A&E Will Adapt Nero Wolfe Mystery Classic, The Golden Spiders

Starring Timothy Hutton and Maury Chaykin; Directed By Bill Duke (A Rage in Harlem)

BUSINESS WIRE | JULY 6, 1999

"I do not soil myself cheaply. I charge high fees." -- Nero Wolfe.

In another expansion of the network's original mystery movie line-up, A&E will adapt Rex Stout's Nero Wolfe classic, The Golden Spiders, starring Oscar-winner Timothy Hutton (Ordinary People), who plays Nero Wolfe's hard-working and bemused assistant Archie Goodwin, it was announced today by Brooke Bailey Johnson, Executive Vice President/General Manager, A&E Network. Maury Chaykin (Entrapment) will portray the brilliant and eccentric detective Nero Wolfe, a man with little patience for people who come between his insatiable passions for food, books and orchids.

Scheduled to air on A&E in 2000, the first of A&E's Nero Wolfe movies will be directed by Bill Duke (Hoodlum, A Rage in Harlem) and executive produced by Michael Jaffe (First Do No Harm with Meryl Streep, and John Sanford's Mind Prey) and Jaffe-Braunstein Films Ltd. in association with Pebble Hut Productions. Production begins this month in Toronto.

In The Golden Spiders, Nero and Archie relentlessly pursue the killer of an ever-increasing number of people, which at first appears to be a car, but eventually the duo zero in on a mysterious woman with golden spider earrings. Nero Wolfe is the hero of seventy-two mystery novels written by Mr. Stout between 1934 and 1975. Nero never seems to break a sweat, instead leaving his legwork to his hardworking aide de camp Archie. Only when Archie and the police are totally stumped does Nero deign to solve the endless string of mysteries that have come his way.

Timothy Hutton won an Oscar and Golden Globe Award for his role in Ordinary People. He also received a Golden Globe nomination for his role in the television movie A Long Way Home. Additional film credits include City of Industry, Beautiful Girls, The Temp, The Falcon and the Snowman and the recently released The General's Daughter, starring John Travolta.

Maury Chaykin is featured alongside Sean Connery and Catherine Zeta-Jones in Entrapment. His film credits include A Life Less Ordinary, The Mask of Zorro, Unstrung Heroes, My Cousin Vinny, Leaving Normal and Dances with Wolves. The screenplay was adapted by Paul Monash (George Wallace, Stalin). Delia Fine is executive producer for A&E.

-- David Suchet reprising his role as Hercule Poirot, in production in London;
-- A new Cash Carter film, The Lady in Question, starring Gene Wilder, which has just completed filming;
-- Robert B. Parker's Small Vices, starring Joe Mantegna as the tough but tender-hearted Boston private eye Spenser, premiering Sunday, July 18 at 8PM/ET

The Emmy Award-winning A&E Network, offers discerning viewers a unique blend of original programming featuring its signature series Biography, intriguing mysteries, original movies and engaging documentaries.