



**DUCHESS
STREET.**
PRODUCTIONS

**DUCHESS STREET PRODUCTIONS
TO DEVELOP
WALKING TO GREENHAM**

London, 15th May 2019

Duchess Street Productions secures TV rights to Ann Pettitt's iconic story of the 1981 Women's March to Greenham and the start of a peace movement that changed the world.

During the 1980s the world had become consumed with the nuclear arms race, the Cold War and the battle for nuclear supremacy between the East and West, Reagan and Gorbachev. However, As the UK prepared for the arrival of 96 American Tomahawk Nuclear Missiles, each with the capacity to annihilate a small town, one woman in a corner of the UK watched the terrible reality unfold. Scared and unable to comprehend why no one seemed to be doing anything, Ann Pettitt began to mobilise.

On 27th August 1981, along with 39 other women, Ann set off on the 120-mile walk from Cardiff Town Hall to Greenham Military Base in Berkshire. The ten day march was the start of something remarkable and despite being labelled by the press as lentil eating, man-hating, aggressors, at the height of the protest the group were 70,000 strong in numbers.

Too powerful to ignore: nuclear disarmament gained support internationally. The women inspired peace camps all over the world. Eventually their message reached the highest echelons of power and their protest swayed public opinion and in turn helped bring Reagan and Gorbachev to the negotiating table.

On the 2nd February 2019, President Putin suspended Russia's involvement in the INF Nuclear Forces Treaty, following a similar decision by President Trump. Now, almost 40 years after Ann Pettitt marched to Greenham, (40th anniversary in 2021) a new Cold War threatens. Ann's incredible story is a timely reminder of how much the voices of ordinary people really can change the minds of the most powerful players on our political world stages.

Ann Pettitt said, "I wrote this book because I wanted to tell the story of how a small group of ordinary women set out to alert the public and politicians to the terrifying danger of nuclear war. They succeeded in doing this. It is an exciting and surprising story, and I am delighted that Duchess Street and Daisy share my vision."

Walking To Greenham will be adapted for screen by Daisy Coulam (*Grantchester, Humans, Deepwater Fell*). Daisy adds, “I’m thrilled to be adapting Ann’s extraordinary, inspiring (not to mention downright funny) story. I was 5 years old when I went to Greenham with my parents to “embrace the base” so it’s a project that is very close to my heart.”

Executive Producer Donna Wiffen said, “What Ann Pettitt and the women of Greenham Common peace movement did was utterly remarkable. In the wake of the recent Extinction Rebellion and climate change protests what history has taught us is that we can never underestimate the power of our collective voices.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS DUCHESS STREET PRODUCTIONS

Duchess Street Productions, part of the Anthology Group, is focused on working with exceptional writers to develop and produce authored series and adaptations for television. The company recently announced that award-winning dramatist Mike Poulton, will adapt Mal Peet’s cult classic ***The Murdstone Trilogy*** for television. Also in development is a six-part television adaptation of Jonathan Coe’s compelling psychological thriller, ***The House of Sleep*** by Jane Eden (*The Split*, BBC and *Fortitude 2*, SKY).

Duchess Street Productions has developed a mature and fully financed slate that is creatively driven and benefits from longstanding industry international drama connections and experience.

THE ANTHOLOGY GROUP

Anthology Media is the parent of a diverse media group comprising two wholly owned subsidiaries, Anthology Studios (a group of six TV and film production companies and a licensing company) and Anthology Theatre (a theatre production, investment and advisory business).

Founded by Bob Benton to bridge the gap between creativity and finance, the Group combines expertise in both areas to develop and produce scripted and unscripted TV, film, and theatre. Carolyn Bennett chairs Anthology Media; Jeremy Mills Chairs Anthology Studios; Bob Benton chairs Anthology Theatre; Hilary Strong is Chief Executive Officer of the group.