

# REDFERN NOW

SIX EXTRAORDINARY STORIES

ONE UNMISSABLE SERIES







**STARTS THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 8.30PM**



SIX EXTRAORDINARY STORIES ONE UNMISSABLE SERIES

**REDFERN NOW** CENTERS AROUND AND EXPLORES CONTEMPORARY INNER CITY INDIGENOUS LIFE. THESE POWERFUL, MOVING, FUNNY, BITTER-SWEET STORIES CENTRE ON A DIVERSE GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS EXPLORING THEIR STRENGTH, FLAWS AND RESILIENCE. OVER **SIX EPISODES** WE JOIN THE HOUSEHOLDS OF SIX DIFFERENT FAMILIES WHOSE LIVES ARE CHANGED BY A MOMENT'S DECISION, AN ACCIDENT, OR A SEEMINGLY INSIGNIFICANT INCIDENT. IT IS A SERIES ABOUT **EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS IN ORDINARY LIVES.**

REDFERN NOW IS THE FIRST DRAMA SERIES WRITTEN, DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS.



THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# FAMILY

**DIRECTED BY CATRIONA MCKENZIE WRITTEN BY DANIELLE MACLEAN**

Grace (Leah Purcell) and Wesley (Alec Doomadgee) haven't had a holiday for years. Now they're off on the holiday of a lifetime with their two children and the taxi is waiting to take them to the airport. But as Grace races back into the house for one last thing, the phone rings.

It's her nephew Tyler. His mother, Grace's sister Lily (Shareena Clanton), is off her medication and raving, and he and his little sister Maddi are desperate for help. Grace knows she has to go to them as nobody else will, but Wesley can't believe her sister is messing things up for them again. Grace promises to be back in time to make the flight, but Lily is in no mood to cooperate. Grace reluctantly makes the decision to have her committed.

As the police depart with Lily, Grace wonders what she'll do with Tyler and Maddi. She calls Wesley to say that she may still be able to make the flight if she can get one of her other sisters to look after the kids while they're away. Maddi is taken in but as Tyler is turned away by one family member after another, Grace takes Tyler home. Their long-awaited holiday is off,

her children blame and ostracise Tyler for their plight, and Grace needs to face the fact that if Lily is ever to get better she needs extended care. The family will need to consider fostering Tyler and Maddi longer term.

But the next morning Tyler has disappeared. Wesley wants to leave it to the police. He's unable to come to terms with the fact that Grace has put somebody else's kids before her own, and threatens to leave if she brings Lily's kids back. Grace eventually finds Maddi and Tyler at the hospital - astonished to discover that they walked ten kilometres to see their mum - something her own spoilt kids would never do for her. When Grace and the children arrive back home Wesley is packing his bags. A furious Grace leaves with Maddi and Tyler, and takes them home - determined that she will be better off looking after these two than her own ungrateful family. When Wesley arrives to ask Grace to come back home she agrees, but this time it's going to be on her terms.







## LEAH PURCELL IS GRACE

Leah Purcell is one of Australia's leading actors, with award-winning roles in theatre, film and television. Her first professional break came in 1993 when she was cast in the musical *Bran Nue Dae*, touring Australia to rave reviews. A regular role in ABC TV's *Police Rescue* followed, and in 1997 she was nominated for an Australian Film Industry (AFI) award for Best Actress in a TV Drama for her performance in *Fallen Angels*.

Her film roles have included *Lantana*, *Lennie Cahill Shoots Through*, *Somersault*, *The Proposition* and *Jindabyne*. Her other television credits include *Water Rats*, *Beastmaster*, *The Lost World*, ABC TV's *Good Cop*, *Bad Cop*, *The Starter Wife*, *Love My Way*, *McLeod's Daughters* and *My Place*, also for ABC TV.

Leah conceived and co-wrote *Box the Pony* which was the smash hit of the 1997 Festival of the Dreaming and has since played to sell-out seasons at the Belvoir St. Theatre, the Sydney Opera House, the 1999 Edinburgh Festival and a season at the Barbican Theatre in London for BITE: 2000. The published text of the play won the 1999 NSW Premier's Literary Award and the 2000 Queensland Premier's Literary Award for Best Play. Other theatre credits include *Marriage of Figaro* (QTC) opposite Geoffrey Rush, *The Vagina Monologues*, Dorothy Hewitt's final play *Nowhere* (Melbourne International Arts Festival), *Beasty Girl: The Secret Life of Errol Flynn* (Melbourne International Arts Festival), for which she won a Green Room award (2004) for Best Actress and Neil Armfield's *Stuff Happens* (Company B) for which Leah won the Deadly Award for Actor of the Year 2005.





## ALEC DOOMADGEE IS WESLEY

A well-known identity in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, Alec Doomadgee has numerous acting and presenting credits to his name.

Falling in love with radio at the age of 12 after a school trip to Townsville, Alec followed his dream and not only established the BRACS Radio Station in Doomadgee, but was the first presenter on air at the age of 14. In 1998 he moved to Mt Isa and worked for both MOB FM and Imparja Television, before becoming a field reporter for the National Indigenous Radio Service for the live broadcast of the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

In 2002 he moved to Brisbane and worked as a presenter on 98.9FM before taking over as Program Manager. Formerly the Gadigal Music Label/Kameyagal Studio Coordinator at Gadigal Information Service in Redfern Sydney, Alec is currently Associate Producer of Programming Operations at the Sydney Opera House.

As well as his outstanding radio career, Alec was one of the TV presenters in 2011 on the Channel Seven series *The Great Australian Doorstep with Spida Everett*, and has also presented *On the Edge* and *Volumz* for NITV. Most recently Alec appeared in the feature *Benjamin Sniddlegrass and the Cauldron of Penguins* narrated by Stephen Fry, and in 2008 appeared in the short film *Joonba*.



## SHAREENA CLANTON IS LILY

After completing the Aboriginal Theatre course at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, Shareena was accepted into WAAPA's full time acting course, from which she graduated in 2010.

Shareena had her feature film debut in the Australian comedy *Stone Bros.* which was released in 2009. She has appeared as a main cast member in the comedy series *Ben Elton's Live from Planet Earth* for the Nine Network. She also appeared in her first main stage theatre production *My Wonderful Day* at the Ensemble Theatre in Sydney.

Shareena has recently completed a season of *A Comedy of Errors* in the role of Adrianna and *The Tempest* in the role of Ariel with Shakespeare WA. In 2011, Shareena was nominated for a Sydney Theatre Award for Best Newcomer.



THURSDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# JOYRIDE

**DIRECTED BY CATRIONA MCKENZIE WRITTEN BY MICHELLE BLANCHARD**

In her mid fifties, Coral (Tessa Rose), works in a food van, which sometimes brings her into contact with victims of abuse, which leads her to the mistaken conclusion that her daughter's bruised face is the result of more than just an accident. As a result, Coral and her daughter Rosie don't talk.

On her way home from the pet shop one day, Coral is knocked down by a bunch of teenage boys in a stolen car. One of them, Danny (Rhimi Johnson Page) – who hadn't wanted to joyride in the first place – checks to see if she is okay. He calls for an ambulance and leaves but the police are able to trace the call back to his mobile. But Danny won't do in his mates and takes the blame, so he's sent to Juvenile Detention.

At home from hospital, Coral starts having dizzy spells, and reluctantly lets her granddaughter Julie (Shari Sebbens) come to look after her. Coral complains that her daughter Rosie – Julie's mother – didn't come, even though she didn't expect her to because they haven't spoken for years over Rosie's

choice of partner. Julie just wants her mum and grandmother to get on again – to forgive and forget. When the spells get worse, Coral is re-admitted to hospital and Julie agrees to stay on to look after the house while she's away.

Newly released from detention, Danny turns up with some stolen birdseed as an apology to Coral, but it's Julie who answers the door. Danny is smitten, but pretends he's from the pet shop. Romance develops and all is going well until Coral reveals that Danny was one of the kids who knocked her over. Julie refuses to see him, but Danny is determined to convince Julie and Coral of his innocence. Eventually they realise he's telling the truth and Coral gives her blessing to the young couple, realising she shouldn't judge a book by its cover. The lesson leads to Coral reconciling with her daughter Rosie.







## TESSA ROSE IS CORAL

With an extensive career in dance and theatre, Tessa received a Diploma in Dance from the National Aboriginal Islander Skills Development Association (NAISDA).

Appearing in television shows *White Collar Blue*, *Corroboree Walk*, *Icam* and *Station ID* for ABC TV, Tessa has also starred in the stunning short films *Immortal Man*, *Lyan* and *Two Bob Mermaid*, and most recently in Leah Purcell's short film *She*.

Most recently Tessa appeared in *Bloodland* for Sydney Theatre Company, Queensland Theatre Company, QPAC and Adelaide Festival 2012, and her other theatre credits include *Luck of the Draw* for Darwin Theatre Company; *The Cherry Pickers*, *The Dreamers*, *Black Medea*, *Blacked Up*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Sunshine Club* for Sydney Theatre Company; *Home* for Last Seen Imaging; *Windmill Baby* and *Bratwurst & Damper* for Yirra Yaakin Ngoongar Theatre; *Black Chicks Talking* for La Boite Theatre; *Fountains Beyond* and *The Sunshine Club* for QTC; *Purple Dreams* and *Enuff* for Playwrights Conference, as well as *Mr. Takahashi and Other Falling Secrets*.

As a dancer Tessa has performed in *Fish* for Bangarra Dance Company; *Prisoners in the Garden* for Darwin Theatre; *Club Bub Exposure* for Belvoir St. Theatre Company, as well as dancing in Yothu Yindi's music video for their song *Treaty*.





