

# ∞ HIGHLIGHTS



## EMPLOYABLE ME

Tuesday 3 April 8.30pm



## MELBOURNE COMEDY FESTIVAL

Sunday 1 April 8.30pm



## COMEDY UP LATE

Thursday 5 April 10.00pm

# WEEK 14

SUN 1 TO SAT 7 APRIL 2018



## Employable Me

'Employable Me' follows people with neuro-diverse conditions such as autism, OCD and Tourette Syndrome as they search for meaningful employment. This uplifting, warm and insightful series draws on science and experts to uncover people's hidden skills and to match jobseekers to roles that can harness their strengths.

We all deserve a role in society. That's what this show is about: striving to belong and play your part. The series looks beyond first impressions to reveal there's always more than meets the eye. The series follows nine participants as their job searches unfold. Participants are warm, funny and generously open. Each story is told from a character's own perspective and follows their determination. Neuro-psych testing by experts substantiates their skill sets, revealing in some an astounding cognitive brilliance amongst the participants, with job searching resulting in some truly surprising results.

In the first episode of 'Employable Me', cameras follow three young people who aim to prove that having a neurological condition, such as Tourette Syndrome or autism, shouldn't make them unemployable.

Experts draw on science to uncover the hidden skills of neuro-diverse conditions and the results will certainly challenge misconceptions about disability. For example, with a quirky and lovable nature Rohan's autism is apparent, but his neuro-psych testing stops everyone in their tracks with what it reveals.

Tim is also on the Autism Spectrum, which is as wide and varied as the participants of the series are individuals. In contrast to Rohan's engaging personality and sense of humor, Tim has such extreme social anxiety and sensitivities associated with his Autism, he cannot leave the house alone. At age 28 he has never had a job and yet he has extraordinary talents.

We also met Kayla who suffers the rarest form of Tourette Syndrome, demonstrated by her jerking, repetitive body movements and gestures are challenging enough. But it is her uncontrolled outbursts of swearing and inappropriate obscenities, that make searching for a job so challenging. A musician at heart, Kayla is desperate to find someone to give her a chance. Kayla's bravery and determination is revealed.

**Short synopsis**

Meet the extraordinary job seekers who aim to prove that having a neurological condition shouldn't make them unemployable. Follow the job hunting challenges of Kayla who has Tourette Syndrome and Tim and Rohan who are both on the autism spectrum.

**Production details**

Series Narrator, Brooke Satchwell.

**Employable Me** was produced by Northern Pictures and in association with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. It was financed with the assistance of the NSW Department of Family and Community Services, Screen Australia, and Create NSW. Series Director: Cian O'Clery, Series Producer Jenni Wilks, Executive Producers Karina Holden and Sue Clothier. ABC Commissioning Editor, Stephen Oliver, ABC Head of Factual, Steve Bibb.

**Contact**

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**For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



## The Melbourne International Comedy Festival 2018

The ABC is thrilled to be partnering, once again, with the 2018 Melbourne International Comedy Festival (MICF), bringing side-splitting comedy to audiences across Australia on all our broadcast and streaming platforms.

ABC will broadcast the festival's signature events - The Gala, Opening Night Comedy Allstars Supershow, Comedy Up Late, The Great Debate and Upfront – over the next three weeks.

### The Gala – Sunday March 25 at 8.30pm on ABC, ABC iview and simulcast on ABC COMEDY

Australia's premier night of giggles and giving returns to the Palais Theatre in 2018, jam-packed with the finest and funniest performers from the Festival.

As the annual entrée before the Festival feast, *The Gala* is a colossal night on the comedy calendar and features a star-studded line up of local and international artists and will be hosted by Matt Okine.

Artists donate their time for this super-sized special event, and through the generosity of those on stage and those in the audience and watching at home, *The Gala* supports the life-changing work of Oxfam tackling poverty worldwide. The generosity of both performers and punters is what brings this special event to life, so join in on the laughs!

### Opening Night Comedy Allstar Supershow – Sunday April 1 at 8.30pm on ABC, ABC iview and simulcast on ABC COMEDY

Lavish, loud and full of laughs, this one-night-only mega-show features Festival legends, the brightest new stars and lots of sure-fire favourites.

Filmed from Melbourne's Palais Theatre, the *Allstars Supershow* is the ultimate first course of funny, showcasing the unbelievable, unabashed and undeniably brilliant performers who will be performing the Festival.

#### Short synopsis

##### The Gala

A colossal night on the comedy calendar, The Gala features a star-studded line up of local and international artists. Hosted by Matt Okine, each performer shares 5 minutes of their best material.

