

Netflix original program puts New York mobster in Norway

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Online film and television show titan Netflix will make its original programming debut in February with "Lilyhammer," a "fish-out-of-water story" about a New York mobster starting anew in Norway.

Steven Van Zandt, a guitarist in Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, stars as Frank "The Fixer" Tagliano, who enters a federal witness protection program after giving authorities information about his boss, according to Netflix.

"I am very careful with my choices and this project was so exciting to me because of the wonderful writing, the rich characters and the fascinating culture of [Norway](#)," Van Zandt said in a release.

"Netflix is the perfect home for such a unique show," he added.

The first episode of the show, which is set in Lillehammer, Norway, will be available for streaming online beginning February 6 by Netflix subscribers in Canada, Latin America, and the United States.

"A sports fan, Frank wants to make his new life in Lillehammer, the Norwegian town that hosted the 1994 [Winter Olympics](#), or as he calls it 'Lilyhammer,'" Netflix said.

"Frank has visions of a paradise of 'clean air, fresh white snow and gorgeous broads' far away from the temptations of the Big Apple and from mob hit men," the California-based firm continued.

Events in the [show](#), of course, turn out to be spectacularly different, [Netflix](#) promised.

Sixty-one-year-old Van Zandt, whose birth name was Steve Lento, became a self-made actor by playing the right-hand man to the lead character in blockbuster HBO television series "The Sopranos."

Van Zandt joined "The Sopranos" in 1999 as Silvio Dante, a strip club owner and key adviser to the series' New Jersey-based Mafia boss.

The Sopranos became a US pop culture hit during a six-season run that ended in June of 2007.

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