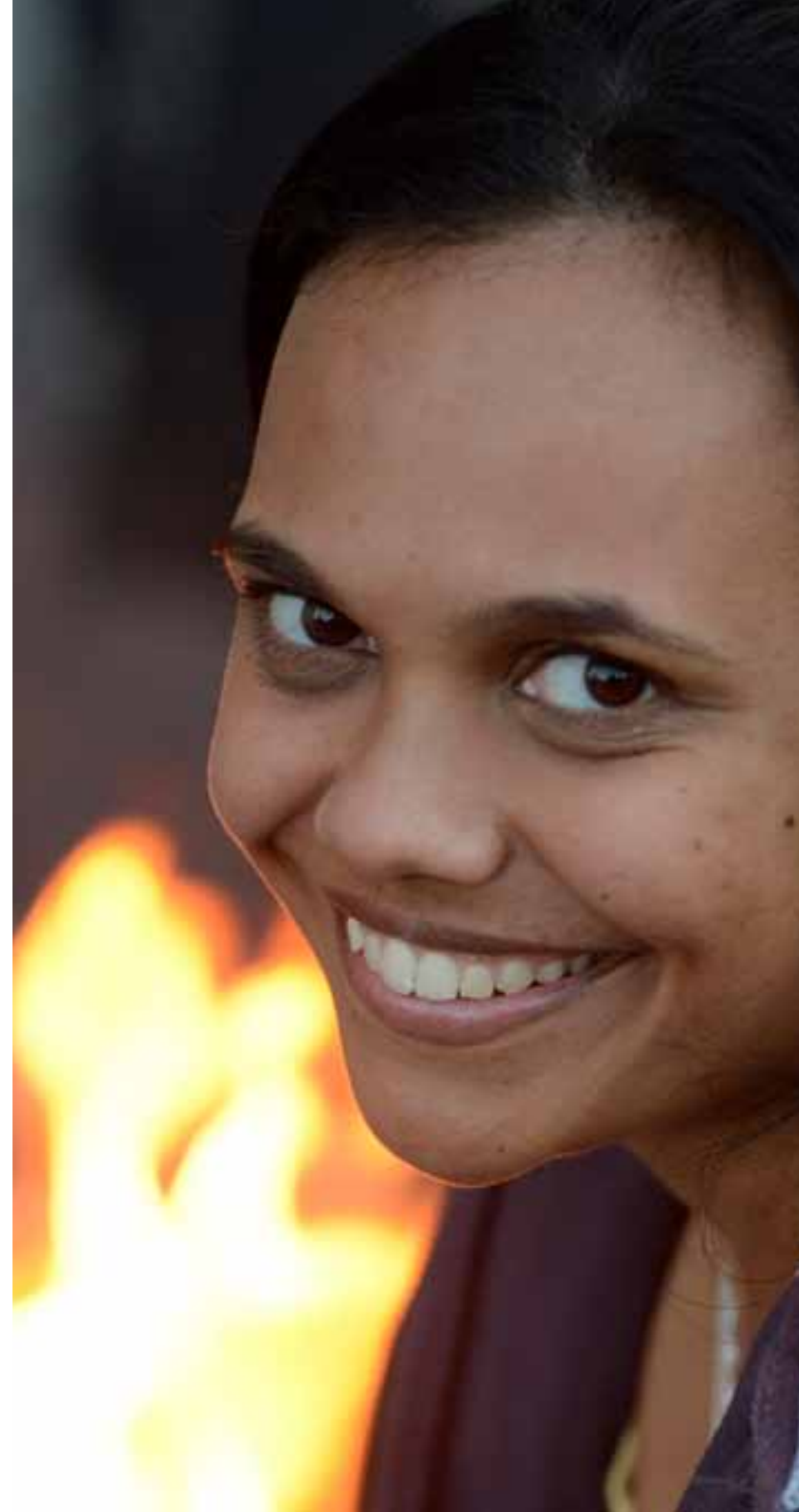
## SHARI SEBBENS IS JULIE

Shari is a Bardi, Jabirr-Jabirr woman born and raised in Darwin. At 19 Shari was one of ten young artists chosen for ‘SPARK’, the Australia Council for the Arts’ first theatre mentorship program. In 2006 she was accepted into Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) where she completed the certificate 3 course in Aboriginal Theatre. At the end of the year she auditioned for and was accepted into NIDA, graduating in 2009.

Shari is a proud and passionate advocate for Indigenous theatre, especially the development of new and contemporary works. Through her training and opportunities at NIDA and exposure to Sydney’s art scene, she has further developed her love of Shakespeare, film and television whilst maintaining her connection with home.

In 2011 Shari was cast in her first film in the role of Kay in *The Sapphires*. The film is based on the hit stage play of the same name. *The Sapphires* had its world premiere at the special ‘Midnight Screening’ at the Cannes International Film Festival this year, attracting a ten minute standing ovation.

Shari is currently starring in the world premiere of La Boite/Griffin Theatre’s production of Rick Viede’s *A Hoax*.



## MIRANDA TAPSELL IS TENEKA

Miranda Tapsell was born in Darwin and her people are the Larrakia. She grew up in Kakadu National Park and began performing at the age of seven when she joined a tap dancing group. As a young teenager she was enrolled in summer short courses at NIDA and also performed with The Corrugated Iron Youth Arts Drama Group in Darwin. In 2004 when she was 16 she won the Bell Shakespeare Company regional performance scholarship. After finishing school she was accepted to study at NIDA and graduated from the three year acting course in 2008.

Miranda has since performed the lead role in the Wesley Enoch-directed *Yibiyung* for Belvoir St Theatre & Malthouse Theatre Co. She then toured with Bell Shakespeare’s *Actors at Work*, directed by Wayne Blair; has appeared in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* for Darwin Theatre Co., and also appeared in *Mother’s Tongue* for Yirra Yaakin Theatre.

Her television appearances include the role of Princess Desdemona in the *Magical Tales* television series, and then she went on to shoot a role in the feature film *Primal*.

Most recently Miranda shot the Wayne Blair-directed film *The Sapphires* playing one of four lead characters, which premiered at this year’s Cannes Film Festival ‘Midnight Gala’, and ABC TV’s telemovie, *Mabo*.



THURSDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# RAYMOND

**DIRECTED BY WAYNE BLAIR WRITTEN BY ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS**

Raymond (Kelton Pell) and Lorraine (Deborah Mailman) have it pretty sweet: a house, four kids, Raymond has been nominated for an award for his services to the community, and he's up for a promotion at work.

But then his wife Lorraine is accused of benefit fraud. For the last six years she has claimed that she is not in a full-time relationship. She has been claiming family allowance payments, and a full pension. Centrelink has a written statement revealing the truth, and it's clear someone has dobbed them in.

Lorraine faces serious consequences unless she agrees to repay \$60,000. She is devastated and desperate to find work.

Raymond, however, is consumed by the thought that someone has dobbed them in, and starts to suspect everyone around him. His obsessive pursuit of the truth starts to destroy everything he's built: his friendships, reputation, marriage and job all come

crashing down. And too late he realises the truth he was searching for is the very last thing he wants.







## KELTON PELL IS RAYMOND

Kelton Pell has built a reputation for being one of Australia's finest Indigenous actors. Widely recognised for his role as Sam Wallan in SBS's highly acclaimed *The Circuit*, Kelton has also appeared in *Bush Patrol*, but is perhaps best known for his outstanding portrayal of *Bob Crab* in the critically acclaimed miniseries *Tim Winton's Cloudstreet*.

On the big screen, Kelton has appeared in *The Last Ride*, *Bran Nue Dae*, *Blackfellas*, *Australian Rules*, *Confessions of a Headhunter*, *Cold Turkey*, *Where Two Rivers Meet*, *September*, *One Night the Moon* and *To Hell and Back*.

In 2010, Kelton used his unique charm to effect in the short film *Aunty Maggie and the Womba Wagkun*, and in 2011 *Mad Bastards*.

Pell has enjoyed an illustrious theatre career over the last twenty years, performing all around Australia. Theatre highlights include *Bloodland* with the STC, the *Jandamarra* tour with Bunuba Film Productions, and Black Swan Theatre Company's *Bindjareb Pinjarra*, *Twelfth Night* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Coranderrk - We Will Show the Country* with Ilbijeri Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Theatre.





## DEBORAH MAILMAN IS LORRAINE

With multiple award-winning credits to her name, Deborah Mailman is one of Australia's most highly acclaimed actors.

Receiving national acclaim in 1998 for her portrayal of 'Nona' in the film *Radiance*, with Deborah receiving both the AFI and Film Critics' Circle Award for Most Outstanding Actress, her other film credits include *The Sapphires*, *Mental*, *Bran Nue Dae*, *Dear Claudia*, *The Monkey's Mask*, *Rabbit Proof Fence*, *The Book of Revelation* and *Lucky Miles*.

On television Deborah has created some of Australia's most enduring roles including Bonita Mabo in *Mabo*, Kelly in *The Secret Life of Us* (receiving two TV Week Logie Awards), Cherie in *Offspring*, as well as roles in *Rush*, *The Alice* and *Two Twisted*. Deborah was also a regular television presenter, hosting *Playschool* and *Message Sticks* for the ABC and Lonely Planet's *Going Bush* for SBS.

One of Australia's most celebrated theatre actors Deborah's stage performances include Matilda Award-winning performances in *Radiance* and *The Seven Stages of Grieving*, the Helpmann Award Best Supporting Actress role in the STC production of *The Lost Echo*, and the Helpmann Award nominated role for Best Actress in the theatre production of *The Sapphires*.



## JIMI BANI IS PETER

Celebrated for his outstanding portrayal of Eddie 'Koiki' Mabo in the Blackfella Films production *MABO* for ABC TV, Jimi is a graduate of the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts.

