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POSTED:
November 14

TLC Pairs Up With Competitive Irish Jig Dancers on New Series (Exclusive)

In addition, the network has also acquired the feature documentary, "Jig."

6:00 AM PST 11/14/2011 by Jethro Nededog

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Getty Images

It's like Riverdance meets *Toddlers & Tiaras*. TLC is once again pulling the curtain back on a community most people know very little about. It has just ordered a new series about the competitive world of Irish jig dancing with the working title, *Irish Dancing Tweens*.

VIDEO: TLC Gets 'D.U.I.': Drunk Driving Series Premieres in December

"TLC is excited to share this subculture of dance with our audience," TLC's General Manager **Amy Winter** tells *The Hollywood Reporter*. "Irish jig dancing is a global phenomenon and the series will reveal the world behind the sport in a compelling combination of heart and competition."

The network that has explored very unique worlds in *Toddlers & Tiaras*, *Say Yes to the Dress*, *All-American Muslim*, and *Little People, Big World* starts production on the new series this week. It has ordered eight episodes set to air in the U.S. in Summer

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TV RATINGS

Overnight Thursday November 10, 2011

1 **The Big Bang Theory**





Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
15.7 M	5.3	15

2 Grey's Anatomy

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
11.2 M	4.1	10

3 Rules of Engagement

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
11.8 M	3.5	9

4 The X Factor

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
10.2 M	3.3	9

5 The Office

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
5.9 M	3.0	8

6 Private Practice

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
7.7 M	2.8	7

7 Bones

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
8.8 M	2.6	6

8 Whitney

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
4.3 M	2.1	5

9 Person of Interest

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
9.1 M	2.0	5

10 The Mentalist

Viewers	18-49 rating	18-49 share
10.0 M	1.9	5

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TLC Nabs Intimate Susan Boyle Documentary Featuring Simon Cowell (Exclusive) »

2012 and then internationally later that year.

The series, produced by Sirens Media, features several dance schools and each episode zeroes in on individual dancers during rehearsals, preparation, travel, and as they go toe-to-toe during competitions.

VIDEO: '19 Kids and Counting' Mom Michelle Duggar Expecting 20th Child

While I hear that the Irish jig community is a totally unique area of expertise in the dance world, the series has a lot in common with other shows we've seen on the network. There's the stress of stiff competition, a strict emphasis on the precision of the dance discipline, unique costume requirements, hours of practice, and, of course, fiercely competitive moms and coaches.

The network has also acquired the rights to air the feature-length documentary, *Jig*. Directed by **Sue Bourne**, the film captures an in depth look at the discipline via the competitors in last year's Irish Dancing World Championships in Glasgow. TLC did not disclose the air date for the documentary.

The trailer for *Jig* can give you an idea of what we'll see on the new series, *Irish Dancing Tweens*. Watch it below.

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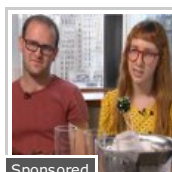
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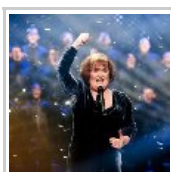
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