

# REDFERN NOW

SIX EXTRAORDINARY STORIES

ONE UNMISSABLE SERIES







**STARTS THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER 8.30PM**



SIX EXTRAORDINARY STORIES **ONE UNMISSABLE SERIES**

**THE HIGHLY CELEBRATED  
AND MULTI AWARD-  
WINNING DRAMA OF 2012.  
RECIPIENT OF MOST  
OUTSTANDING DRAMA AT  
THIS YEAR'S TV WEEK LOGIE  
AWARDS, THE CRITICALLY  
ACCLAIMED REDFERN NOW  
RETURNS FOR ANOTHER  
EXTRAORDINARY SEASON.**

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



THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# WHERE THE HEART IS

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS

When Amy's dad Richard is in an accident, her other father Peter fights to retain custody of her, but is hamstrung by his own recklessness.

Richard (Oscar Redding) and Peter (Kirk Page) are a loving couple who have made a life, family, and home for themselves raising their daughter, Amy (Saskia Williscroft). Like every other couple they have found themselves in a funk, and with pressure from work and tension increasing, Peter and Richard start arguing.

But in just one morning their whole world is turned upside down when Richard is involved in a freak car accident. As he lies on life support, Peter is the one who has to break the news to Richard's estranged mother, Margaret (Noni Hazlehurst). It is the call a mother never wants to get and one Peter doesn't want to make. Richard's condition goes from bad to worse, and as his next of kin, Peter is faced with the heartbreaking decision of switching off his life support. Under protest from Margaret the decision is made.

Months later at the coroner's inquest it is revealed that Peter could have played a small part in Richard's accidental death, news that Margaret does not take well. Peter struggles through his grief, finding comfort in other men. When Margaret discovers what Peter is doing, and so soon after her son's death, she files for full custody of Amy in a bid to get back what is left of her son and her family.

Peter can't believe that the judge might find against him, but when Margaret shows up to the Family Court with a team of lawyers and a well prepared case, the threat of losing custody of Amy becomes all too real. Peter's best friend Lorraine (Deborah Mailman) decides it's time for a few home truths: quit the drinking, quit the smoking, quit the self-pity. At first it's hard to hear, but Peter realises that Lorraine is right and that he's going to have to fight like hell to keep the thing he loves most in the world, Amy.







## NONI HAZLEHURST IS MARGARET

One of Australia's favourite and most respected actors and presenters, Noni Hazlehurst is a celebrated film, theatre and television actor, a beloved *Play School* presenter and *Better Homes and Gardens* host. She undoubtedly has one of the most impressive and wide-ranging career portfolios in the business.

With filming recently completed on feature film *The Mule*, Noni's further film credits include *Bitter and Twisted*, *Candy*, *Little Fish*, *Waiting*, *Australian Dream*, *Fran*, *Stations*, *Monkey Grip*, *Fatty Finn* and *The Getting of Wisdom*.

Most recently seen in the series *A Place to Call Home* and soon to be seen in *The Broken Shore* for ABC TV, her further television credits include lead roles in *City Homicide Series 1-4* for the Seven Network, *The Librarians*, *Stepfather of the Bride*, *Waiting At The Royal*, *Clowning Around*, *Fields of Fire III*, *Naked Under Capricorn*, *Nancy Wake*, *The Shiralee*, *Weekly's War*, *Waterfront*, *And Here Comes Bucknuckle Lil*, *Ride On Stranger* and *Bit Part*, as well as guest lead roles in *Twisted Tails* and *Follies* for ABC TV.

The winner of the Australian Film Critics Circle Award for Best Actress and nominated for the Milan International Film Festival Best Actress Award for her role in *Bitter and Twisted*, Noni has received two TV Week Silver Logie Awards for Best Supporting Actress in a Mini-series for *Waterfront* and *Ride On Stranger*, four AFI Awards (*Little Fish*, *Waiting At The Royal*, *Fran*, *Monkey Grip*) and eight AFI nominations, as well as an Order of Australia Medal (OAM), to name but a few. She added another award to an impressive list when she received an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy from Flinders University in South Australia.

During her time on *Play School* she recorded many albums and appeared in many children's concerts together with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. She continues to work with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.





## KIRK PAGE IS PETER

Widely acclaimed for his physical theatre, aerial and dance work, Kirk has appeared in Martin del Amo's *Slow Dances for Fast Times*. He also performed at the Catapult Festival for the Bathurst Regional Council, and in *Ochres* for Bangarra Dance Theatre, which toured Australia and internationally, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Opera Australia and has performed numerous times for *Legs on the Wall* in productions including *Eora Crossing* and *Runners Up*.

In musical theatre, Kirk has appeared in *Priscilla* for Back Row Productions, *The Sunshine Club* for Sydney Theatre Company, *Corrugation Road* for Black Swan Theatre Company, and most recently, *One Night the Moon* for Malthouse Theatre.

His theatre credits include *Silent Disco* for Griffin Theatre Company, *The Dreamers* and *Conversations with the Dead* for Belvoir, *My Girragundji* for Bell Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Sydney Theatre Company, *Australia the Show!* for Hothouse Theatre, and *Death in Bowengabbie* for Merrigong Theatre Company.

On screen, Kirk played the lead in *Bloodlines* for SBS Films and the Australian Film Commission and also appeared in the film *Shadow Play* for Porchlight Films.

