

EARLY LIFE & EDUCATION

From London beginnings to a creative mindset

TV CAREER AND BIG BREAKS

How Alexis Conran became a familiar face on British TV

INVENTIONS, DESIGN AND INNOVATION

A passion for ideas, products and improving everyday life

PERSONAL LIFE AND INTERESTS

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LEGACY AND IMPACT

A presenter, inventor and creative force in modern media

ALEXIS CONRAN

**TV PRESENTER, INVENTOR
AND DESIGN EXPERT**

BY NYWEEKLY.CO.UK TEAM



ALEXIS CONRAN • LIVE BROADCASTING

From Paris to Britain’s screens

Alexis Conran is a British-French actor, writer, television and radio presenter known for combining entertainment with practical advice about scams and consumer protection. He was born in Paris, France, and spent part of his childhood in Greece. His Greek heritage and international upbringing form part of the background to a career that later developed in British theatre, television and radio.

When Conran was seven, his parents divorced and he was raised by his mother with support from her parents. Biographical accounts describe his father’s gambling addiction and involvement in fraud. Conran has spoken about this difficult family history, but his own professional path became one of explaining how deception works and how people can protect themselves.

At 16, he moved to London to study at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA). Acting training gave him a foundation in performance, character and storytelling—skills that later proved useful in programmes built around demonstrations, hidden cameras and human behaviour.

QUICK PROFILE

BORN	Paris, France
HERITAGE	Greek
PROFESSION	Actor, writer, presenter
TRAINING	LAMDA, London
KNOWN FOR	The Real Hustle; consumer advice



STAGE PRESENCE AND SLEIGHT OF HAND

The show that made his name

Conran became widely known as co-creator, writer and presenter of *The Real Hustle*, the BBC Three series that ran from 2006 to 2012. Working with magician and expert Paul Wilson and presenter Jessica-Jane Clement, he demonstrated confidence tricks, distraction techniques and common scams using hidden-camera set-ups.

The format mixed suspense with a public-service purpose: viewers saw how a scam could unfold, then learned the methods behind it. The programme covered tactics involving cash, cards, staged bargains and social manipulation. In the show's usual format, people featured in the demonstrations were told what had happened afterwards and money or property taken during the stunt was returned.

Conran's advantage was his background in acting and sleight of hand. He could help make a scenario believable while explaining how timing, attention and misplaced trust can be exploited. The series helped turn fraud awareness into accessible television rather than a list of abstract warnings.

WHY IT RESONATED

The programme showed scams in action, helping audiences recognise warning signs and understand the psychology of persuasion.



OUTSIDE THE STUDIO

Beyond the hidden camera

After *The Real Hustle*, Conran continued exploring consumer issues and factual entertainment. His projects included *Hustling America*, made for Channel 5 and National Geographic, and Discovery Channel's *Man v Expert*, in which he challenged specialists using tricks, experiments and practical demonstrations.

His other television appearances include acting roles in programmes such as *Waking the Dead*, *Wire in the Blood* and ITV's *The Durrells*, where he played Dr Petridis. His screen work has therefore ranged from scripted drama to unscripted factual formats.

In 2016, Conran won *Celebrity MasterChef*, beating Louise Minchin and Jimmy Osmond in the final. The victory introduced him to a different audience and demonstrated a competitive side beyond his usual work in magic, media and consumer advice.

He also built a radio career, presenting current-affairs and consumer programmes on Talkradio before joining Times Radio at its launch in 2020. His broadcasting included interviews, political discussion and practical stories about everyday decisions. His Times Radio chapter was announced to be ending in 2025.

SELECTED CREDITS

TV: *The Real Hustle* • *Hustling America* • *Man v Expert* • *The Joy of Techs* • *Celebrity MasterChef*

Acting: *The Durrells* • *Waking the Dead* • *Wire in the Blood*



Curiosity, cards and consumer confidence

Life beyond the lens

Away from broadcasting, Conran is known for his interest in technology and his collection of playing cards. He has described practising card tricks regularly and is a member of The Magic Circle. Sleight of hand provides a way to demonstrate how attention can be directed and how easily people can miss a crucial detail.

He has a daughter, Thalia, born in 2006. Conran's personal life is not the main subject of his public profile; much of his professional identity centres on explaining behaviour, trust and the techniques used by fraudsters.

A public-facing purpose

Across television, radio and live speaking, Conran's recurring theme is the gap between what people think they notice and what is actually happening. His work translates techniques used by confidence tricksters into practical lessons for viewers, consumers and organisations.

The lasting appeal of *The Real Hustle* was its blend of entertainment and education. By showing manipulation as a process—not merely warning that scams exist—Conran helped audiences see why ordinary people can be persuaded to make costly decisions.

SOURCE

Wikipedia — https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_Conran

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