

Netflix adds to original shows with Sony deal

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The Netflix company logo is seen at Netflix headquarters in Los Gatos, CA on Wednesday, April 13, 2011

Netflix on Monday announced a deal with Sony to create a psychological thriller series for the online streaming and DVD service, ramping up original programming to win subscribers.

"Damages" creators Todd Kessler, Daniel Zelman, and Glenn Kessler will begin production of a 13-episode first season of the show from Sony Pictures Television early next year.

The yet-unnamed series will broadcast exclusively on Netflix, according to the California-based Internet company.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be creating an original series for Netflix," the trio said in a release.

"The series is a tightly wound thriller that explores the complex bonds between parents and children, brothers and sisters, and the rivalries, jealousies, and betrayals at the core of every family."

Netflix did not disclose how much it is paying for the new show but has been investing in original programming to make itself a preferred location for on-demand streaming.

"We were spellbound after hearing Todd, Glenn and Daniel's pitch, and knew Netflix was the perfect home for this suspenseful family drama that is going to have viewers on the edge of their seats," said Netflix vice president of original content Cindy Holland.

Netflix scored a recent hit with its political drama "House of Cards," tossing conventional TV wisdom out the window when it released a full season in one fell swoop early this year.

The series, which was nominated for a 2013 Emmy for best drama, joins a recent spate of original Netflix programming that includes new episodes of "Arrested Development," plus the [series](#) "Orange is the New Black" and "Hemlock Grove."

Netflix sees original programming as part of a formula to gain and hold subscribers at its \$7.99-a-month fee that covers a vast catalog of pre-released TV shows and movies.

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