



Press Release

Kitchen Confidential **Monday 1 May at 9pm**

KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL – A FIRST FOR SA TELEVISION:
MONDAY 1 MAY AT 9PM
ADVENTURES IN THE CULINARY UNDERBELLY

Monday 1 May sees the launch of Kitchen Confidential on e.tv, which will be broadcast for the first time on South African television. Based on renowned New York chef Anthony Bourdain's best-selling autobiography and from executive producers Darren Star (*Sex and the City*) and Dave Hemingson (*Just Shoot Me!*, *American Dad*), *Kitchen Confidential* exposes the secrets of the restaurant business through the delectable story of a talented chef who's determined to climb back to the top of the food game.

Chef Jack Bourdain (starring Bradley Cooper) found enormous success at a young age. He lived the culinary high-life and travelled globally: from Tokyo to Paris and back to New York. Bourdain's tales of the kitchen are as passionate as they are unpredictable, as shocking as they are funny. In Saigon, he eats the still-beating heart of a live cobra; he dines with gangsters in Russia and finds a medieval pig slaughter in Portugal.

Unfortunately, Jack's culinary genius also led to a lifestyle of drugs, sex, haute cuisine and more drugs – excesses that eventually landed him in the gutter. He was the culinary rock-star of the demimonde. After hitting rock bottom and deciding to sober up, the only job he could get was slopping soggy pasta for the masses at a tacky opera-themed restaurant.

Unexpectedly, Jack was offered an opportunity to get back in the game as head chef at a top New York restaurant. Jack hastily assembled a renegade crew of colleagues from his past, including chefs Steven (Owain Yeoman) and Seth (Nicholas Brendon), and a rookie pastry chef named Jim (John F. Daley). Also along for the ride are Tanya (Jamie King) and Mimi (Bonnie Somerville), the restaurant owner's gorgeous daughter, who can't wait for Jack to fail.

In the launch episode: Jack overhears a host, Tanya, take a reservation for a 'Daisy Miller.' Jack knows that the name is a pseudonym for leading restaurant critic Reese Ryder, who happens to be an old flame of Jack's. Jack tries to get Reese to postpone her visit, but she refuses. Therefore, Jack emphasizes to Tanya that Reese must be treated like royalty. Meanwhile Mimi has changed the menu without consulting Jack. Jack argues with Mimi, who confronts him about having left his last two jobs under a cloud. Mimi warns Jack that she's looking to catch him screwing up.

From the diners at the front of the house, to the head chef and his rock-star culinary team at the back of the house, *Kitchen Confidential* is a tasty look at the underbelly of the restaurant world.

For more information or photographs contact:

Herman Lategan
e.tv Publicity
Tel: (021) 481-4634

From the blurbs on the book:

"Fantastic: as lip-smackingly seductive as a bowl of fat chips and pungent aioli."
Daily Telegraph

"Colonel Kurtz Bordain goes deep into the heart of darkness and returns sole survivor of the culinary bloodbath."
Guardian

"Elizabeth David written by Quentin Tarantino."
A.A. Gill

