

Amazon Announces Lineup for its 2016 Comedy Pilot Season

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On 19th August three new half-hour pilots will launch on Amazon Video and customers are once again invited to stream and review the shows to help determine which will become an Amazon Original Series

Pilots come from noted creators including Peter Atencio, Ben Edlund, Barry Josephson, Ridley Scott, and Jill Soloway, and star prominent actors including Kevin Bacon, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Kathryn Hahn, and Jackie Earle Haley

LONDON – 21st July 2016 – Amazon is today announcing the lineup for its 2016 comedy pilot season which will launch on 19th August in the UK, US, Germany, Austria, and Japan. This season, Amazon customers can expect more variety than ever from the shows, which include: *I Love Dick*, based on the renowned feminist novel about a couple's marital struggles in the artistic and academic community of Marfa, Texas; *Jean-Claude Van Johnson*, where martial arts film star [Jean-Claude Van Damme](#) operates under the alias of "Jean-Claude Van Johnson" to serve as the most dangerous undercover private contractor in the world; and *The Tick*, an offbeat and dark superhero tale based on the acclaimed comic, starring [Peter Serafinowicz](#).

All Amazon customers are invited to stream and review the pilots in order to help choose the next Amazon Original Series that are then available to Prime members. The pilots will be available via the Amazon Video app for smart TVs, connected devices including Fire TV, mobile devices and tablets, or online at www.amazon.co.uk/primevideo. Amazon customer feedback on pilots have helped make some of the most critically-acclaimed and popular series to date, including BAFTA, Golden Globe and Emmy-winning series *Transparent*, multi Golden Globe-winning series *Mozart in the Jungle*, and the most-streamed Amazon Original Series ever by Prime members globally, *The Man in the High Castle*.

The new pilots feature prominent actors that include [Kevin Bacon](#) (*The Following*), [Griffin Dunne](#) (*Dallas Buyers Club*), [Kathryn Hahn](#) (*Transparent*), [Jackie Earle Haley](#) (*Watchmen*), [Phylicia Rashad](#) (*Creed*), [Peter Serafinowicz](#) (*Guardians of the Galaxy*), and [Jean-Claude Van Damme](#) (*JCVD*). They come from noted creators that include [Peter Atencio](#) (*Key and Peele*), [Ben Edlund](#) (*Supernatural*), [Barry Josephson](#) (*Bones*), [Ridley Scott](#) (*The Martian*), and [Jill Soloway](#) (*Transparent*).

"Nowhere else will voices as influential as Jill Soloway and Jean-Claude Van Damme share a stage," said Joe Lewis, Head of Half-Hour Series, Amazon Studios. "And that's just the Js. We're excited to bring such a diverse slate of pilots to customers and we can't wait to hear what they think."

Amazon's autumn comedy pilot season includes the following shows:

I Love Dick

Adapted from the cult classic *I Love Dick* —referred to as "the most important book about men and women written in the last century" (Emily Gould,

The Guardian)—is set in a colourful intellectual community in Marfa, Texas. Chris [Kathryn Hahn](#) (*Transparent*) and Sylvere ([Griffin Dunne](#), *Dallas Buyers Club*), arrive in Marfa when Sylvere is offered a fellowship to finish a book he's been writing on the Holocaust. When they meet Dick ([Kevin Bacon](#), *The Following*), he taunts their imaginations and upends their preconceptions about love and monogamy. An exploration of the female gaze and how we tell stories about love and desire, *I Love Dick* charts the evolution of a marriage, the awakening of an artist and the deification of a writer named Dick. *I Love Dick* is executive produced by [Jill Soloway](#) (*Transparent*), [Andrea Sperling](#) (*Transparent*), and [Sarah Gubbins](#) (*Ten Aker Wood*). The pilot is directed by Soloway and written by Gubbins.