As a movement director Kirk has worked in film, television and theatre. Having worked on the ABC's *My Place* and on feature film *Bran Nue Dae*, in 2006 he also choreographed the Indigenous section of the Melbourne Commonwealth Games *My Skin, My Life*.

Kirk was also an assistant director for *Bloodland* (STC) and worked as an outside eye for Posts in the Paddock *My Darling Patricia*.



## DEBORAH MAILMAN IS LORRAINE

With multiple award-winning credits to her name, Deborah Mailman is one of Australia's most highly respected 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 *Mental*, *Bran Nue Dae*, *Dear Claudia*, *The Monkey's Mask*, *Rabbit Proof Fence*, *The Book of Revelation*, *Lucky Miles* and most recently the internationally celebrated and award-winning feature *The Sapphires*.

In television Deborah has created some of Australia's most enduring characters including her TV Week Silver Logie Award-winning portrayals of Bonita Mabo in *Mabo*, and Kelly in *Secret Life of Us*, as well as Cherie in *Offspring*, and roles in the highly celebrated and award-winning first season of **REDFERN NOW**, *Rush*, *The Alice* and *Two Twisted*. Deborah was also a regular television presenter, hosting *Play School* 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*.



THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# STARTING OVER

**DIRECTED BY RACHEL PERKINS WRITTEN BY JON BELL**

After his involvement in a tragic event that rocked the local community, Aaron Davis is trying to find his place in the world again, with the help of his family, therapy, and a new love prospect.

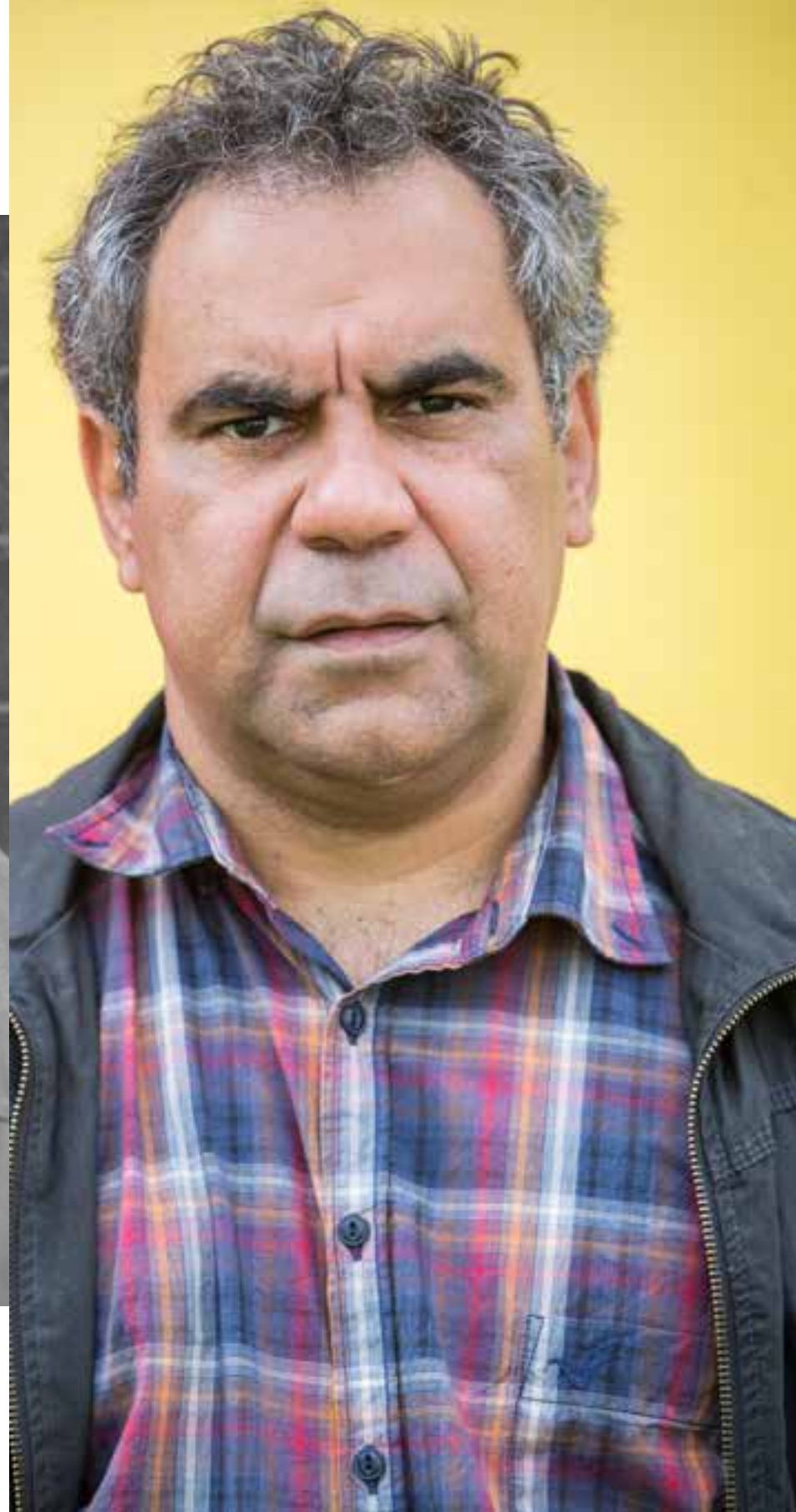
Aaron's (Wayne Blair) life as he knows it has been completely turned upside down since the tragic death of Lenny, an Aboriginal teenager who died in police custody during Aaron's shift. His career in the force is on hold whilst he goes through psychological assessment. And in fact he's not even sure going back to the police force is what he wants. He is being ostracised by the local Redfern community; he can't even enjoy a beer at the local 'Koorioke' as the bartender refuses to serve him. Aside from the shining beacons that are his daughter Robyn (Rarriwuy Hick) and granddaughter Donna, things are pretty dim for Aaron. That is until romance sparks with his very attractive neighbour, Allie (Lisa Flanagan). The only problem is that Aaron has just been involved in the arrest of Allie's partner, Indigo (Dean Daley-Jones), even though it was Allie who called the police after Indigo hit her.

