



909
FICTIONS



CRIME UP CLOSE

Scripted Reality - 235 x 26'



Lagardère
ENTERTAINMENT

 RIGHTS

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CONCEPT

Crime Up Close is unlike any other true-crime show.

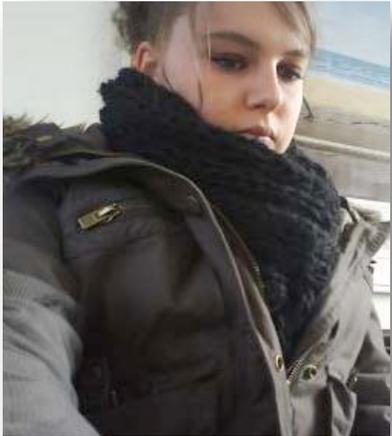
It is “scripted reality” – it takes a true-crime incident and reenacts the event.
The viewer experiences the drama from the inside.

This is a “reality series” that uses all the mechanics of fiction and unfolds like a documentary report.

It tells the story of a real case, exactly as it happened.
(Murder, assassination, kidnapping, robbery....)

CONCEPT

The story is scripted and directed, with actors playing all the parts:
the expert, the victim, those close to the victim, and the perpetrator or perpetrators of the incident.



Naturally, to protect the anonymity of those involved, all names and places are changed.

Just like in a documentary, interviews with the actors playing the protagonists are woven through the story.

All content - sequences, interviews – is played out as real as possible.
A classic documentary that tells the story after the fact.

CONCEPT



Crime Up Close recounts the incident, along with the events leading up to the incident. The viewer gets the inside story.

Crime Up Close describes the social, family and professional context around the incident, and reveals the psychological make-up of the protagonists.

So the viewer relives the story as it is happening, as if experiencing it live.

Plunged into the life of the victim, the viewer gets a close-up look at his or her "ordinary" daily life before the "extraordinary" event.

**IN CRIME UP CLOSE,
FICTION EMBODIES REALITY.**

Why a reality-fiction drama based on human-interest stories?

Because human-interest stories fascinate us – they exorcize our fears and arouse our curiosity. Human-interest stories touch us all.

They push us to ask questions about who we are, about human nature and people's behavior.

They allow us to face the fear of seeing our lives turn completely upside down in the blink of an eye.

To ward off this dreadful fate, we feed off the media: written press, radio, and television offer increasingly more special reports and programs that focus on this theme.

The most compelling and sensational stories are analyzed and "autopsied" from the angle of experts, reporters, and those close to the victim. But a traditional documentary remains too peripheral.

What exactly do we know about these people whose lives literally swerved off-track? What do we know about their life leading up to the events?

This is the story that *Crime Up Close* – "scripted reality" - will tell.

INTENTION

Dramatizing the situation allows for a better understanding of the psychological mechanics of each protagonist.

***Crime Up Close* answers the questions at the heart of every true-crime incident:**

- Why?
- What were the reasons behind it?
- What really happened?
- Why did events take a sudden turn?
- How is it possible that individuals with no previous criminal history could suddenly turn into cold-blooded beings?
- And so on...

Strengths of the series:

1. Authenticity guaranteed

Our network of judges, attorneys, police officers, victims associations, and reporters collaborate with the *Crime Up Close* team so that all the elements of each case are available to us.

This key contribution gives the show its credibility.

2. Proximity guaranteed

Like a documentary report, *Crime Up Close* enters peoples' lives. It follows the protagonists, accompanies them in this irreversible countdown to their fate.

3. Efficiency guaranteed

The scripting and dramatization of the event allows a peak into the private lives of people, unlike in a traditional documentary.

Crime Up Close proves that incredible, frightening things are ever present around us. Worse yet – these things could happen to any one of us!

The objective:

Like in a thriller, the viewer is drawn into an unsettling, unbelievable story.

But this story is close to him or her:

The viewer is an invisible witness – a fly on the wall – present at every step.
The actors are the same age as the protagonists when the events took place.

The story is told in the present.

This is the advantage of fiction versus traditional documentary.

**OUR GOAL IS TO CONFRONT THE VIEWER WITH HIS OR HER BELIEFS AND
SUSPICIONS AND TAKE AWAY ALL PREJUDICES.**

How?

