

Press Release 13 July 2006

## LION TV TO INVOKE 'ICE MUMMY' CURSE FOR CHANNEL 4

Lion Television has been commissioned by Channel 4 to produce *The Curse of the Ice Mummy*, a 1x60min chilling documentary exploring the sequence of death, violence and tragedy which followed the discovery of the mummified remains of a prehistoric man known only as Oetzi in Italy in 1991.

*The Curse of the Ice Mummy* will become part of The Occult Week commissioned by Andy Mackenzie, Channel 4's commissioning editor, factual entertainment a season that will examine two of the most enduring and extraordinary cases of paranormal phenomenon in recent years.

Oetzi captured the attention of the world's media as the oldest frozen mummy ever found. Through extensive research of the remains, scientists have uncovered clues about Oetzi's life – and his violent death. Seven people closely related to Oetzi's unearthing and research have died in the 15 years since his discovery, provoking claims of a Tutankhamen-style curse and a feeding frenzy by the tabloid press.

Through the use of primary source material and original archive footage, *The Curse of the Ice Mummy* will attempt to separate fact from fiction as it investigates the manner of Oetzi's death, the identity of his assailants and the truth behind the so-called 'Curse of the Ice Mummy'.

Jeremy Mills, Managing Director, Lion Television says: "It was not without some trepidation that we approached this project! However, the subject matter was so interesting and the subsequent series of events so captivating we couldn't resist. *The Curse of the Ice Mummy* best exemplifies Lion TV's commitment to providing documentaries which go behind the headlines to provide scientific and historical analysis of what really happened. It's a great project and one we are excited to be working on for Channel 4."

*The Curse of the Ice Mummy* is a Lion Television production for Channel 4 and is due for transmission late Autumn. Commissioned by Andy Mackenzie, Commissioning Editor, Factual Entertainment at Channel 4. The programme is directed by Sarah Hamilton and exec produced by Paul Gilheany.