##### Allstars Supershow

Filmed from Melbourne's Palais Theatre, this one-night-only mega-show features Festival legends, the brightest new stars and lots of sure-fire favourites.

#### Production details

An ABC Television Production

#### Contact

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## Joanna And Jennifer: Absolutely Champers

A tippie-tastic travel show, with sparkling champagne and conversation from comic legends Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley.

*Absolutely Fabulous* stars Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley share 25 years of friendship and comedy history. Now these two funny ladies are reuniting on screen to take a trip that would make their alter egos Eddie and Patsy green with envy.

The two head to the Champagne region of France to find out how their favourite glass of fizz is made. They visit a range of beautiful vineyards, from boutique to Bollinger, and share memories, jokes and one or two bottles of champers. Cheers sweetie!

### Short synopsis

Ab Fab stars Jennifer Saunders & Joanna Lumley share 25 years of friendship. In this tippie-tastic travel show the two funny ladies head to the Champagne region of France to find out how their favourite glass of fizz is made.

### Production Details

Producer/Director • Will Yapp (*When Louis Met...*) • Executive Producer • Rachel Arnold (*Junior Doctors*).

### Contact

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**For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



## Maigret's Dead Man

Based on the novels by Georges Simenon, *Maigret's Dead Man* is a stand-alone dramatic film featuring the legendary French fictional detective Jules Maigret, played by the globally-renowned actor Rowan Atkinson.

In *Maigret's Dead Man*, a series of vicious, murderous attacks on three wealthy farms in Picardy hit the national headlines and the elite Brigade Criminelle at the Quay Des Orfevres is called upon to lend its expertise in tracking down the brutal gang responsible for the slaughter. However, Maigret is resolute in investigating the murder of an obscure anonymous Parisian. An investigation that ultimately solves both crimes.

Also stars Ian Puleston-Davies (*Marcella*, *Coronation Street*), Aiden McCardle (*Mr Selfridge*, *The Mill*), Shaun Dingwall (*Silent Witness*, *Death In Paradise*), Lucy Cohu (*Broadchurch*), Leo Starr (*Call The Midwife*, *Lewis*) and Hugh Simon (*The Mill*, *MI-5*).

### Short synopsis

The Brigade Criminelle investigate a series of murderous attacks on three farms. However, Maigret is resolute in investigating the murder of an obscure anonymous Parisian. An investigation that ultimately solves both crimes.

### Production details

Adapted by Stewart Harcourt. Director: Ashley Pearce. Producer: Jeremy Gwilt. Executive Producers: Barnaby Thompson, Ben Lathan-Jones, John Simenon and Stewart Harcourt. A Maigret Productions/Ealing Studios production for ITV.

### Contact

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**For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Full series available these school holidays  
Anytime on iview from March 29 to April 28



## ME Best Fest

ME Best Fest is back on ABC iview this school holiday with more fun and adventure from your favourite ABC ME animations.

### **The Wild Adventures of Blinky Bill (1) - Premiere episodes**

Armed with a knack for mischief and an unstoppable imagination, Blinky Bill and his best mate Jacko are taking on the outback! These kids can turn even the simplest challenges into epic adventures.

### **Sailor Moon Crystal (series 1)**

Usagi Tsukino is chosen to be a guardian of justice and is sent on a quest to locate a Silver Crystal before the Dark Kingdom invades the Earth.

### **The Deep (series 1)**

Based on the award winning Australian graphic novels, The Deep follows the adventures of the Nekton family, a brilliant team of underwater explorers, travelling the globe in their submarine home, The Arronax.

### **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (series 1, 2 & 3)**

Four ninja turtles, mutated by a mysterious alien substance, must rise up out of the sewers and defend their city against evil forces from both the past and present.

### **Winston Steinburger And Sir Dudley Ding Dong (series 1)**

Winston Steinburger & Sir Dudley Ding Dong is a fast-paced, high-energy animated comedy that follows the intergalactic exploits of Winston Steinburger, his cat Dudley & a high-strung alien named Hampton - three unlikely amigos.

Titles also include; **Dennis And Gnasher Unleashed** (series 1), **Detentionaire** (series 1 & 2), **Flamin Thongs** (series 1), **Get Blake** (Series 1), **Sally Bollywood** (series 1 & 2), **Shezow** (series 1 & 2) and **The Day My Butt Went Psycho!** (series 1).

### **Contact**

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## Sando

Sando lies to her CFO and corporate rival Tony that Susie is re-joining the company, while Eric begs to join the company legitimately. Susie, meanwhile, presents Sando with her packed bags – time to go. Sando counters with a pitch on the importance for Rian of having a grandmother.