Determined to get on with life without Indigo, Allie makes the bold move of attending the local 'Koorioke' with her bruised eye on display, a move that is frowned upon by her local community. It is here that Allie and Aaron, both on the outer, bond over their mutual experience of being treated like outsiders in their small community. And it is not long before their newfound friendship turns into something more serious - although several hurdles will need to be overcome if they are going to be together.

In trying to get his life back on track, Aaron has to feel his way through the new challenges he faces to discover whether rejoining the police force is ultimately the right decision.







## WAYNE BLAIR IS AARON

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

Wayne recently directed the feature film *The Sapphires*, which premiered out of competition at Cannes and was a commercial and critical success. The film was the highest grossing Australian film of 2012 and won 11 AACTA Awards, including Best Film and Best Director.

He has written and directed several acclaimed short films; among them *The Djarn Djarns* which won the Crystal Bear Prize for Best Short in the Kinderfilmfest section of the Berlin International Film Festival and *Black Talk* which won the Dendy Award.

For television, Wayne directed episodes of television series *The Gods of Wheat Street*; sketch comedy *The Elegant Gentleman's Guide to Knifefighting*; and landmark Indigenous series **REDFERN NOW** (Series 1) which won a 2012 TV Week Logie Award. His other directing credits include *Lockie Leonard* (Series 1 and 2) for the Nine Network, *Dead Gorgeous* for the BBC, and *Double Trouble* for Caama Productions. Wayne wrote the episode 1788 of *My Place* (Series 2) for ABC TV, an episode of the second series of *Lockie Leonard* and an episode for the second series of *The Circuit*, which won an AWGIE Award for Best Original Miniseries.

For theatre, Wayne directed the sell-out season of Brendan Cowell's *Ruben Guthrie* at Belvoir; and *The Removalists*, *The 7 Stages Of Grieving* and *Romeo and Juliet* for STC. Wayne wrote *Bloodland* from a concept by Stephen Page and Kathy Marika for STC; the play toured to Adelaide Festival and Queensland Theatre Company.





## 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 and White* directed by Craig Lahiff.

On television Lisa will appear in the lead role of Libby in *The Gods of Wheat Street*, as well as appearing 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 *The 7 Stages of Grieving* at the State Theatre Company of South Australia, Queensland Theatre Company and Sydney Theatre Company, as well as appearing in the productions of *Parramatta Girls* at the Belvoir, *My Girragundji* for Canute Productions, and *The Sapphires* for MTC/Company B Belvoir.



## RARRIWUY HICK IS ROBYN

Rarriwuy is an actress, dancer and choreographer. She is a founder of dance group *Yapa Mala* and a guest choreographer and co-host for *Move It Mob Style*.

As an actress she played Juliette in Nigel Jamieson's play *Wrong Skin* at the Opera House, and more recently was in *Bloodland* for Sydney Theatre Company. She appeared on the small screen in the critically acclaimed AACTA and TV Week Logie Award-winning first series of **REDFERN NOW**.

She will soon appear in *The Gods Of Wheat Street*, Brendan Cowell's production *The Outlaw Michael Howe* and *The Broken Shore* alongside Wayne Blair, Claudia Karvan, Don Hany and Robin Nevin.

She has also appeared in the short films *The Hunter* directed by Margaret Harvey, *Scar* with Toronto's ImagineNATIVE Film Festival-winning director Tiffany Parker and *She.Say* directed by Leah Purcell.



THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# BABE IN ARMS

**DIRECTED BY ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS WRITTEN BY STEVEN MCGREGOR**

New parents, Janine (Caren Pistorius) and Justin (Meyne Wyatt) are tested to their limit when their newborn son goes missing and suspicions grow in the community and between one another.

After welcoming their first child, a son, into the world, Janine and Justin's dreams and hopes for their new life quickly unravel as Janine struggles with the responsibility of looking after a newborn. With Justin at work all day, Janine, with no family support of her own, finds caring for their son all day alone more of a challenge than she expected. The child won't settle, won't feed, won't sleep, and Janine is way out of her depth. Her sense of isolation is exacerbated by the feeling that Justin's parents disapprove of him marrying a white girl. Sleep deprivation and the end of her once ordered life places a strain on her relationship with both her new son and her husband.

Justin's insistence that caring for a child should come naturally to every woman doesn't go over well with Janine, and it sparks a huge argument that sees Justin storm off for some much needed peace and quiet.

