



*Julia Stiles as Georgina Ryland and  
Rupert Graves as Gabriel Hirsch in Riviera*

place. So, for me, it's very creatively satisfying to be able to be involved earlier in the process."

There are few shows which are more glamorous than *Riviera*, which revolves around the super-rich and their unimaginable lifestyles.

With such beautiful locations, fashion and people, it makes *Riviera* the ultimate sort of escapism telly.

It goes without saying 2020 has been a difficult year for everyone, what with the Covid-19 pandemic, so I ask the chatty pair how they have been trying to escape the real world.

Stiles says: "It's an interesting learning experience. I think my normal method of escape would be travel, and obviously, travel restrictions are so tight right now that that's been taken away."

The mother-of-one, who is married to camera operator Preston J Cook, pauses then concludes: "I think maybe there is no escape, and that's not a bad thing either."

"It's certainly forced me to appreciate my immediate surroundings."

Graves, who is married to Australian

Susie Graves, adds: "I mean, I've got five kids. I spent a big chunk of last year away from my kids and my family, and so to go back to into the heart of the family, and not get out of the house, was actually really important for me and my family. It kind of allowed us all to reconnect."

He continues passionately: "The thing is, when you're away from a child for nearly a year, each child changes so much."

"No matter how much you write to them, no matter how much you Skype them, it's not the same, they get skin hungry for your skin."

"And to spend seven months actually back home was a really brilliant and actually much-needed opportunity for me. So, I didn't actually want or need an escape. I took full advantage of the necessitated closeness."

#### **RIVIERA**

**RETURNS TO SKY ATLANTIC ON  
THURSDAY**



*Julia Stiles is also  
executive producer*