

MUST-SEE TV + SOAPS + FASHION + BEAUTY

W

Win!
**A MULBERRY
HANDBAG**
(excited much?)

BRITANNIA RULES!

**FREEMA
AGYEMAN**

*flies the flag in
our Great British
telly special*



**"MY 4-INCH HEELS
MAKE ME FEEL
LIKE A WOMAN"**
LIFE AS A
TEENAGE DWARF

P45 PLEASE!
TV'S MOST
CRINGE-WORTHY
BOSSES REVEALED

FREE WITH
**THE
Sun**
9-15 JULY 2011

WE SMASHED IT!

We can't get enough of UK drama right now. We've lapped up *Luther*, cheered on *Scott & Bailey* and been terrorised by *The Shadow Line*. As another firm favourite, *Law & Order: UK*, returns, it only seems right that its star, **Freema Agyeman**, should fly the flag for the Best of British



Freema Agyeman knows a bit about great British TV. Since the 32-year-old from London aced it as Martha Jones, assistant to David Tennant in *Doctor Who* in 2007, she's had her pick of the home-grown dramas.

She battled in BBC1's post-apocalyptic *Survivors*, then made the part of savvy Junior Crown

Prosecutor Alesha Phillips her own in ITV1's *Law & Order: UK*.

With over five million viewers last time around, the drama is back, with Dominic Rowan and former *Doctor Who* star Peter Davison. The format's the same, though: the cops catch the crims, the prosecutors do the prosecuting and we wash down all the action from the safety of our sofas.

So, with *Law & Order: UK* leading a line-up of brilliant home-grown shows on TV, who better to talk about the rise of British drama than one of its biggest stars?

For years, everyone's raved about US dramas like *The Sopranos* and *The Wire*. Are we starting to match them? I think so. The US will always be able to put out more shows than us because of the

size of their country but I think UK drama is doing brilliantly now. I must be honest, I never watched *The Sopranos*. The US TV shows I was hooked on in the Nineties were *Law & Order* and *Quantum Leap*. So I'm thrilled our version has done so well.

What has our *Law & Order* got that the US series hasn't?

To answer that, you've got to see a thing on YouTube called *Law & Order: UK – Lessons In British Justice*. It's this three-minute compilation of clips from our show that brilliantly takes the mickey out of us. It uses the guy who does the voiceover at the start of the US show and he goes on about how in British Law we love dropping things heavily on tables, stopping for tea and wearing multi-coloured scarves. It ends by saying: "It's like our *Law & Order* – just more British."

When was the last time you saw David Tennant and John Barrowman?

My goodness, it's been a long time. John's been filming *Torchwood* in America. David was texting me around the time my niece was born and his daughter was born, and of course because [David's partner] Georgia Moffett is Peter Davison's daughter, I hear all their news through him.



IN BRITISH LAW, WE LOVE STOPPING FOR TEA AND WEARING MULTI-COLOURED SCARVES

Can you tell us something we don't know about John Barrowman?

I'm pretty sure everyone knows every intimate detail of John Barrowman! When we were rehearsing for *Torchwood*, he had no problem doing scenes with parts of his genitalia on display. By that point, everyone else on the show was used to it so they just carried on like nothing was happening, but I was dying. I didn't know where to look or what to say. But by the time I'd done three episodes, I was practically encouraging him to get Little John out to play!

What mementos of Martha have you kept from *Doctor Who*?

My favourite things – which are mounted on my bedroom wall at home – are from the Daleks episode set in 1930s New York. There were these posters of fictional plays and musicals on the walls of the showgirls' dressing rooms. The prop guy very kindly gave me about eight of them. I love the fact that I'm the only person who has them. I've also got a Dalek alarm clock and a big Dalek on top of my wardrobe.

Do you own a Martha Jones doll?

I've got one 12-inch Martha Jones doll and two figurines. That was so weird and exciting. Having a doll made of me



Freema in Law & Order: UK with co-stars Peter and Rowan

wasn't on my list of things to do before I die, but I was really chuffed about it. Martha sits on the dresser in my bedroom.

When did you last see Elisabeth Sladen (the Doctor's companion Sarah Jane Smith) before she died?

I was shocked to the core when I heard [she died of cancer in April]. The last time I saw her was at Doctor Who producer Phil Collinson's 40th birthday party in Leeds. I don't know whether she was poorly then, but she looked fantastic. I remember saying to her: "How is it that every time I see you, you seem to get more beautiful?" We were going to appear in an episode of The Sarah Jane Adventures together but then we couldn't because of schedules. I really wish I had done.

Is there any chance Martha Jones could reappear in Doctor Who or Torchwood?