This triggers an incident, which is every parent's nightmare - their son goes missing. The authorities are called, a media blitz is undertaken and professional mourners set up vigil outside the family home. As the days roll on and there is no word or clue as to the whereabouts of the child, suspicion switches to the parents, especially when a neighbour says that the baby had been crying all hours of the day and night. And when Janine reveals, during a media plea, that they had not named their son, it fuels further suspicion.

Justin is supportive of his wife and refuses to believe that she had anything to do with the disappearance. But with the court of public opinion swirling around them, and Justin's parents expressing their doubt over Janine's version of events, Justin soon begins to suspect his wife may have had something to do with the disappearance of their child after all.

What transpires is a collision of love and loyalty versus fact. Justin must decide who to believe - his wife, or the evidence.







## MEYNE WYATT IS JUSTIN

Kalgoorlie-born Meyne Wyatt was just 18 when he was accepted into the National Institute of Dramatic Art. Graduating in 2010, Meyne has since created a buzz in the industry with non-stop theatre productions and film work.

Meyne first delivered a powerful performance in The Stables Theatre's *The Brothers Size*, followed by a stand out performance as alienated Aboriginal teen Squid in Griffin Theatre's *Silent Disco*, for which he was named Best Newcomer in the 2011 Sydney Theatre Awards. From there, he stepped onto Sydney Theatre Company's main stage in the Stephen Page production of *Bloodland* (which also toured to the Adelaide Festival and QPAC in 2012).

In early 2012, Meyne was seen in the Belvior Street/Urban Theatre Project/Sydney Festival co-production of *The Buried City*. He followed this with the lead role of Horace in Bell Shakespeare's national tour of *The School for Wives*. In early 2013, Meyne starred in the lead role of Ralph Meyers production of *Peter Pan* at Belvoir St Theatre.

On screen Meyne appeared in Wayne Blair's highly celebrated feature *The Sapphires*, which premiered at a midnight screening at the Cannes Film Festival last year. He also starred in one of the short films comprising the feature film *The Turning*, based on Tim Winton's short story collection of the same name. Meyne will also appear in a guest role in the ABC telemovie *The Broken Shore*.

Meyne's other theatre credits include NIDA productions of *The Lord of the Flies*, *The Hour We Knew Nothing of Each Other*, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *Hamlet* and *Gift*. Prior to attending NIDA, Meyne also gained a Certificate IV in Aboriginal Theatre from WAAPA. During his time there, he acted in commissioned work *Frankenstein* as Clerval and in *The Lion of Nemea* by David Milroy.





## CAREN PISTORIUS IS JANINE

Caren Pistorius was most recently seen in series four of Network Ten's popular drama, *Offspring* and the ABC telemovie, *Paper Giants: Magazine Wars* in 2013.

Caren's other television credits include the New Zealand television series, *The Blue Rose* for TV3, and the Disney series, *Legend of the Seeker*.

She made her feature film debut in *The Most Fun You Can Have Dying*, directed by Kirstin Marcon.



## SIBYLLA BUDD IS DETECTIVE MORRIS

Since graduating from the prestigious Victorian College of the Arts, Sibylla Budd has enjoyed a successful career in film, television and theatre. Sibylla is best known for her role in the multi award-winning drama series *The Secret Life of Us*, playing Gabrielle and capturing the hearts and minds of the Australian viewing public over four successful seasons.

Sibylla's other performances for television include *Winners and Losers*, *Canal Road*, *Sea Patrol*, *All Saints*, *Kath & Kim*, *The Farm* (mini-series) and *Something In The Air*. She will soon be seen in *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* (Series 2) and *It's a Date*.

In between shooting television series, Sibylla has had a flourishing film career and has appeared in the features *September*, *The Book of Revelation*, *The Bank* and *The Bet*, with her performance in the latter garnering an AFI Nomination for Best Supporting Actress in Film.

Sibylla has performed with many major theatre companies and her performances include with Company B Belvoir *The Lonesome West*, *Yibiyung*, *Ray's Tempest*, with Queensland Theatre Company, *Betrayal*, with Melbourne Theatre Company *The Memory of Water* and with Griffin Theatre Company *The Emperor of Sydney*.



THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# CONSEQUENCES

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY LEAH PURCELL

A 35-year-old, high achieving Aboriginal woman, Mattie (Tammy Clarkson) has just received a PhD in Cultural Anthropology.

She races to share the news with her estranged white father Jack (Craig McLachlan) who she hasn't seen in 19 years. She wants to gloat. She wants to thank him for leaving her Aboriginal mother Patricia (Kylie Belling) and herself when she was ten years old: a decision that had a huge impact on both their lives. She succeeded without him. But when she calls to tell him, his older brother Richard (Steve Bisley) answers the phone. He tells her that Jack died two days earlier.

Mattie is determined that Jack's family – her white family – will accept her. So she sets out to drive to Sydney to confront them. During the drive she thinks about the time she spent with her dad as a child. When she arrives she goes straight to Jack's butcher shop, only to discover that it is now a café run by Brenda (Alicia Gardiner). As she strikes up a conversation with her, she twigs

to the fact that Brenda is her half-sister.

