

# Sunny Side of the Doc, London RendezVous 4 > 5 March 2008



## PRESS RELEASE

### SUNNY SIDE OF THE DOC'S UK / FRANCE CO-PRODUCTION RENDEZ-VOUS - A BIG SUCCESS!

**156 industry professionals** (63 UK producers, 33 French producers, 31 UK broadcasters and distributors, 9 French broadcasters, 20 journalists and Observers) got together at the French Institute in South Kensington on 4 & 5 March, and they have expressed themselves well satisfied with the results. Highlights included the meeting with Peter Kosminsky and his producer David Aukin, discussing their approach to drama-documentary; a very lively debate with five BBC commissioning editors; and the twelve co-production projects presented by participating Channels (BBC 2, BBC 4, Channel Four, More Four, ITV, Five, Al Jazeera, SBS, Discovery Europe, History UK, Nat Géó UK, France 2, France 3, France 5, ARTE France, ARTE Strasbourg). There was a lively exchange of points of view and experiences, and plenty of time to meet between the sessions.

Most importantly, several co-production agreements were made at the Rendez-Vous - and a number of British participants have already suggested that the event be repeated next year.

*« Just a note to congratulate you on a beautifully organised Sunnyside London Rendez-vous. An enormous amount of work must have taken place to put it all together. Well done! – Carol»*

**Carol Sennett**, Executive Producer, Acquisitions, Knowledge, BBC Vision

*"I too really enjoyed the session and am grateful to you for inviting us. I'm sorry that prior commitments mean I can't be with you in the summer but I do hope the event goes well.  
Best wishes - Peter"*

**Peter Kosminsky** – Director - Stonehengefilms

*"The widely shared view was that this was a very welcome initiative indeed, with benefits that transcend any short-term outcomes - of which I am sure there are many. You have helped to build bridges between constituencies whose natural allegiance has not always found full creative or commercial expression. I was pleased to re-connect with several old friends and make new contacts."*

**Luke Holland** – Producer - ZEF Productions Ltd

*"...Interestingly there was an encouragement on both sides by broadcasters for UK/ French producers to collaborate, to overcome the pitfalls of local trends and working practices...the event was well supported by most of the British and French broadcasters as well as Nat Geo and Discovery ...this was a very good starting point for hopefully closer cooperation in the future, as we are after all European!"*

**John Miles** – Journalist / Producer – Equilibrium Films

*"Really enjoyed the RV, thanks!"*

**Paul Jenkins**, Director