Other television credits include the SBS series *RAN (Remote Area Nurse)* which was shot in northern Australia, and most recently a leading role in the ABC drama *The Straits* directed by Peter Andrikidis, Rowan Woods and Rachel Ward.

Since graduating from WAAPA he has performed in several plays including the lead role in *Jandamarra* for Black Swan Theatre Company in WA; *Romeo and Juliet* for the Sydney Theatre Company; *Yibiyung* for Company B Belvoir in association with Malthouse Theatre in Melbourne; and *Krakouer!* for Deckchair Theatre in Perth. He has also performed in the play *The Sapphires*, for both the Black Swan Theatre Company and Company B, touring to both London and Korea.

Jimi has received a Helpmann award nomination for Best Supporting Actor for *Yibiyung* and a WA Equity Foundation award nomination for Best Actor for his performance in *Jandamarra*.



THURSDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# STANDUP

**DIRECTED BY RACHEL PERKINS WRITTEN BY STEVEN MCGREGOR**

Sixteen-year-old Joel Tait (Aaron McGrath) has just won an Indigenous scholarship to Clifton College – one of Sydney's most elite private schools. It's his first day, and at assembly Joel's teacher notices he's not singing the national anthem. At home that night Joel is busy learning the words so he can join in, but his father Eddie (Marley Sharp ) doesn't want his son to sing the anthem ... or stand for it.

Joel is torn between the traditions of the school and his father's principles. He doesn't want to let his father down, but Joel is starting to invest in the school. Mr Parish (Ewen Leslie), the poetry teacher, has inspired him in a lesson about The Windhover and he's doing well. And the most beautiful girl he's ever seen is in his class.

When Joel continues to follow his father's wishes the situation escalates until he is threatened with expulsion. His mother Nic (Ursula Yovich) is desperate to find a solution and can't believe her husband is risking their son's future. But Eddie won't budge and Joel has started to believe his father is right.

Much to his mother's despair Joel is expelled and the scholarship is awarded to another Indigenous boy. But the next day one by one the remaining Aboriginal pupils refuse to stand and sing the anthem.

Soon the formerly recalcitrant principal is at the front door – there to offer Joel his place back. But this time it's on his terms.







## AARON MCGRATH IS JOEL

Playing the role of Joseph in Sarah Spillane's highly anticipated Australian film *Around the Block*, Aaron McGrath's burgeoning career also includes the role of Garadi in *My Place* (Series 2), directed by Catriona McKenzie; the role of Jay in 360 Entertainment's *Your Choice*, as well as a part in the short film *Destiny in the Dirt* directed by Ella Bancroft.





## URSULA YOVICH IS NIC

Ursula Yovich grew up in the Northern Territory, in Darwin and Maningrida. She has become one of Australia's most celebrated performers and has amazed audiences all over the world, appearing at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, Carnegie Hall in New York, and the Concert Hall at the Sydney Opera House.

Her recent theatre credits include *Bloodland* for Sydney Theatre Company, *The Barefoot Divas* for Sydney Festival and *Waltzing the Wilarra* for Yirra Yaakin Theatre Company. Ursula was also nominated for a Helpmann award for her cabaret show *Magpie Blues*, which premiered in Adelaide and toured major venues across Australia.

In film Ursula has featured in Baz Luhrmann's *Australia* and Ray Lawrence's *Jindabyne*, and other screen credits include *Murandak 'Songs of Freedom'* documentary, *\$9.99*, *Arcadia*, *My Bed Your Bed*, *Blacktrax*, *Message Stick*, *Blue Heelers* and *Songlines*. Ursula is currently appearing in her one woman show, *The Magic Hour* for Deckchair Theatre Company in Western Australia.



## EWEN LESLIE IS MR PARISH

Ewen graduated from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in 2000. His theatre credits include *Hamlet* and *Richard III* for the Melbourne Theatre Company, *The Wild Duck* and *The Promise* for Company B and *The Trial* for the Malthouse Theatre Company.

Ewen was a member of the STC's Actors Company in 2008 and performed in *The War of The Roses*, *Gallipoli* and *The Serpent's Teeth*. Other theatre credits include *Paul* (Company B), *Riflemind* (STC), *Dead Caesar* (STC-Push Production), *Shakespearealism* (The Naked Theatre Co.), *Cross Sections* (Tamarama Rock Surfers Co.) and *This Blasted Earth* (Old Fitzroy Theatre).

Ewen's film credits include *Sleeping Beauty*, *Three Blind Mice*, *Katoomba*, *Kokoda* and *Jewboy* for which he received an AFI nomination for his performance in 2005. He will next be seen in Tony Krawitz's feature film *Dead Europe*.

Ewen's television credits include Blackfella Films' *Mabo*, *Lockie Leonard*, season 2 of *Love My Way*, *The Junction Boys*, *All Saints*, *The Road From Coorain*, *Wild Cat*, *Bush Patrol*, *The Gift* and *Ship To Shore* (Series 1 & 2).

In 2010 he received the Helpmann award and the Green Room award for Best Actor for *Richard III* and a Sydney Theatre award and a Helpmann award for his performance in *The War of the Roses* in 2009.



THURSDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# SWEET SPOT

**DIRECTED BY LEAH PURCELL WRITTEN BY JON BELL**

Indigo (Dean Daley-Jones) is a professional boxer so he knows how to hit a man – how to land the perfect punch, the sweet spot. It's why he's good in the ring, and it's why he's just served a six-year sentence for killing a man in a street fight.

He's home now reconnecting with his wife Allie (Lisa Flanagan) and his two kids, and things are looking up as the family adjusts to having him back after so long away. But a series of small incidents spark a jealous flame in Indigo: why does this guy Jumpy (Cramer Cain) keep coming around to see Allie? Why does she know how many sugars Jumpy takes in his tea?

Keshen (Damien Hunter), Indigo's cousin, has found him a job on the building site where he works and he tries to calm Indigo down. But the green-eyed monster has a hold and things spiral out of control until Allie can take no more and throws him out. Wild with rage, Indigo goes after Jumpy, and Keshen has to step in to stop the fight.

It's back to jail for Indigo, but he finally takes full responsibility for his previous misdeeds, and in doing so has a real chance of getting his life back on track. It's a few months later when he walks free – but will Allie and the kids be there to meet him?