Mattie arrives at Jack's funeral intent on placing her graduation photograph on his coffin and telling the congregation about her relationship to him. But before she can, Brenda recognises her from the café and realises that the conversation they had about their respective fathers dying recently was not a coincidence. A very heated confrontation takes place with Brenda determined to stop Mattie hurting her grieving mother. So Mattie must decide whether to reveal the truth or not.







## CRAIG MCLACHLAN IS JACK

One of Australia's most celebrated and versatile actors, Craig McLachlan was awarded a TV Week Gold Logie in 1990. First appearing on television in *Sons and Daughters*, Craig became well known for his role as Henry Ramsay in *Neighbours* and later as Grant Mitchell in *Home and Away*. Craig's other television credits include the role of Kane Morgan in *McLeod's Daughters*, the popular British television series *Bugs*, as well as *City Homicide*, *The Cut*, *At Home with Julia*, *Lowdown*, *Packed to the Rafters*, *Rescue Special Ops Season 4*, and in 2011 he had a guest starring role for CBS television's *NCIS: Los Angeles*.

In 2013 Craig received acclaim in the title role of Lucien Blake in the ABC TV/ITV drama *The Doctor Blake Mysteries* and has most recently been seen in the role of Damo in Channel Nine's *House Husbands*. Craig recently finished filming season two of *Doctor Blake*.

Craig's feature film credits include the American movie *Superfire*, *Hating Alison Ashley* and the major television movie *Catherine the Great* alongside Catherine Zeta-Jones, Jeanne Moreau and Omar Sharif.

On stage, Craig has had a stellar career, with his first major role playing Danny Zuko to great acclaim in the 1993 West End revival of the musical *Grease*, which until this year held the UK West End box office record. In 2003 Craig played Frank 'N Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* before returning to London in 2005 to take over the role of Caracticus Potts in the London Palladium production of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* alongside Richard O'Brien. He most recently performed the role of Billy Flynn in *Chicago* in Australia and Asia.

Craig has also had major success as a singer and songwriter, achieving Australian and UK hit singles with such songs as *Amanda* (1990), *On My Own* (1991) and the now classic remake of the Bo Diddley song *Mona* (1990). In 2011, British group Rixxel Kicks sampled McLachlan's *Mona* for their single *Mama do the Hump*, which made #2 on the Singles Chart.





## TAMMY CLARKSON IS MATTIE

Best known for her TV Week Silver Logie Award-winning role as series lead Bella in *The Circuit* for SBS/Media World, Tammy received the 2008 award for Most Popular New Talent. Graduating with a Diploma of Performing Arts from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts in 1999, she went on to receive the WMC Indigenous Scholarship for Artists with Excellence in 2000.

A seasoned theatre actress, her professional credits include *Don Coyote Man of the Mallee*, *Rainbow's End* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* all for Mildura Arts Festival, *The Sapphires* for Melbourne Theatre Company, *Blak Inside* and *Casting Doubts* for Ilbijemi/Playbox Theatre, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Sydney Theatre Company's Festival Of Dreaming. Whilst at WAAPA Tammy also appeared in a number of theatre productions and the film *How to Host a Relationship Break-Up*.



## ALICIA GARDINER IS BRENDA

A graduate of both the Victorian College of the Arts and Monash University, Alicia Gardiner is best known for her role as Kim in Southern Star's *Offspring* on Network TEN. Her other credits include *Jack Irish: Bad Debts*, *Last Man Standing*, *Kath & Kim Season 3*, *After the Deluge*, *Dogwoman* and *Halifax fp*.

On stage Alicia has played the role of Lucinda in Moliere's *Love is the Best Doctor* for Theatre Melbourne, and the role of Ali in the Australian premiere season of *Mamma Mia*.



THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# POKIES

**DIRECTED BY BECK COLE WRITTEN BY STEVEN MCGREGOR**

Nic Shields spends her lunchtimes playing the pokies, and in a desperate attempt to absolve a whirlpool of deceit and debt she has found herself in, stages a robbery.

Nic spends her lunch hour down at her local workers club. It has become a ritual: a little lunch, a couple of games of Keno and a press on the pokies. But what started out as a bit of fun has slowly become a bit of a problem. Nic is chasing her losses and is sure the next press will pay. But the frequent trips to the ATM machine tell another story. Her bank balance is evaporating, and to hide the true extent of her gambling from her husband Eddie, she has re-directed her bank statements to her cousin Grace's house. This places a strain on their relationship, but Nic assures Grace (Leah Purcell) she will sort it out by the end of the week.

So Nic's preoccupation with her gambling intensifies as she tries to make more money to pay for Eddie's 40th birthday party, her son Joel's school excursion, and a major landscape improvement being undertaken in the family backyard. When the contractor requests a further down payment, Nic

panics and unleashes on the contractor and Eddie.

A few days later when Nic is on her way to bank her employer's takings, she is robbed in broad daylight. The police are called and her family and work colleagues are sympathetic to the ordeal she has experienced.

Although Nic wants to go back to work immediately she accepts a small break from work, but spends her free time playing the pokies. The police turn up during Eddie's birthday party with the good news that the perpetrator of the robbery has been caught. But why is Nic so nervous when asked to accompany them to the station? Has it got something to do with the fact that the thief is her nephew Robbie?

Tortured with guilt over what she's done, and the knowledge that her husband and son will soon know the truth, Nic makes a decision that she believes will free her of the guilt and shame.