Noel Clarke and I were both meant to be in Torchwood but it just didn't happen. I'd love to have done more as Martha but sometimes you get to a crossroads and have to make decisions about other work. I'd always been a big fan of Law & Order so the chance to do a UK series was very exciting. It has turned into a three-year job, which is longer than I was on Doctor Who, so I don't regret it. But Lis Sladen was a wonderful example of how you can come back to Doctor Who many years later and still be a popular character and be appreciated. So I'd never say never. But if Martha does return, I hope she'd be totally over the Doctor. Her pining for him was wearing a bit thin!

How do you keep fit and toned?

I do find I have to train a lot harder now I'm in my 30s. I bought a cross-trainer when I was doing Doctor Who, which

everyone told me I'd end up just using as a clothes horse but I did half an hour on it every day. That was enough back then but now I think my body's got used to it so I'm having to mix it up. I've started swimming and bike-riding. But what I'd really like to do is dance more. I don't mean on Strictly Come Dancing, though. I'd want to do it in the privacy of my own home or a studio where I wouldn't be judged.

Where are you living now?

I'm in Southgate, North London, but my boyfriend [Holby actor Luke Roberts] is in Hertfordshire, which is where I spend a lot of my time. It's funny because I seek the solace of the countryside now. I love going on lovely long walks and the people there are really friendly. It's good for the soul. He's always been quite a mellow person while I haven't, but now the country air is getting to me. I think rather than just moving in with him, we'll look at getting a new place together in the same area.

Martha memorably saved the universe. Have you ever saved anyone's life?

No, but I had my life saved by Jamie Bamber while filming the previous series of Law & Order. There was this big steel cabinet filled with books behind me and I was talking away when this look of horror came over Jamie's face and he screamed my name. I thought there must be an axe murderer behind me or something, so I ran. The next second this whole cabinet crashed onto my desk, missing me by an inch. I'm not being melodramatic – it would have crushed me. I turned to Bamber and said: "I will never stop building a shrine to you." ▶▶

WATCH IT! LAW & ORDER: UK
SUNDAY 9PM ITV1



I'D NEVER SAY NEVER ABOUT RETURNING TO DOCTOR WHO – AS LONG AS MARTHA'S OVER THE DOCTOR. ALL THAT PINING WAS WEARING A BIT THIN!

REST OF THE BEST...

This year is delivering a feast of brilliant home-grown TV. Here is our guide to the greatest dramas this side of the Pond



SCOTT & BAILEY

Scott (Lesley Sharp) is a hard-headed cop by day and simpering wet lettuce in a loveless marriage by night. She beats the streets of Manchester with partner Bailey (Suranne Jones), a scarier, law-enforcing version of singleton Bridget Jones, who has the power to stalk and isn't afraid to use it (men, take note). However, despite that, we like them. They may have no banter but the pair could quite easily pass for a modern version of Cagney & Lacey. Just with better hair. If that wasn't enough to keep us gripped from the start, there are also impressive one-liners, such as: "You've played silly buggers with the wrong woman, pal." Any character who can utter the word 'pal' with a straight face is a winner to us. **WATCH IT NOW ON ITV PLAYER**

SCOTT & BAILEY MAY HAVE NO BANTER, BUT THEY COULD EASILY PASS FOR A MODERN VERSION OF CAGNEY & LACEY

Additional words: Victoria Garo-Falides. Styling: Saakia Quirke. Hair: Michelle Sultan. Make-up: Jane Burstow. Props: Janis Morrison. Cream dress: £38. Miss Selfridge. Shoes: £27/99. New Look. Necktie: £35. Accessorize. Red dress: £55. ASOS.com. Navy shoes: £100. River Island.

BRITANNIA RULES!



THE SHADOW LINE

A conspiracy thriller, crime drama and film-noir-inspired series, The Shadow Line is about a murder being investigated by both cops and criminals. With more twists and turns than Anton Du Beke on a flashing dancefloor, it lasts just seven episodes. The Shadow Line brings to life a world of blurred morality full of screwed-up characters, and is sure to leave you shocked and weepy. The star-studded cast includes Chiwetel Ejiofor (left) as a detective suffering amnesia courtesy of a bullet in his brain, who doesn't know if he's good or bad, and Kierston Wareing (inset) as his feisty partner. **THE SERIES IS OUT ON DVD NOW**



Obsessive, dedicated and bordering on crazy, Luther (The Wire's Idris Elba) is gifted with a superior intelligence. Did we also mention he's damn hot? So hot, he makes Robert Downey Jr's Sherlock Holmes look like Inspector Gadget. Luther makes dizzying leaps of logic and has an unhealthy attraction to dangerous women (hello, Alice and Jenny) but we can't get enough of his bonkers version of London. Inspired by Columbo, critics have called it "the slightly sillier Silence Of The Lambs", which makes us love it more. Idris promises a third series will resolve all our unanswered questions – especially about Alice. **SERIES TWO IS OUT NOW ON DVD**



LUTHER