## DEAN DALEY-JONES IS INDIGO

Western Australian Aboriginal actor and Nyoongar tribe member, Dean Daley-Jones launched his feature film career playing the lead in the critically acclaimed *Mad Bastards* directed by Brendan Fletcher, which was selected for the Sundance Film Festival 2011, and won the Deadly Awards' Film of the Year 2011. Dean was also nominated as Best Actor for this role in the inaugural AACTA Awards (previously known as the AFI Awards) in 2012.

On the back of this success, Dean has also appeared in Ivan Sen's *Toomelah*, selected for Un Certain Regard 2011 at the Cannes Film Festival, and the feature film *Satellite Boy* directed by Catriona McKenzie, to be released later this year.

Dean takes an active role in mentoring other Indigenous people with visits to community and correctional centres Australia-wide. He hopes his words will help inspire others to initiate changes and turn their lives around, just as he has done. Dean was a guest speaker at Message Sticks 2012, the annual festival celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists at the Sydney Opera House.





## LISA FLANAGAN IS ALLIE

With numerous credits to her name, Lisa Flanagan is best known for her outstanding portrayals of Clarence in the Paul Goldman feature *Australian Rules* and more recently Anna in Sarah Watt's *Look Both Ways*. Her other film credits include *Spike Up*, *The September Project*, *Opal Dream*, *Queen of Hearts*, *Free – 2002 POV*, *Say No* and *Black & White* directed by Craig Lahiff.

On television Lisa has appeared in *City Homicide*, *All Saints* and as a series regular in *Double Trouble* directed by Wayne Blair.

On stage Lisa has performed the one woman show *7 Stages of Grieving* at the State Theatre SA, Queensland Theatre Company and Sydney Theatre Company; as well as appearing in productions *Parramatta Girls* at the Belvoir, *My Girragundji* for Canute Productions, and *The Sapphires* for MTC/Company B Belvoir.



## CRAMER CAIN IS JUMPY

Cramer graduated from the University of Western Sydney Nepean with a BA (Theatre), an unusual choice of study for someone coming from a small Pacific island called Nauru.

His career since graduating has been diverse. He has travelled both here and internationally with the physical theatre performance group Chrome, appeared in the much acclaimed production of *The Happy Prince* with Kim Carpenter's Theatre of Image, worked as a presenter/ anchorman for Sports Pacific Network (SPN), performed in Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*; and launched his film career with the role of Ari in David Caesar's feature *Idiot Box*.

Cramer recently co-starred alongside Richard Roxburgh and Ioan Gruffudd as the local guide Luko in the James Cameron produced 3D action thriller *Sanctum* shot in Queensland for Universal Pictures.

His love of action, adventure and the outdoors was truly satisfied when he was cast as Eddie the larrikin, dope-smoking, Islander 'man in situ' of local business family The Montebellos in the recently screened ABC series *The Straits*.



THURSDAY 6TH DECEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# PRETTYBOYBLUE

**DIRECTED BY RACHEL PERKINS WRITTEN BY STEVEN MCGREGOR**

Aaron Davis (Wayne Blair) is proud of his police uniform, proud of the community in which he works, and very, very proud of his daughter Robyn (Rarriwuy Hick) and his three-year-old granddaughter Donna. It's early morning, and Aaron does his usual boxing training with local kids. So far it's been a good day despite some taunting from young troublemaker Lenny (Luke Carroll). Later that day as Aaron is finishing up at the police station, Lenny is brought in all busted up and yelling abuse. He's been in a bad fight so Aaron goes to call for a doctor. But he stops when Lenny's taunting pushes him too far so when Lenny calls out from the cell in pain, Aaron ignores him.

When the cries suddenly stop Aaron realises that something is terribly wrong. He rushes to help but it's too late - Lenny is dead. And so Aaron's nightmare begins.

As word of the death spreads, Lenny's brother tries to cause trouble but his young friends are held back, talked around by family and community. Lenny's mother, Auntie Mona (Trisha Morton Thomas), asks Aaron whether her boy suffered. Aaron lies.

But when Lenny's family is shown the cell surveillance tapes, Aaron has to find the courage to go and tell Auntie Mona the truth.

All seems lost, but as Aaron leaves her house, Robyn and Donna are waiting for him.