## URSULA YOVICH IS NIC

Growing up in the Northern Territory, in Darwin and Maningrida, Ursula has become one of Australia's most celebrated performers. She has performed 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.

In film Ursula has featured in Baz Luhrmann's *Australia* and Ray Lawrence's *Jindabyne*. TV credits include *Devil's Dust*, **REDFERN NOW** (Series 1), *The Gods of Wheat Street*, *Murandak 'Songs of Freedom' documentary*, *\$9.99*, *Arcadia*, *My Bed Your Bed*, *Blacktrax*, *Message Stick*, *Blue Heelers* and *Songlines*.

Her recent theatre credits include *Mother Courage* at the Queensland Theatre Company, *Bloodland* for Sydney Theatre Company, *The Magic Hour* for Deckchair Theatre Company in Western Australia, *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 *Maggie Blues*, which had its world premiere in Adelaide and toured major venues across Australia.





## MARLEY SHARP IS EDDIE

Australian actor/musician Marley Sharp hails from the KuKu Yalanji and Muluridji tribes of Tropical Far North Queensland.

Making his acting debut in 2007 with a guest role as Jason Freeman in *The Circuit*, Marley reprised the role as a series regular in *The Circuit Season 2*. Marley's further acting credits include **REDFERN NOW** (Series 1), the ABC TV telemovie *Valentine's Day*, Richard J Frankland's film *Stone Bros* and Rachel Perkins' feature film *Bran Nue Dae*.

With a passion for the creative arts, Marley started his career as a traditional Aboriginal dancer at the renowned Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park in Cairns, before moving to radio presenting with Goolarri Media Enterprises in Broome, Western Australia.

Most recently establishing the film production company Live Your Dreams Productions, Marley is also a musician, regularly performing with his band *Black Boy Tree*, as well as working in cultural development in and around his community.



## 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*. 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 ABC TV's *Fallen Angels*.

Her feature film credits include *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*, *My Place* and **REDFERN NOW** (Series 1) for which she won the AACTA Award for Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama. Along with playing the lead role of Grace in the episode *Family*, she also directed the episode *Sweet Spot*.

Leah was also the recipient of the inaugural Bob Maza Fellowship award in 2006, as well as being nominated for a Helpmann Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role for her portrayal of Condoleezza Rice in *Stuff Happens*. In 2007 she received the Best Actress Helpmann Award for her performance in *The Story of the Miracles at Cookies Table*. In late 2012 Leah co-wrote, directed and starred in the one-woman bio-play based on the life and times of Dr Ruby Langford-Ginibi, *Don't Take Your Love to Town* for Belvoir St Theatre for which Leah was nominated for Best Actress in a Play at the 2013 Sydney Theatre Awards.



THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 8.30PM ON ABC1

# DOGS OF WAR

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY WAYNE BLAIR

The purchase of an undisciplined guard dog poisons relationships between Redfern neighbours and aggravates a malignant memory for an ex-serviceman, Ernie.

When police investigate two burglaries on opposite sides of the same street, they decide the perpetrators have targeted the homes without dogs. So Derek (Bruce Carter), father of two young children, purchases a mongrel German shepherd to improve his security.

Evonne (Katherine Beckett), heavily pregnant, has her father, Ernie (Ernie Dingo), a retired army drill sergeant, stay at her home. Ernie wastes no time installing new security windows and locks. He's critical of Evonne's partner's absence, but grateful for his daughter's hospitality. At night Ernie is afflicted by terrible nightmares which stem from his service in the army, and his night-yelling triggers the neighbour's new mongrel dog Toby to start barking. Toby's bark also wakes up Evonne and Ernie's nearest neighbours, Jimmy (Glenn Hazeldine) and his wife Susie (Maya Stange), who have a young baby. Frustrations between the neighbours begin to mount. Evonne suggests Ernie help them train the dog, but Ernie declines. Ernie's nightmares continue

and Toby continues to bark at night in response, provoking another big confrontation in the street.

Meanwhile, Ernie has begun to cough up blood. Submitting to an examination and x-ray, Ernie is gutted to learn he has cancer, but withholds the terrible news from Evonne. Ernie's nightmares and fearful yelling persist and incite another showdown and Ernie gets into a brutal street fight with Derek. The next morning screams awake the whole neighbourhood when Toby, and Derek's daughter Naomi, (Eliza Toomey) are found convulsing in the front yard. Both have apparently eaten dog bait.

Jimmy offers an antidote in the form of soda water, before the paramedics quickly rush Naomi to hospital. Derek and the rest of the neighbourhood suspect Ernie is responsible for the baiting.

Returning to the clinic for a CT scan the source of Ernie's nightmares is exposed: an incident when he was conducting a search in Vietnam with a service dog. Soon after, Ernie overhears a turbulent situation in Jimmy's house, and when they put their house up for sale his suspicions grow. He suspects Jimmy's quick reaction that saved Naomi's life may be because he set the bait.







## ERNIE DINGO IS ERNIE

A performer enormously respected for his extraordinary versatility, Ernie's talents as an actor, television host, reporter and comedian have made him one of Australia's best known and most loved performers. Having recently starred in the successful feature film *Bran Nue Dae*, he has also recently completed his new television series, *Dingo Makes Tracks*, and been a guest star on the series *Serangoon Road* for ABC TV.