Crime Up Close is played by actors and filmed like a documentary report. Sequence shots, interviews, voice-overs...everything is scripted and directed.

✓ **A HAND-HELD CAMERA IS USED FOR THE SEQUENCE SHOTS.**

This mobility adds more life and spontaneity to the story, as if it were being shot live.

The dynamic will catch the viewers' attention and keep them in suspense from start to end.

✓ **THE INTERVIEWS ARE FILMED SEPARATELY, IN A NEUTRAL SETTING.**

Opinions and emotions are heightened, they become more powerful.

✓ **THE VOICE OVER**

It lays out the story, providing the necessary information for an overall understanding of the incident.

TREATMENT

Each episode of *Crime Up Close* always begins **with a sequence of the events that took place.**

An effective hook to catch the viewer's attention.

ONE QUESTION: WHO COMMITTED THE CRIME?

The story then unfolds from this first sequence.

Each character is the potential perpetrator.

The real identity of the perpetrator is revealed much later.

A MULTIDIMENSIONAL CONCEPT

The series can be seen as one part of a whole multimedia package:

Internet, social networks, telephone, a paper version leading up to and after its broadcast.

Why not publish the strongest pieces as a collection of short stories?

A radio broadcast to retransmit the stories onto the airways.

THE EPISODES

Each episode will be shot over two days and each will deal with a different incident.



- Aired twice daily, the episodes will deal with the incidents from start to finish.
- With the added particularity that every single story happened in real life.
- Each episode ends with an epilogue.

SAMPLES EPISODES

**ALL THESE EVENTS TOOK PLACE IN FRANCE
FOR THE FIRST TIME TELEVISION VIEWERS WILL EXPERIENCE THE STORY FROM THE
INSIDE...AS IF THEY HAD BEEN THERE.**

SAMPLE EPISODES



1/ « With friends like Myriam and Jean... »

A couple befriends a rich old lady, with just one objective in mind: to rob her of her fortune...!

2/ Profession blackmailer

An innocent man must hand over 16,000 Euros to a blackmailer. In exchange, the person won't say a word to anyone about the pedophilic acts the man **never** engaged in.



SAMPLE EPISODES



3/ Help me, I married an Escort girl!

In December 2004, when Pascal asked Ghislaine before a justice of the peace if she would be his wife, he thought he was marrying a receptionist... Three months later, the 64-year-old man finds out that his wife (whom he thought to be an "honest woman") is actually an escort girl, and has been for years.

4/ A strange death

The body of 50-year-old Monique is found in her room – completely charred. Only her arms and legs were left intact. Was it suicide, murder, or natural death? The autopsy concludes the death was due to natural causes – an extremely rare case of spontaneous auto-combustion. The last incident of this kind was in 2010 in the U.S.

Monique "burned" from the inside. Having been suspected of killing her for her money, her family and friends are soon exonerated.



SAMPLE EPISODES



5/ Nothing is what it seems with me...

Young Lucas was 16 years old when he began lying to his mother about being a pilot for AOM airlines.

To keep up appearances as the son of a magistrate, so as not to deceive his mother whom he loves so much, and just for the fun of it, the kid finds himself ever deeper into trouble with his lies.

6/ My brother, my identity thief

For 15 years, 34-year-old Laurent was the victim of identity theft. The thief happened to be his brother...who did not hesitate to send Laurent to prison in his place. Laurent faces 5 years in prison. Now he's fighting to change his identity and reclaim his freedom and life...



SAMPLE EPISODES



7/One woman, two families

Often in this kind of story it's the men who have parallel lives. But in this case we meet Florence, given to polyandry...

All was going well until the day one partner discovered the existence of his rival. That's when the farce really began.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Average production costs of a 26' episode	30.000€
Broadcaster	France Télévisions: France 3
Transmission	2 episodes daily from Monday till Friday
Slot	After the news at 13.45 & 14.10 pm
How many days of shooting per eps.?	2 days
How many days of post-production per eps.?	3 days
The ratings are good for the slot (between 5 and 8% market share)	
All the actors are professional	
All the episodes are based on events that took place in France	

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