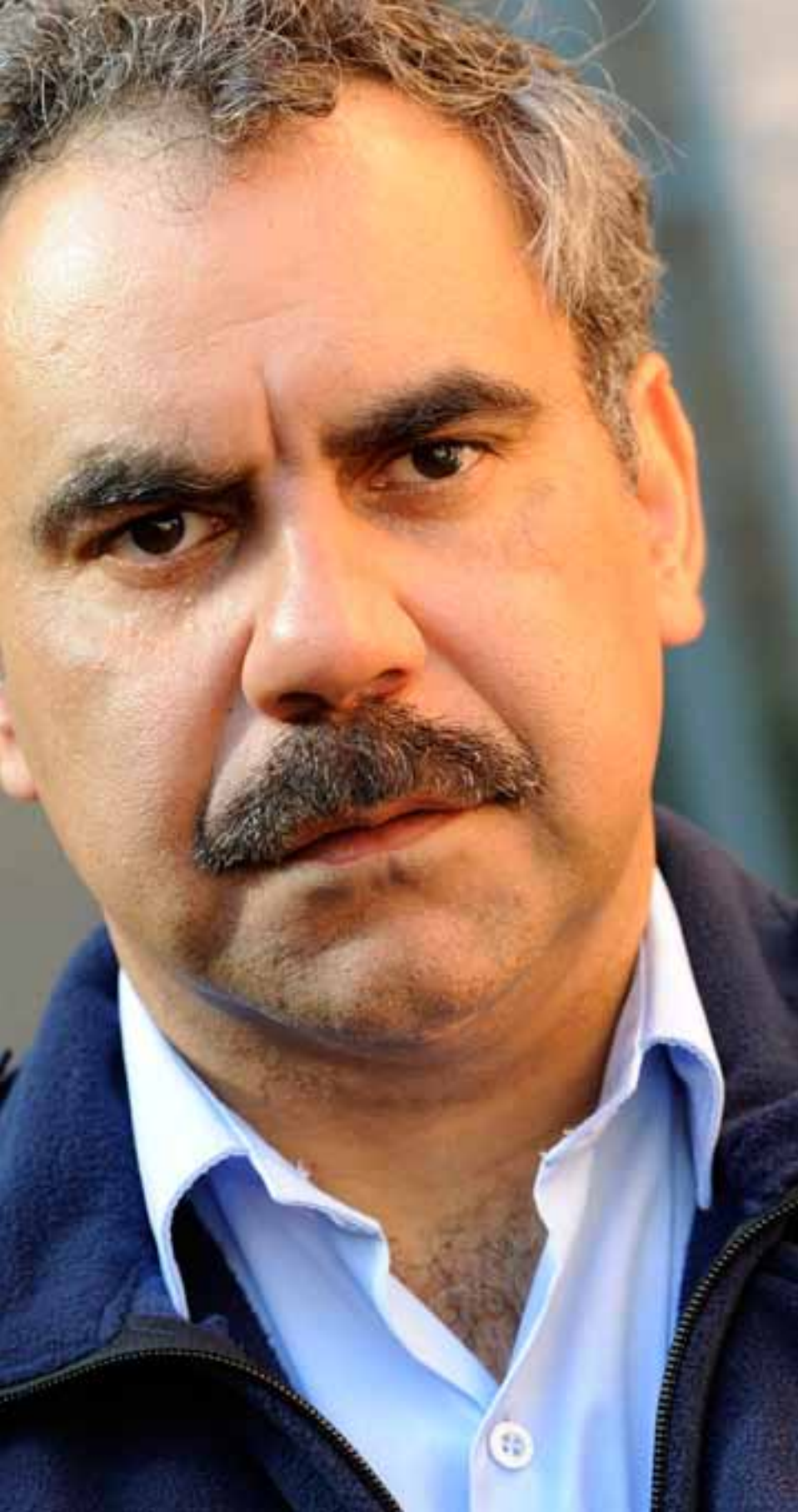




## LUKE CARROLL IS LENNY

Luke Carroll has gathered a remarkable range of credits and experiences after beginning his career at a very tender age. Nominated for AFI Awards in 2002 for 'Best Supporting Actor' in *Australian Rules*, and in 2006 for Best Supporting Actor in a TV series for *R.A.N.*, Luke also went on to win 'Best Actor' at POV 2003 for his performance in the Short Film *Free*. Luke's other film credits include *Needle*, *Stone Bros*, and *Subdivision* as well as *The Tender Hook*, and *Children Of The Revolution*. In theatre, Luke has had leads roles in *Capricornia*, and *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, at Belvoir St Theatre, *Riverland* for The Adelaide festival 2004, *Eora Crossing* for The Sydney Festival, *Conversations With The Dead* (also Belvoir St), *Purple Dreams*, *My Girragundji* (Bell Shakespeare) and *Cherry Pickers* (STC). Luke's Television credits include hosting the *Deadly Awards* on SBS, *Heartbeat* for UK TV, *Home and Away*, working with Catherine Freeman in *Going Bush* for SBS and starring in *The Alice* for the Nine Network. Performing in *RAN* for SBS was another highlight and Luke has also appeared in *Stingers*, *All Saints*, *Water Rats*, *Heartbreak High*, *Man from Snowy River* and *The Flying Doctors*. He is currently enjoying presenting on *Playschool*.





## WAYNE BLAIR IS AARON DAVIS

As an actor, Wayne's work includes the theatre productions of *Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train*, *Stuff Happens*, *Run Rabbit Run*, *Conversations with the Dead*, *The Sapphires*, *The Dreamers* and *Cloudstreet* (International Tour) for Belvoir. For the Sydney Theatre Company he has appeared in *True West*, *Tot Mom*, *The Sunshine Club*, *Inheritance* and *The Cherry Pickers*. Wayne appeared in Queensland Theatre Company's productions of *The Sunshine Club*, *Blacked Up* and *Loaded Stories*. Other theatre credits include *Skin* with Bangarra Dance Theatre, *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet*, for the Bell Shakespeare Company; and for Kooemba Jdarra, *Black Shorts* and *Purple Dreams*.

His television credits include *Small Claims*, *Fireflies*, *Backburner*, *Water Rats*, *All Saints* and *Wildside*. Wayne's film credits include *Wish You Were Here*, *X*, *The Last Time I Saw Michael Gregg*, *Blessed* and *Mullet*.

For the theatre, Wayne has directed *Unspoken* at the Old Fitzroy and the Malthouse. *Stolen* and *7 Stages of Grieving* for the STC, and *Njunjul The Sun* for Kooemba Jdarra and QPAC, which he adapted from the book of the same name.

His writing and direction of short films include *Face 2 Black*, *Black Talk*, *Jubulji*, *Kathy* and *The Djarn Djarns*. *Black Talk* won the Dendy Award in 2003 and *The Djarn Djarns* won the Crystal Bear Prize for Best Short in the Kinderfilmfest section of the Berlin International Film Festival in 2005.

For television he has directed episodes of *Lockie Leonard* and *Double Trouble* and more recently *Dead Gorgeous*. Wayne recently completed directing the film version of *The Sapphires* which made its screen debut at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival.



## STEPHEN CURRY IS CONSTABLE RYAN HOBBS

Multi-award winning actor Stephen Curry became a household name with his breakout role in the Australian feature film *The Castle*, playing the character of Dale Kerrigan.

His other feature credits include *Rogue*, *Thunderstruck*, *The Night We Called It A Day*, *Take Away*, *The Nugget*, *The Wogboy*, and most recently *The Cup*. He also appeared in the IF Award-nominated Best Short Film for 2008 *You Better Watch Out*.

On television Stephen is best known for his outstanding portrayal of Graham Kennedy in the biopic *The King*, receiving many awards including an AFI award for Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama; the Silver TV Week Logie award for Most Outstanding Actor in a Drama; and the ASTRA award for Most Outstanding Performance by an Actor. More recently he appeared as Sam Pickles in the highly acclaimed miniseries *Tim Winton's Cloudstreet*. His other television credits include *Cliffy* (still to air on ABC1), *Wilfred*, *30 Seconds*, *False Witness*, *The Informant*, *The Secret Life of Us*, *Changi*, *Frontline*, *Queen Kat*, *Carmel* and *St Jude*, *Day of the Roses* and *Mary Bryant* to name a few.

Host of the 2008 AFI Awards, Stephen has performed in various theatre shows including the famous sketches of Peter Cook and Dudley Moore in *Good Evening* at the Sydney Opera House, at the Melbourne Comedy Festival, and in Brisbane and Perth.



# KEY CREATIVES

## CATRIONA MCKENZIE DIRECTOR: FAMILY & JOYRIDE

An experienced television drama director, Catriona McKenzie has recently directed her first feature film *Satellite Boy*.