Ernie's first major television role was in *Tudawali* (1987) for which he received an Australian Film Institute Award nomination for Best Actor in a Television Drama. His numerous other television credits include *The Cowra Breakout* (1984), *Dirtwater Dynasty* (1987), *Clowning Around* (1991), *A Waltz Through the Hills* (1987), for which he won an AFI Award for Best Actor in a Television Drama, the comedy series *Fast Forward* (1989), *The Flying Doctors* (1992), *Heartland* (1994) and the lavish Barron Entertainment production of *Kings in Grass Castles* (1996).

Ernie's film credits include *Dead Heart* (1996), *The Fringe Dwellers* (1985), *Crocodile Dundee II* (1987), *Tommy Tricker and the Stamp Traveller* (1987), *Capuccino* (1988), Wim Wenders' *Until the End of the World* (1990) and *Mr Electric* (1993).

Ernie is a passionate advocate for his people and is vigilant about the portrayal of Aborigines in film and television. He has won numerous awards and accolades and in 1997 was declared one of Australia's 100 National Living Treasures. In 1990, Ernie was awarded the General Division of the Order of Australia by Her Majesty the Queen. In 1994, he was voted Aboriginal of the Year by the NAIDOC Committee and Personality of the Year by the Australian Caption Centre. In 2004 he was again recognised for his work when he received the Deadly Award for Outstanding Contribution to Film and Television.





## KATHERINE BECKETT IS EVONNE

With a Diploma in Film and Television Production from North Sydney College, Katherine is an actor, writer and filmmaker. She has worked on many projects including features and short films, music programs, teenage programs, documentary programs, workshops and radio, as well as corporate, multimedia, theatre and community events.

As an actor, Katherine starred in the film clip for Tina Arena's *Entends-tu le Monde?* and performed in *Laugh Out Loud*, an Indigenous comedy night held at Carriageworks in Redfern.

Katherine's filmmaking credits include work on **REDFERN NOW** (Series 1), *Aunty Maggie* and *The Womba Wakgun* directed by mentor Leah Purcell, as well as a traineeship on Deborah Mailman's short film *Ralph*.

Winner of the Ian Bowie Memorial Award and shortlisted for the Yvonne Cohen Award for her solo work-in-progress *Coloured Diggers*, Katherine recently completed 'Step Up', a six-week residency program run through PACT Theatre, where she devised her own ten-minute theatre piece with mentors including Wesley Enoch, Kirk Page, Kyas Sheriff and Lisa Duff. Katherine is also involved in the community projects *Gathering Grounds* through PACT and Redfern Community Centre.



## BRUCE CARTER IS DEREK

With a natural acting ability and a passion for the arts, Bruce's most recent credits include the role of Ares Freeburn in the series *The Gods of Wheat Street* and Derek Jackson in the TV Week Logie Award-winning first series of **REDFERN NOW** both for ABC TV.

Also playing the supporting role of Doug Bern in *The Broken Shore*, directed by Rowan Woods and Jeff in the 2010 feature film *Here I Am*, directed by Beck Cole, he has developed his acting prowess under the tutelage of some of Australia's finest actors and filmmakers including David Field and Wayne Blair.

A Ngarrindjeri/Adnyamathanha man from Murray Bridge, Bruce is a man of many talents, doubling as actor and fourth electric on *The Gods of Wheat Street*.



# KEY CREATIVES

## WAYNE BLAIR WRITER/DIRECTOR: DOGS OF WAR

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

Wayne recently directed the feature film *The Sapphires*, which premiered out of competition at Cannes and was a commercial and critical success. The film was the highest grossing Australian film of 2012 and won eleven AACTA Awards, including Best Film and Best Director.

He has written and directed several acclaimed short films; among them *The Djarn Djarns* which won the Crystal Bear Prize for Best Short in the Kinderfilmfest section of the Berlin International Film Festival and *Black Talk* which won the Dendy Award.

For television, Wayne directed episodes of television series *The Gods of Wheat Street*; sketch comedy *The Elegant Gentleman's Guide to Knifefighting*; and landmark Indigenous series **REDFERN NOW** (Series 1) which won a 2012 TV Week Logie Award. His other directing credits include *Lockie Leonard* (Series 1 and 2) for the Nine Network, *Dead Gorgeous* for the BBC, and *Double Trouble* for Caama Productions. Wayne wrote the episode *1788 of My Place* (Series 2) for ABC TV, an episode of the second series of *Lockie Leonard* and an episode for the second series of *The Circuit*, which won an AWGIE Award for Best Original miniseries.

For theatre, Wayne directed the sell-out season of Brendan Cowell's *Ruben Guthrie* at Belvoir; and *The Removalists*, *The 7 Stages Of Grieving* and *Romeo and Juliet* for STC. Wayne wrote *Bloodland* from a concept by Stephen Page and Kathy Marika for STC; the play toured to Adelaide Festival and Queensland Theatre Company.

## BECK COLE DIRECTOR: POKIES

A writer and director who hails from Alice Springs, Beck Cole is a member of the Warramungu people of Central Australia.

Prior to her 2011 debut feature *Here I Am*, Beck wrote and directed the dramas *Plains Empty* and *Flat*, both of which screened at Sundance Film Festival.

She also wrote and directed the documentaries *Making Samson & Delilah*, *Wirriya: small boy*, *The Lore of Love* and the acclaimed SBS history series *First Australians: the untold story of Australia*.

