

ALEXIS CONRAN – Actor. Presenter, Card Sharp. Conman.



Star of BBC3's hugely popular THE REAL HUSTLE, and now a regular contributor on WATCHDOG, **Alexis Conran** has turned the world of scamming into an entertaining art form and is acknowledged both as a uniquely talented performer and someone you do not want to be playing cards with.

Born in Paris but raised in Greece, Alexis was introduced to the world of scams and frauds at a young age – witnessing, as he did, his father's gambling addiction. Although fascinated and affected by what he saw, he elected to follow his most burning passion: acting (“a more subtle form of lying”) and, aged 16, came to London.

After studying at LAMDA, Alexis followed a curious desire to study the art of magic and his training inevitably re-acquainted him with an old friend - the pack of cards. Within three years he was working as a professional magician specialising in card cheating –

having learnt the art of long and short con games, as well as fixed card games in which newcomers would be fleeced for their cash. He started performing at exotic, celebrity-fuelled private parties worldwide.

Whilst working as an actor on the horror film BELOW Alexis was asked to join some of the actors in a poker game. During one round he noticed one of the players cheating by stacking the deck before the deal. Alexis decided to use his card skills to make it impossible for the cheat to win. The cheat could not accuse him of cheating because he knew that he had been made. That game kick-started a whole new career for Alexis and his magic shows became exhibitions in fraud, cons, dice, casino and card cheating as he was able to use his acting skills to get into character.

In 2003, he was part of a team asked to advise the writers and actors on the hit TV series HUSTLE for the BBC. His extensive knowledge of hustling, pickpockets and con artists gave the show an authenticity that didn't go unnoticed. Following this, Alexis was asked to star in a new TV show for the BBC, THE REAL HUSTLE, which, since its debut in 2005, has become one of BBC3's flagship series. The eighth series THE REAL HUSTLE UNDERCOVER will be transmitted from January 2010 for ten weeks. Alexis is also the co-writer of the show, alongside Paul Wilson.

Alexis, alongside his Real Hustle cohorts Paul and Jessica-Jane Clement, has also released a DVD entitled THE WORLD'S GREATEST BAR BETS and he recently starred, alongside Kate Thornton, Pete Firman and the rest of the Real Hustle team in the BBC1 special DON'T MISS A TRICK.

Press enquires:

Greg Day

Clout Communications

020 78518627 07889 861646 greg@cloutcom.co.uk