Graduating with Honours from the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) in 2001, Catriona has an outstanding list of credits including Emmy-nominated *Dance Academy*, the TV Week Logie and AFI award-winning *My Place* (Series 1 & 2) for ABC TV, as well as *Satisfaction* for Showtime. Catriona was also the set-up director for the award-winning SBS series *The Circuit* and *RAN*, as well as *The Alice* for Channel Nine and *Fireflies* for ABC TV.

With critically acclaimed and award-winning short films including *Box*, *The Third Note*, *Road* and *Redfern Beach*, Catriona also wrote and directed the multi-award winning documentary *Mr Patterns* for ABC TV and directed the half-hour drama *Grange* for ABC TV. In 2007 Catriona spent time in the US on a director's attachment with the television series *Prison Break*.

Having commenced her career at multi-award winning commercials house Filmgraphics, Catriona has had her body of work showcased at The Australian Centre of Moving Image at Federation Square and has completed video installations for the National Museum of Australia in Canberra, as well as the 4a Gallery in Sydney.

In 2006 her script for *Satellite Boy* was accepted into the coveted Screen NSW Aurora Development Program (similar to France's Equinoxe), which has previously contributed to the development of the scripts for the features *Animal Kingdom*, *The Black Balloon*, *Somersault* and *Little Fish*.

Catriona was set-up director for *Redfern Now*, which was developed in collaboration with the award-winning and internationally acclaimed creator Jimmy McGovern (*The Street*, *Cracker*, *The Lakes*).

## RACHEL PERKINS DIRECTOR: PRETTY BOY BLUE & STAND UP

An independent director and producer, Rachel Perkins's Australian Aboriginal heritage (Arrernte/Kalkadoon nations) has informed her filmmaking in documentary and drama over her twenty-year career. She has been an executive producer at SBS and ABC TV and has directed three dramatic features: *Radiance*, *One Night the Moon* and *Bran Nue Dae*. Her most recent feature *Bran Nue Dae* (2010), which she both directed and co-wrote, screened at Sundance, Berlin and Toronto Film Festivals and achieved a box office of \$7.5m in Australia. Rachel's films have screened at over 75 film festivals around the world.

Most recently Rachel directed the critically acclaimed film *Mabo* starring Deborah Mailman and Jimi Bani. Marking the 20th anniversary of the historic High Court decision, *Mabo* had a special Gala Premiere at the 2012 Sydney Film Festival before screening on ABC TV.

Her most recent documentary work, the seven-hour series *First Australians* (2009), which she wrote, directed and co-produced, was awarded Australia's top documentary honours including the AFI and IF awards, UN Media Peace Prize, TV Week Logie, Screen Writers and Directors Guild of Australia awards. *First Australians* has sold throughout the world and is the highest selling educational title in Australia.

Rachel's other documentary productions include the series *Blood Brothers* on which she was one of the writers, directors and producers, as well as *Spirit to Spirit* - an international co-venture of indigenous partners from New Zealand, Scandinavia, Canada and Australia.

Most recently, Rachel was honoured to receive the inaugural Contribution to Television IF Award at the 2011 Jameson IF awards.

## LEAH PURCELL DIRECTOR: SWEET SPOT

Leah Purcell is one of Australia's leading actors, with award-winning roles in theatre, film and television.

Her film roles include *Lantana*, *Lennie Cahill Shoots Through*, *Somersault*, *The Proposition* and *Jindabyne*. Her television credits include *GP*, *Water Rats*, *Beastmaster*, *The Lost World*, *Good Cop*, *Bad Cop*; *The Starter Wife*, *Love My Way*, *McLeod's Daughters* and *My Place*.

Leah conceived and co-wrote *Box the Pony* which was the smash hit of the 1997 Festival of the Dreaming and has since played to sell-out seasons at the Belvoir St. Theatre, the Sydney Opera House, the 1999 Edinburgh Festival and a season at the Barbican Theatre in London for BITE: 2000. The published text of the play won the 1999 NSW Premier's Literary Award and the 2000 Queensland Premier's Literary Award for Best Play. Other theatre credits include *Marriage of Figaro* (QTC) opposite Geoffrey Rush, *The Vagina Monologues*, Dorothy Hewitt's final play *Nowhere* (Melbourne International Arts Festival), *Beasty Girl: The Secret Life of Errol Flynn* (Melbourne International Arts Festival), for which she won a Green Room award (2004) for Best Actress; Neil Armfield's *Stuff Happens* (Company B) for which she won the Deadly Award for Actor of the Year 2005.

Leah was also the recipient of the inaugural Bob Maza Fellowship award in 2006. Further credits include *Stickybricks* (Sydney Festival); *The Good Body* (Adelaide Fringe Festival); *Stuff Happens* and *Parramatta Girls* (Company B), *The Story of the Miracles at Cookie's Table* (Griffin Theatre, Malthouse Theatre and later at QPAC), she was nominated for this lead role as Best Actress in a Play for the 2007 Sydney Theatre awards and 2007 GLUG Theatre awards; *An Oak Tree* (Belvoir downstairs); Michael Attenborough's *When the Rain Stops Falling* (Almeida Theatre, London); Bell Shakespeare's 20th anniversary production of *King Lear* opposite John Bell; *Blood Wedding* (Sydney Theatre Co), *The Dark Room* (Company B).

## WAYNE BLAIR DIRECTOR: RAYMOND

As an actor, Wayne's work includes the theatre productions of *Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train*, *Stuff Happens*, *Run Rabbit Run*, *Conversations with the Dead*, *The Sapphires*, *The Dreamers* and *Cloudstreet* (International Tour) for Belvoir. For the Sydney Theatre Company he has appeared in *True West*, *Tot Mom*, *The Sunshine Club*, *Inheritance* and *The Cherry Pickers*. Wayne appeared in Queensland Theatre Company's productions of *The Sunshine Club*, *Blacked Up* and *Loaded Stories*. Other theatre credits include *Skin* with Bangarra Dance Theatre, *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* for the Bell Shakespeare Company; and for Kooemba Jdarra, *Black Shorts* and *Purple Dreams*.

His television credits include *Small Claims*, *Fireflies*, *Backburner*, *Water Rats*, *All Saints* and *Wildside*.

Wayne's film credits include *Wish You Were Here*, *X*, *The Last Time I Saw Michael Gregg*, *Blessed* and *Mullet*. Wayne has recently completed directing the film version of *The Sapphires* which debuted to a standing ovation at this year's Cannes Film Festival.

For the theatre, Wayne has directed *Unspoken* at the Old Fitzroy and the Malthouse, *Stolen* and *7 Stages of Grieving* for the STC and *Njunjul The Sun* which he adapted from the book of the same name for Kooemba Jdarra and QPAC.