Jean-Claude Van Johnson

If you need to eliminate a political rival, debilitate a multinational corporation, or overthrow an entire government—and you need it done with the utmost secrecy—there's only one person to turn to: one of the most internationally recognizable movie stars in the history of film. *Jean-Claude Van Johnson* stars [Jean-Claude Van Damme](#) (*JCVD*) playing "Jean-Claude Van Johnson," a global martial arts and film sensation...and, operating under the simple alias of "Johnson," the most dangerous undercover private contractor in the world. Lucky for the world's bad guys, he's been retired for years...unlucky for them, a chance encounter with a lost love is about to bring him back to the game...and this time, he'll be deadlier than ever. Probably. *Jean-Claude Van Johnson* stars Van Damme along with [Kat Foster](#) (*Your Family or Mine*), [Moises Arias](#) (*The Middle*), and [Phylicia Rashad](#) (*Creed*). The show is executive produced by [Peter Atencio](#) (*Key and Peele*), [Ridley Scott](#) (*The Good Wife*), [David W. Zucker](#) (*The Man in the High Castle*) and Van Damme. From Scott Free Productions, the pilot is directed by Atencio and written by [Dave Callahan](#) (*Mortal Kombat*).

The Tick

In a world where superheroes have been real for decades, an underdog accountant with zero powers comes to realize his city is owned by a global super villain long-thought dead. As he struggles to uncover this conspiracy, he falls in league with a strange blue superhero. *The Tick* stars [Peter Serafinowicz](#) (*Guardians of the Galaxy*), [Griffin Newman](#) (*Vinyl*), [Jackie Earle Haley](#) (*Watchmen*), [Valorie Curry](#) (*House of Lies*), [Yara Martinez](#) (*Jane the Virgin*) and [Brendan Hines](#) (*Scorpion*). *The Tick* is executive produced by [Ben Edlund](#) (*Supernatural*), [Barry Josephson](#) (*Bones*) and [Barry Sonnenfeld](#) (*A Series of Unfortunate Events*), directed by [Wally Pfister](#) (*The Dark Knight*), and written by Edlund. *The Tick* is a co-production with Sony Pictures Television.

Media contacts

Amazon Prime Video UK Press Office
pressoffice@amazon.co.uk

About Amazon Video

Amazon Video is a premium on-demand entertainment service that offers customers the greatest choice in what to watch, and how to watch it. Amazon Video is the only service that provides all of the following:

- **Prime Video:** thousands of popular movies and TV episodes, to stream or download, including Amazon Originals and Exclusives like 2016 BAFTA winning *Transparent*, 2016 Golden Globe® winning *Mozart in the Jungle*, Ridley Scott produced *The Man in the High Castle*, cult comic book series *Preacher*, time-travel romance *Outlander*, 2016 Golden Globe® winning *Mr Robot*, *Bosch*, based on Michael Connelly's best-selling books and all series of *Ripper Street*. Plus, must-see films like *Macbeth*, *Legend*, *Paddington* and *The Imitation Game* and more.
- **Rent or Own:** thousands of titles, including new-release movies and current TV shows available for on-demand rental or purchase for all Amazon customers.
- **Instant Access:** Instantly watch anytime, anywhere through the Amazon Video app on smart TVs, mobile devices, Amazon Fire TV, Fire TV Stick, and Fire tablets, on Xbox, PlayStation, Wii and Wii U, and through the web at www.amazon.co.uk/primevideo.
- **Premium Features:** Top features like 4K Ultra HD, High Dynamic Range (HDR) and mobile downloads for offline viewing.

Prime Video is available at no extra cost to Amazon Prime members, who also benefit from unlimited One-Day Delivery on millions of items, more than a million songs available to stream and download through Prime Music, unlimited photo storage in Amazon Drive, access to a million Kindle books to borrow, and 30-minutes early access to select Lightning Deals on www.amazon.co.uk. Amazon customers who are not already members can start a 30-day free trial of Amazon Prime by visiting www.amazon.co.uk/prime.