Eric successfully applies for a sales job at a Sando's Warehouse outlet, the storeowner convinced Eric's surname is a bet he can't lose. But Eric's highly idiosyncratic deal-making compromises his privy position and he must pull in the big guns to survive.

Sando catches Don and Nicky getting it on and, realising Susie doesn't know, offers them a deal to keep quiet, rigging a family vote to prevent herself getting turfed out of the house. Susie counters with an announcement she wants a divorce (of herself from Sando), which Gary misreads, threatening a relapse of his secret childhood-trauma-related addiction to skinny-dipping.

Sando rocks up to 'Grandma Day' at Rian's school to find Susie has already enlisted Nicky to the position (part of Susie's plan to divorce Sando). Gary's discovery that Susie is adopting Nicky as her new mum finally tips him over the abyss back into uncontrollable skinny dipping - until Don comes to the rescue, confessing to Gary that Don's affair with Nicky is an addiction of its own, and undertaking to become Gary's sponsor.

Sando rescues the Sando's Warehouse outlet that's been near-ruined by Eric's 'below cost' deal-making, by advising the owner to stage an 'accidental' insurance fire. Just as Susie announces she's quitting the divorce proceedings for the mental health of Gary, and, without realising it, in the process has helped keep Don and Nicky's affair a secret.

### Short synopsis

Eric gets a job at Sando's Warehouse, but fails to live up to the family name, leaving Sando to clean up the mess. Sando rigs a family vote and Susie quits divorce proceedings in time to keep an important secret, secret.

### Production details

A Jungle Entertainment production for the ABC. Principal production investment from Screen Australia and ABC in association with Create NSW. Created by Phil Lloyd and Charlie Garber. Producer Chloe Rickard. Directed by the Van Vuuren Bros. and Erin White. Executive Producers Jason Burrows and Phil Lloyd. ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Andrew Gregory.

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**For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



## Comedy Up Late

Hosted by Susie Youssef, **Comedy Up Late** returns to the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. A super-sized line-up of special guest comedians bring the killer vibe of being in a comedy club into the comfort of your loungeroom.

Shot at Max Watt's, the home of the Festival Club, see the best breakthrough performers in the Festival strut their stuff.

Past performers including Michael Che, Josh Thomas, Urzila Carlson, Sammy J & Randy, Trevor Noah, Auntie Donna and Anne Edmonds have gone on to become huge stars, and you never know who could be next!

### Short synopsis

Shot at Max Watts, the home of the Festival Club, this hilarious 11-part series features some of the best breakthrough performers in the Festival strut their stuff. This year's host is Susie Youssef.

### Production details

An ABC Television Production

### Contact

Amy Reiha on (02) 8333 852 or [reiha.amy@abc.net.au](mailto:reiha.amy@abc.net.au)

**Program not yet available for preview.  
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



## Harrow

Fern sells party drugs at a devil-themed party, in order to pay off Callan's debt to a drug dealer. But it's a bad batch; one young woman's hallucinations are so potent that she throws herself off the balcony to her death. At the same time, another young woman, Xantia, is murdered in an inner-city parkland. The two deaths will prove to be connected in an unexpected way.

Harrow attends the rave scene with Dass and conducts an on-the-spot internal autopsy of the woman who fell to her death. It's unauthorised, but if he can find traces of the contaminated drugs, it may save another young woman who took the drugs and is now in hospital in a critical condition. But he comes up short.

Meanwhile, Harrow's car is identified amongst the social media uploads from the party; Fern had 'borrowed' it. Detective Jillian McCloud, from the drug squad – who has a long-held grudge against Harrow – flags Fern as a suspect.

Harrow finds a brief respite from his parental anxiety when Dass visits him on his houseboat.

Meanwhile, fortune seems to smile on Harrow when Pavich orders the river bones be cremated. It's his chance to break the chain of evidence and put the case behind him. But a new analysis from Fairley prompts Dass to recalibrate the time-of-death window on their John Doe to within the last twelve months. CAST: Ioan Gruffudd, Ella Newton, Mirrah Foulkes.

### Short synopsis

Harrow comes to Fern's aid after she unwittingly sells deadly party drugs, leaving a young woman dead and others hospitalised.

### Production details

A Hoodlum Entertainment production for ABC TV (Australia) and ABC Studios International. Co-created by writer Stephen M. Irwin and producer Leigh McGrath. Produced by Stephen M. Irwin, Leigh McGrath, Tracey Robertson and Nathan Mayfield. ABC Executive Producers: Sally Riley, Alastair McKinnon and Que Minh Luu.

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**For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**

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Amy Reiha	<a href="mailto:Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au">Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au</a>	Tonightly with Tom Ballard, Back Roads, The Checkout, The New Legends of Monkey, My Year 7 Life, Play School

## Melbourne

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