



## **THE TUDORS – SEASON THREE**

### **Cast**

JONATHAN RHYS MEYERS  
MAX VON SYDOW  
HENRY CAVILL  
JAMES FRAIN  
GERARD MCSORLEY  
JOSS STONE  
ALAN VAN SPRANG  
ANNABELLE WALLIS  
KEVIN DOYLE  
COLM WILKINSON  
DAVID WILMOT  
MARK HILDRETH  
ANTHONY BROPHY  
CHARLOTTE SALT

King Henry VIII  
Cardinal von Waldburg  
Brandon  
Thomas Cromwell  
Robert Aske  
Anne of Cleves  
Sir Francis Bryan  
Jane Seymour  
John Constable  
Lord Darcy  
Sir Ralph Ellerker  
Reginald Pole  
Chapuys  
Lady Ursula Misseldon

### **Executive Producers**

MICHAEL HIRST  
BENJAMIN SILVERMAN  
TERI WEINBERG  
TIM BEVAN  
ERIC FELLNER  
SHEILA HOCKIN  
MORGAN O'SULLIVAN

### **Producers**

JOHN WEBER  
JAMES FLYNN

**8 Episodes**

**Series Synopsis**

THE TUDORS returns for Season Three on SHOWTIME this April. Twenty seven years into his reign, Henry VIII (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) is at the height of his powers. Not long after the execution of Anne Boleyn he takes a third wife -- Jane Seymour (Annabelle Wallis), a woman with inner beauty and noble character whom he clearly loves and who has a calming effect on the King. But, while her influence is welcomed by her new husband, her Catholic background causes disquiet and discomfort for Thomas Cromwell (James Frain), Henry's most senior courtier and the ruthless driving force behind the English Reformation. Cromwell has one aim: to confiscate the moral authority and worldly goods of the Catholic Church.

Soon there is wonderful news for King Henry: after some months of nervous waiting, his beloved Jane is expecting a child. Henry is convinced it will be his long-awaited male heir; when he is proven right, the country goes into a convulsion of celebration - a Tudor prince named Edward - but this gaiety is short-lived: soon after delivering the child, Jane falls into a fever and dies. Henry is heartbroken and becomes a recluse.

The manipulative Cromwell however, encourages Henry back into public view and hopes to have him remarry as soon as possible. Seeing a possibility to correct the Catholic influences of Jane and increase his own powerbase, Cromwell pursues one candidate in particular -- the dowdy sister of the Duke of Cleves, Anne (Joss Stone making her acting debut), who has the defining virtue of coming from the heartland of the Protestant League.

When the monarch meets his young bride-to-be he realizes he has made a mistake, but it is too late to withdraw. They marry in underwhelming circumstances and the marriage remains unconsummated, despite Henry's best efforts. Ultimately, the failed marriage reflects badly on Cromwell and his enemies -- among them the King's best friend Brandon (Henry Cavill). On a

clever technicality, Cromwell is arrested on grounds of treason and is sent to the Tower – where he has sentenced so many before him.

## **JONATHAN RHYS MEYERS**

### **HENRY VIII**

JONATHAN RHYS MEYERS first gained international attention and a London Film Critics Circle Award for his starring role in Todd Haynes' "Velvet Goldmine" with Ewan McGregor, Christian Bale and Toni Collette. Since then, Rhys Meyers has snatched up a Golden Globe® Award for his starring role in the CBS television miniseries "Elvis," as well as an Emmy® nomination. The flawless portrayal of "The King" by a young Irish actor floored critics and audiences alike.

Recently, he was honored with a Golden Globe® nomination for his role as Henry VIII in SHOWTIME's "The Tudors." Rhys Meyers continues to land leading roles opposite today's hottest film actors and directors, and has emerged as one of Hollywood's most sought-after leading men.

In addition, Rhys Meyers is soon to appear in the psycho-thriller "Shelter" opposite Julianne Moore and directed by Swedish duo Måns Mårland and Björn Stein; and opposite John Travolta in "From Paris with Love." He also starred in Roger Spottiswoode's "The Children of Huang Shi," which takes place in 1930s war-ravaged China and co-stars Michelle Yeoh, Chow Yun Fat, and Radha Mitchell.

Rhys Meyers showed great range in the musical romance "August Rush" directed by Kirsten Sheridan and starring Terrence Howard, Robin Williams and Keri Russell. Other feature films include the blockbuster action sequel "Mission: Impossible III" co-starring with Tom Cruise, Laurence Fishburne, and Philip Seymour Hoffman under the direction of J.J. Abrams. He also earned critical acclaim for his role opposite Scarlett Johansson in Woody Allen's film "Match

Point,” which was nominated for three Golden Globes® including “Best Picture.” The film debuted at the 2005 Cannes Film Festival with Rhys Meyers winning the festival’s Chopard Trophy for Male Revelation.