Beck is currently involved in a number of exciting film and television projects as both writer and director.

## RACHEL PERKINS DIRECTOR: OF STARTING OVER

An independent director and producer, Rachel Perkins' 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*. *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.

Rachel directed two episodes of the critically acclaimed first series of **REDFERN NOW**, receiving the Australian Directors Guild Award for Best Direction in Television Drama for her episode *Pretty Boy Blue*. Previously she directed the celebrated film *Mabo* starring Jimi Bani as Eddie 'Koiki' Mabo, and Deborah Mailman who won the 2013 TV Week Silver Logie for her outstanding portrayal of Bonita Mabo.

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.

Rachel was honoured to receive the inaugural Contribution to Television IF Award at the 2011 Jameson IF Awards.

## LEAH PURCELL DIRECTOR & WRITER: CONSEQUENCES

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*. 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 ABC TV's *Fallen Angels*.

Her feature film credits include *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*, *My Place* and **REDFERN NOW** (series 1) for which she won the AACTA Award for Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama. Along with playing the lead role of Grace in the episode *Family*, she also directed the episode *Sweet Spot*.

Leah was also the recipient of the inaugural Bob Maza Fellowship

award in 2006, as well as being nominated for a Helpmann Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role for her portrayal of Condoleezza Rice in *Stuff Happens*. In 2007 she received the Best Actress Helpmann Award for her performance in *The Story of the Miracles at Cookies Table*. In late 2012 Leah co-wrote, directed and starred in the one-woman bio-play based on the life and times of Dr Ruby Langford-Ginibi, *Don't Take Your Love to Town* for Belvoir St Theatre for which Leah was nominated for Best Actress in a Play at the 2013 Sydney Theatre Awards.

## ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS WRITER & DIRECTOR: WHERE THE HEART IS. DIRECTOR: BABE IN ARMS

Adrian Russell Wills is a filmmaker with a passion for telling stories that challenge the audience, always seeking the unusual and the unique. To entertain is to pack a punch, leaving audiences thinking days later about the world they were taken into. This approach defines his career, which began in 1999 with his award-winning short film *Angels*. From there he went on to study directing at AFTRS, directing short films and short documentaries before making the transition to documentary with the critically acclaimed *Our Bush Wedding* in 2005. The one-hour film screened on SBS as part of the NIDF *Loved Up* series. Adrian continued exploring the documentary form, co-writing and directing *When the Natives Get Restless* (2007), a confronting exploration of racism and disadvantage in Dubbo, NSW.

In 2006, Adrian was chosen as one of thirteen directors to take part in the highly acclaimed Bit of Black Business Drama Initiative through the Australian Film Commission. He also wrote and directed short films *Jackie Jackie*, which screened at Melbourne International Film Festival, Flickerfest and at the Santa Barbara Film Festival, and *Bourke Boy*. *Bourke Boy* was developed through the Screen Australia Indigenous Unit for ABC TV, and screened at local and international film festivals. It was awarded



Best Indigenous Film at St Kilda Film Festival in 2010. That same year Adrian was named by Margaret Pomeranz as one of her ‘top ten filmmakers to watch’ as part of Sydney’s 10x10 Creative. He also had two projects selected to open the 2010 Message Sticks Film Festival: the documentary *Boxing for Palm Island* and the short *Daniel’s 21<sup>st</sup>*.

More recently, Adrian has moved into writing and directing television drama. He has directed an episode of the Network Ten series *Rush*. He also wrote an episode of the first series of **REDFERN NOW**, and was recently one of the directors on the ABC series *The Gods of Wheat Street*.

## 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 television shows of recent history and winner of the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Script.

Jimmy’s other television credits include the 2013 TV Week Logie Awards’ Most Outstanding Drama *Redfern Now*, 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*.

Of working on **REDFERN NOW** Jimmy McGovern said, “I have loved every minute of my involvement in this. It’s one of the most interesting and rewarding things I’ve done in over thirty years of screenwriting.”

## 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 Directors 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 by Hopscotch Films in November 2011.

In 2012, Darren produced, with Miranda Dear, the critically acclaimed film *Mabo* starring Deborah Mailman in a TV Week Silver Logie Award-winning performance as Bonita Mabo and Jimi Bani as Eddie ‘Koiki’ Mabo. Marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the High Court’s historic decision, *Mabo* had a special gala premiere at the 2012 Sydney Film Festival before screening on ABC TV.

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 the groundbreaking drama series **Redfern Now** for ABC TV. The series won the 2013 TV Week Silver Logie Award for Most Outstanding Drama.

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 Television 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 *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*, *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*. 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 produced, with Darren Dale, the critically acclaimed film *Mabo* starring Deborah Mailman in a TV Week Silver Logie Award-winning performance as Bonita Mabo and Jimi Bani as Eddie ‘Koiki’ Mabo. Marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the High Court’s historic decision, *Mabo* had a special gala premiere at the 2012 Sydney Film Festival before screening on ABC TV.

Most recently Miranda produced the groundbreaking drama series *Redfern Now* for ABC TV. The series won the 2013 TV Week Silver Logie Award for Most Outstanding Drama.

## EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (ABC) SALLY RILEY

## EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (SCREEN AUSTRALIA) ERICA GLYNN





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