

Following is information sent by the Italian Production Company, Casanova Multimedia

Dear Carol, our TV-series "BENTORNATO NERO WOLFE" (WELCOME BACK NW) is still in production, so at this very moment we can't give you big updates about the project. Waiting the complete renew of our official site and asking you to follow it later in these months, we can give you this synopsis.

You will read also in the same document some Adaptation Notes. They will help you to understand something more about the project.

Regards,

Reparto Editoriale Casanova Multimedia

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## **SYNOPSIS**

### **BENTORNATO NERO WOLFE**

### **(WELCOME BACK NERO WOLFE)**

He is disagreeable and proud of it. He is antisocial, cantankerous, maniacal and quite clearly misogynous. Nonetheless, even the FBI recognizes that his sleuthing capacities are unmatched. HE IS NERO WOLFE.

It is 1959 and due to a few slight disagreements with the federal police, Nero Wolfe, the best detective in the United States moves to Italy together with his trusted assistant ARCHIE GOODWIN. He has two main objectives: firstly he wants to find a cook who will match his gourmet palate and secondly he wants to quickly set up a greenhouse in which he can keep his precious collection of orchids, of which he is an avid collector. His hobbies require dedication and concentration... but above all money.

Urged on to work, by the far more down to earth Goodwin who finds clients, Wolfe follows murder investigations which have taken place in the city: a young woman poisoned while she took part in a Gala, a university professor who is killed with a small pointed needle, a rich philanthropist who is run over in suspicious circumstances... without ever having moved from his house! Goodwin, taking advantage of his "American" charm and an out of the ordinary loquacity, is the one who explores the site of the murder, interrogates the witnesses and gleans all the information necessary for Wolfe to discover the identity of the culprit by using his incredible intuition.

They are the brains and the brawn, to which one adds hands, legs and feet. Respectively there are the refined appendages of NANNI LAGHI, chef in the Wolfe household, who is permanently in conflict with his boss regarding the menu for the week; the long legs which belong to ROSA PETRINI, the enterprising reporter of the evening newspaper who is the richest source of information for Goodwin, as well as an opportunity for some light-hearted flirting; the well-worn shoes that belong to 'TOM' LANZETTA, jack of all trades who can find both the address of a suspect as well as ten different types of "fontina" – Aosta cheese.

Wolfe investigates those cases that the Italian police have ignored or when they are quite simply groping around in the dark. For this reason the Head of Police GRAZIANI detests both him and his lackey,

Goodwin. He and his vice BORDON are not used to someone interfering with their investigations and above all they cannot stand the fact that a couple of “Americans” prove they are better. Nonetheless they are forced to stick behind them every time: even the clever police superintendent CORSINI, whom Wolfe knows from the time of the war, does not have an easy time.

The women of extraordinary beauty, the rich businessmen and the high society involved in the murder investigations mean nothing to Wolfe who considers them on the same level as a plate of “polenta”. What is important is to discover the culprit and to hand him over to justice: only then can he return to his table and taste the excellent food that Laghi has prepared for him

### **The adaptation**

The new series on Nero Wolfe does not just refer to the thrillers written by Rex Stout, it also wants to maintain a bond with the series produced by RAI in the 1960s, which probably still holds an important place with the audience.

Our choice in telling a period piece is to reproduce the atmosphere of the original series - which will have the charm of a vintage setting – and take advantage of a period that the audience is fond of. Those were the years of the economic boom with its lively and naïve characters, the birth of television and the development of the national industries, creativity in design and fashion, the first emigration from the south and the birth of the suburbs, the first advertising, pop music etc...

The tie between the previous series is therefore the strength that the new series of Nero Wolfe intends to knowingly take advantage of, while at the same time adding new elements to the narrative language and psychological depth of the characters.

The novelty is of course that of shifting the story to Italy to avoid the rather theatrical setting of the previous version, and to create more familiar surroundings for the Italian audience, and above all more fitting for a modern television story.

This change will naturally affect all aspects of the series, beginning with the murder cases, the manner and motives that cause them, but above all it gives us the opportunity to introduce a variety of fixed characters that are all Italian.