Rhys Meyers is also recognized for his role as the girls’ soccer coach in the award-winning sleeper hit “Bend It Like Beckham,” in which he starred with Keira Knightley and Parminder Nagra. Other film credits include starring roles in Oliver Stone’s epic “Alexander,” with Colin Farrell and Angelina Jolie; and Mira Nair’s “Vanity Fair,” with Reese Witherspoon.

His television credits include the SHOWTIME presentation of “The Lion in Winter,” with Patrick Stewart and Glenn Close; Alfonso Arau’s “The Magnificent Ambersons,” “Gormenghast,” “The Tribe,” and “Samson and Delilah.”

Born in Dublin, Ireland, Rhys Meyers made his feature film debut in “A Man of No Importance,” and then played the young assassin in Neil Jordan’s biopic “Michael Collins.” His subsequent film credits include “The Maker,” “Telling Lies in America,” “The Governess,” “B. Monkey,” Mike Figgis’ “The Loss of Sexual Innocence,” Ang Lee’s western “Ride with the Devil,” Julie Taymor’s “Titus,” “Prozac Nation,” “The Tesseract,” “I’ll Sleep When I’m Dead” and “The Emperor’s Wife.”

### **JAMES FRAIN**

#### **THOMAS CROMWELL**

Discovered while in college by Sir Richard Attenborough, who directed him in his 1993 feature film debut, “**Shadowlands.**” He has since appeared in “**Nothing Personal,**” “**Elizabeth,**” “**Hilary and Jackie,**” “**Titus,**” and “**Where the Heart Is.**” In addition, Frain boasts an impressive theatrical resume, appearing in productions with the Royal Court Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company and, in 2007, appeared in the Broadway revival of “The Homecoming.”

**JOSS STONE**  
**ANNE OF CLEVES**

JOSS STONE has sold more than 7.5 million albums worldwide; been nominated for four Grammy® Awards; appeared onstage with James Brown, The Rolling Stones, Stevie Wonder, Elton John, Patti Labelle, Mavis Staples, Donna Summer, and Smokey Robinson; sat for an interview with Oprah Winfrey; starred in two major ad campaigns for the Gap; and performed for more than 200,000 people at the 2005 “Live 8 Concert” in London — all before reaching the ripe old age of 19.

Hailing from Kent, England, Stone was a fresh-faced 14-year-old when she won the popular BBC talent show, “Star for a Night.” She wowed audiences with her version of Aretha Franklin’s “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman,” stupefying the crowd when a booming, old-soul voice came bellowing from the frame of a small blonde girl. In 2002, she arrived stateside, in New York City, catching the attention of a label CEO Steve Greenberg who signed her and the two began work on her first CD, *The Soul Sessions*, which was released in 2003. Her subsequent album the following year, *Mind, Body & Soul* (her first album of original material) earned her three Grammy Awards, including “Best New Artist.” Her latest effort, ironically titled *Introducing Joss Stone*, was released in 2007 to industry and fan acclaim. Recently, Stone branched out into acting, landing small roles in the 2006 fantasy film *Eragon* and an episode of the CW series “Gossip Girl.”

**MICHAEL HIRST**  
**CREATOR/WRITER/EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

In an era of one-dimensional screenwriters, Michael Hirst stands out for his rare ability to combine historical drama with high entertainment. Prior to writing the entire first three seasons of *THE TUDORS* single-handedly, he is perhaps best

known for his sparkling screenplay of “Elizabeth,” starring Cate Blanchett, and has recently completed the follow-up “The Golden Age,” also directed by Shekhar Kapur. Among his other screenwriting credits are “Meeting Venus,” “The Ballad of the Sad Café,” “Fools Fortune” and “The Deceivers” starring Pierce Brosnan.

**MORGAN O’SULLIVAN**  
**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

Morgan O’Sullivan is an Irish based producer and has acted as an executive producer or co-producer on films such as “P.S I Love You,” “Braveheart,” “Angela’s Ashes,” “Animal Farm,” “David Copperfield,” “The Count of Monte Cristo” (2002), “Reign of Fire,” “Veronica Guerin,” “King Arthur,” “Ella Enchanted,” and “Becoming Jane.” Prior to producing films for theatrical and television release he was a leading broadcaster in Ireland with the national broadcasting service Radio Telefis Éireann (RTE) presenting a daily radio program. He also acted as Managing Director of Ardmore Studios during the 1980s. He is a former member of Bord Scánann na hÉireann / The Irish Film Board.