He already wants us to remove humor related to marijuana and bleep words that don't violate TV-MA/18 standards, and it’s the start of a slippery slope which, for me, would destroy my vision of the program. I know “QUIETD” has a mass appeal that is undeniable, and we’re willing to stand by that.”

[1] Wikipedia [2] ibid.



Written and directed by Allston comedian/musician Rob Potylo, QUIET DESPERATION blends a hilarious, cutting-edge mixture of near-Reality TV and improvised comedy (think of “Curb Your Enthusiasm” meets “Jersey Shore”) as it follows a cast of regionally-located and oftentimes nationally-known musicians, artists and comics living, working and trying to “make it” in the entertainment business in Boston, including co-stars Tom Dustin, Joe Wong, Casey Desmond, Water Sickert and many more, plus a recent guest appearance by Jennifer Coolidge (American Pie, Best In Show) that now won’t be shown on MyTV.

QUIET DESPERATION was slated to enjoy a 9-month run of half-hour episodes, aired every Friday evening at 11pm with each episode repeated once. This expanded schedule enabled Rob Potylo and Metropolitan Pictures to incorporate current events and developments in the artists’ lives into the scripts, similar to the running-production approach of “South Park,” “Family Guy” and others; as well as to integrate feedback received from viewers and fans through the extensive Web presence of the show on its www.quietd.com website and its Facebook, Youtube and Twitter social networks.

The show has completed more than 20 weeks of airplay featuring 10 original half-hour episodes with sponsors ranging from WBOS (Boston’s leading FM radio station with >600k listeners/ week) to the Weekly Dig (Boston’s leading weekly news-magazine, with >400 readers/month), the Middle East Rock Club, Stingray Body Art, the Sound Museum, 379 Club, Krefetz Law Firm and more.

Metropolitan Pictures is proud of the success of the first 10 TV episodes, and feels that “QUIETD” has a future at national and International levels. Filming has been completed for season one, and Potylo and Metropolitan have retained all rights to their property. “We fully intend to continue kicking down doors and bringing original programming to the region, the country and the world,” says Scott Matalon. “From its humble beginnings as a web video series to becoming the highest-rated, locally-produced Reality Sitcom in New England, “QUIETD” is still going strong. Things are hotter for us now than ever before.”

Rob Potylo, the creative eye of the tornado that is QUIET DESPERATION adds, “We’ve been building an original “Saturday Night Live” for Boston-area comics, and we think people from all over the country will want to watch it. The talent here is incredible, and the age of independently-produced original TV programming has arrived. Look forward to the next chapter in our story, because we’re still writing it.”

Metropolitan Pictures (16 Farrington Ave., Allston, MA) is a local filmed entertainment production studio in Allston, MA and is currently in production of Season Two of its Sports-Reality “Boston Boxing” TV series which is broadcast on New England Sports Network (NESN), and in 2005 released the feature-length cult-comedy movie “Pony Trouble,” which is available at Blockbuster and Netflix.com. www.metropolitanzone.com

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