

## Philanthropist spreads the wealth

BY ALEX STRACHAN, CANWEST NEWS SERVICE; THE GAZETTE CONTRIBUTED TO THIS COLUMN JUNE 23, 2009

At times energetic and diverting, and at times frightfully silly, the summer adventure series *The Philanthropist* (NBC, Global - 10 p.m.) stars James Purefoy as Teddy Rist, a jet-setter and playboy who sees the light after a near-death experience. Rist resolves to become a do-gooder, but, unlike most people willing to help others, he has unlimited financial resources.

- Montreal filmmaker Mark Moidel's documentary *Planetary Defense* (CFCF/CTV Montreal - noon) gets its Canadian television premiere. Moidel's production was nominated for a Sir Arthur Clarke Award in 2008.

- *10 Marias: 1 Year Later* (CBC - 9 p.m.) picks up from last summer's *How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?*, with a reunion of the 10 hopefuls who tried out for the role of Maria von Trapp in David Mirvish's stage production of *The Sound of Music*.

- Paul Watson and his enviro-crusaders battle Japanese whalers off the Antarctic coast in the thrilling docu-reality series *Whale Wars* (Animal Planet - 8 p.m.).

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