His writing and direction of short films include *Face 2 Black*, *Black Talk*, *Jubulj*, *Kathy* and *The Djarn Djarns*. *Black Talk* won the Dendy Award in 2003 and *The Djarn Djarns* won the Crystal Bear Prize for Best Short in the Kinderfilmfest section of the Berlin International Film Festival in 2005.

For television he has directed episodes of *Lockie Leonard* and *Double Trouble* and more recently *Dead Gorgeous*. Wayne recently completed directing the film version of *The Sapphires* which made its screen debut at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival.



## JIMMY MCGOVERN STORY PRODUCER

With his writing often based on real events or socially vital issues, Liverpool-born Jimmy McGovern has built a formidable reputation writing powerful dramas for the stage and screen.

McGovern's writing credits read like a list of classic television. Having honed his skill working on *Brookside*, his major breakthrough came with *Cracker*, one of the best-loved UK TV shows of recent history and winner of the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Script.

Jimmy's other television credits include RSJ Production *The Accused* (Series I & II) for the BBC, and *The Street* (Series 1-3), which won the International Emmy for Best Drama Series 2007, RTS Award 2008, BAFTA for Best Drama Series 2007 & 2008 and RTS Best Drama Series 2008, as well as *Gunpowder, Treason and Plot, Sunday*, which won the FIPA D'OR 2005: Grand Prize for Best Script, *Liam*, the BAFTA-nominated *Dockers* and BAFTA-nominated *The Lakes, Heart* and *The South Bank Show* – award-winner for Best Television Drama 1996 and 1996 BAFTA award-winner *Hillsborough*.

## DARREN DALE PRODUCER

Darren Dale has been a company director of Blackfella Films, Australia's premier Indigenous production company, for over ten years. In 2008 Darren, together with Rachel Perkins, produced the landmark multi-platform history series *First Australians*, broadcast on SBS to over 2.3 million viewers and accompanied by an internationally acclaimed interactive website. Amongst *First Australians* many accolades were AFI, TV Week Logie, AWGIE and Director's Guild awards.

In 2011, Darren produced the feature documentary *The Tall Man* for SBS, based on the award-winning book by Chloe Hooper. Premiering at the 2011 Adelaide Film Festival, the film screened at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) and was awarded the AWGIE for Best Broadcast Documentary, the inaugural Walkley Award for Documentary and received four AACTA nominations including Best

Feature Documentary. *The Tall Man* was released theatrically in November 2011.

Darren has produced a number of acclaimed short films and documentaries that between them have screened at the Sundance, Aspen, Edinburgh, Toronto and Palm Springs International Film Festivals. The 2010 SBS documentary *Lani's Story* was the recipient of a United Nations Media Peace Award, the second consecutive year Darren was awarded this prize.

With his Blackfella Films business partner, Rachel Perkins, Darren co-curated the film program for the *Message Sticks* Indigenous Festival at the Sydney Opera House from 2002 until 2011.

Most recently Darren produced, with Miranda Dear, the critically acclaimed film *Mabo*, starring Deborah Mailman and Jimi Bani. Marking the 20th anniversary of the historic High Court decision, *Mabo* had a special Gala Premiere at the 2012 Sydney Film Festival before screening on ABC TV.

Darren currently serves on the board of Screen NSW and the Council of the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.

## MIRANDA DEAR PRODUCER

Producer Miranda Dear began her career with UK public broadcaster Channel 4 moving from Music & Arts through to Acquisitions where she became Senior Film Buyer. In 1997 she moved to Australia as Acquisition and Production Consultant and negotiated the channel's involvement in a number of film funding and acquisition initiatives.

In 2000 Miranda joined SBS Independent as Senior Commissioning Editor Drama. Her commissions included *Harvie Krumpet*, *RAN (Remote Area Nurse)*, and the first long-form drama features from directors Jessica Hobbs, Tony Krawitz, Rachel Ward and Matthew Saville (*So Close to Home*, *Jewboy*, *Martha's New Coat* and *Roy Hollsdotter Live*). She was the SBS Commissioning Editor for the feature films *Look Both Ways*, *Ten Canoes*, *Somersault*, *Australian Rules*, *Walking on Water*

and *Tracker*. And also for a number Indigenous drama initiatives which included Warwick Thornton's *Mimi* and *Green Bush*, Beck Cole's *Flat* and *Plains Empty*, and Wayne Blair's *Black Talk* and *The Djarn Djarns*.

In 2005 Miranda joined ABC TV first as an executive producer and then as Head of Drama. There she executive produced a number of programs including *Rake* (Series 1), *Sisters of War*, *3 Acts of Murder*, *Curtin*, *Dirt Game*, *Bed of Roses*, *The Librarians*, *Rain Shadow*, *East of Everything*, *Bastard Boys*, *Valentine's Day*, and *The Silence*. She was the ABC commissioning editor for the feature films *Samson & Delilah*, *Bran Nue Dae*, *Here I Am* and *Eye of the Storm*, and the short film series *The New Black*. And she also commissioned the series *The Slap*, *The Straits*, *Paper Giants* and *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*.

Since 2010 Miranda has worked with Blackfella Films and most recently produced, with Darren Dale, the critically acclaimed film *Mabo* starring Deborah Mailman and Jimi Bani. Marking the 20th anniversary of the historic High Court decision, *Mabo* had a special Gala Premiere at the 2012 Sydney Film Festival before screening on ABC TV.

## SALLY RILEY ABC TV EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Since March 2010, Sally Riley has been the Head of ABC TV's Indigenous Department. Previously Sally was Head of Screen Australia's Indigenous Unit for nine years. Over that period she was integral to the development of Indigenous Australian filmmaking. She was one of the key drivers in Screen Australia's new industry handbook, Pathways & Protocols - a filmmaker's guide to working with Indigenous people, culture and concepts.

Sally has also been responsible for developing and overseeing the production of a significant body of short films, documentaries and feature films, and she has fostered the development of a new generation of exciting new Indigenous filmmakers. One of Sally's major achievements during her time at Screen Australia was her contribution to the development, financing and production of Warwick Thornton's award-winning film *Samson & Delilah*.

An experienced filmmaker, Sally's film, *Confessions of a Headhunter*, won the AFI Award for Best Short Film in 2000.

Sally was awarded the Australian Public Service Medal in 2008 for her services to the development of initiatives that have increased the participation of Indigenous Australians in the film and television industry.





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