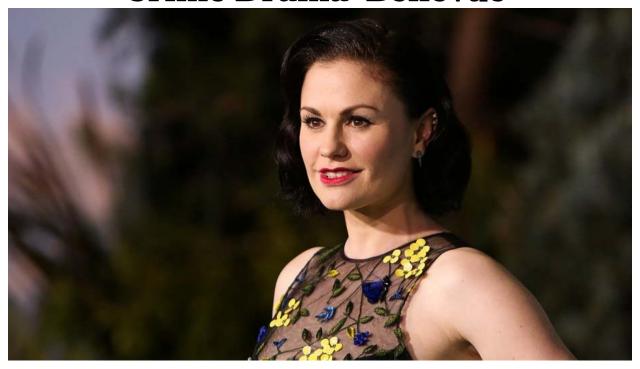


## Anna Paquin to Star in Transgender Crime Drama 'Bellevue'



The 'True Blood' alum continues her return to series regular television opposite co-stars Allen Leech and Shawn Doyle.

True Blood and Roots alum Anna Paquin has nabbed the lead role in the Canadian transgender crime drama Bellevue.

The Oscar-winning actress will star opposite Allen Leech (Downton Abbey, The Imitation Game) and Shawn Doyle (House of Cards). Paquin will play detective Annie Ryder unraveling the mystery of a transgender teen who goes missing in a small town, with foul play suspected.

The Kennedys producer Muse Entertainment and Back Alley Film are making Bellevue for the CBC, with eight one-hour episodes from creators Jane Maggs and Adrienne Mitchell planned for a winter 2017 debut after production in Montreal.

Leech will star as Ryder's romantic partner, Eddie, while Doyle will play her superior, police chief Peter Welland. Paquin also stars in the upcoming CBC and Netflix mini-series Alias Grace, and is repped by Brillstein Entertainment Partners, WME and Sloane Offer Weber and Dern.

Muse Distribution International is handling the series' international distribution.