



Launching Thursday, September 17 on ABC iview

ABC iview is pleased to announce that the **Fresh Blood Pilot Season** will be launching from Thursday September 17th. *Fresh Blood* is an ABC TV and Screen Australia initiative, created in 2013 to kick start the careers of young comedy writers, directors and performers.

After considered deliberation, five comedy teams have been chosen from the 24 teams that delivered over 70 sketches in the first phase of *Fresh Blood* that screened on iview last year. One of the five pilots showcased during this season will be given the opportunity to produce their own series for ABC iview.

In the running are five very different comedy pilots, created by seriously impressive, young, Australian comedy talents. They are:

- **The Record**
- **Fancy Boy**
- **Aunty Donna**
- **BedHead**
- **Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am.**

Production credits: Screen Australia's Interactive and Multi-Platform Investment Manager: Mike Cowap. Head of Entertainment: Jon Casimir.

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THE RECORD



The Record is a black comedy that looks at the relationships between different couples, all of whom strive to achieve a world record. For some it's their greatest achievement, for others a source of shame, but all are desperate to be recognised and remembered throughout history. None of them can deny the profound impact a World Record has had on changing their lives and those they leave in their wake. Every couple has unique motivations exposing their vulnerabilities, determination and insecurities.

The pilot episode focuses on Pim and Frank Belami, a mid 40s Australian married couple attempting the record for 'World's Largest

Biological Family', and Bob and Judy Lumley an elderly English couple, striving to take the title of 'World's Fastest Homing Pigeon'.

The Belami's will stop at nothing to continue procreating to achieve the birth of their 70th biological child, but in doing so risk destroying their relationship. While the Lumley's look to the distant sky for the speedy return of their winning pigeon but encounter unexpected problems closer to home.

Production details: Written by and starring Veronica Milsom and Steen Raskopoulos. Created by Veronica Milsom. Directed by: Cate Stewart. Produced by: Linda Micsko and Sylvia Warmer.

FANCY BOY

Rooted in dark perspectives and a uniquely bold premise, the five interwoven sketches in **Fancy Boy** are based in pithy and unapologetic situations set-up by the disturbed minds of a distinctive new comedy collective, who explore the following scenarios:

- A man is forced to confront the conundrum of what to do when he suspects his housemate Jonathan of shitting in the sink, despite Jonathan's claiming a mysterious burglar did it.
- An immigration officer's warm personality takes a turn when he decides the African albino he helped into the country has magical bones he wants to steal by any means necessary.
- A man regrets his attempt to get out of a post-party clean-up by hiring an affectionate sex slave from Gumtree, who his wife takes a liking to.
- A probing exploration of the people, events and sexually deranged motives that led to the death of John Lennon.
- Despite having no backyard, a washed-up country singer attempts to revive her career on a low-budget gardening show while taking advantage of the overly-patient host.



Fancy Boy comes from the team that brought you the cult web series *Dayne's World* and won the prestigious Golden Gibbo at the 2014 Melbourne International Comedy Festival. The pilot features a rotating cast of some of Australia's best young comedians including, Celia Pacquola, Ronny Chieng Luke McGregor, Anne Edmonds and Greg Larsen.

Written by John Campbell, Mark Conway, Greg Larsen and Mike Nayna. Directed by John Campbell and Mike Nayna. Produced by: Mark Conway

AUNTY DONNA



Aunty Donna is a narrative-to-sketch series following the fantastic and surreal lives of sketch troupe Aunty Donna. The series merges two different worlds: a day-to-day narrative following the three dysfunctional, unsuccessful sketch men, and the heightened, fantastical world of sketch.

When sketch troupe Aunty Donna are rocked by the sudden departure of their most popular member, Adrian, the three leftover duds, Mark, Zac and Broden must prove to their agent, their fans and themselves that they can make it as a trio.

First stop – they have to bare the news to their ferocious manager, Patsy (Sally-Ann Upton). Patsy is furious. She believes that Aunty Donna without the most talented and popular Adrian is useless. However, she reminds them, they have a gig that very night, so they have to think of a solution quick smart.

Mark, Zac and Broden host a crisis meeting in a trendy café. Broden, the controlling, deeply insecure, self-appointed leader, decided it's time to break up. The three split up to follow their own individual dreams.

But when Broden runs into his old high school crush Tara (Miranda Tapsell), she reveals that she can't wait to see his sketch show. Broden is stuck, to impress Tara; he has to get the group back to perform the gig on that night.

The gig arrives, Broden has rounded up Aunty Donna, and they plan to go on stage. But without Adrian, and discovering the passive aggressive, hugely popular nemesis; stand up comedian Dave (Dave Thornton) on stage just before them, is there any way they can succeed? Do they even have a sketch without Adrian in it? Can Broden impress Tara? Will Aunty Donna prove to their agent, their fans and most importantly, themselves, they can make it as a trio?

Its dark, it's silly, it's hysterically absurd, it's **Aunty Donna**.

Written by and starring Mark Samuel Bonanno, Broden Kelly and Zachary Ruane. Written by Sam Lingham. Directed by Max Miller. Produced by Nel Minchin.

BEDHEAD

Nick (Paul Ayre) and Sophie (Sarah Bishop) are two best friends who sleep together and agree it definitely (probably) doesn't mean anything. **BedHead** takes a cheeky peek under the sheets at the horrendously awkward and embarrassing things we get up to in the pursuit of love and sex.

Nick's uneventful life is rocked by news his best friend Sophie has broken up with her boyfriend in London, booked a flight home to Australia, and needs a place to stay. Luckily Nick has a spare room. After a night drinking homebrew and playing drinking games, Nick and Sophie end up in bed together, where the sex doesn't go well at all...



Out for drinks the following night, Sophie and Nick try to act cool around each other, but there is no denying it; things are awkward between them. Sophie tries to smooth things over by reassuring Nick that the sex didn't mean

anything and that they should just go back to being friends. Nick reluctantly agrees. Sophie's straight-talking, no-nonsense older sister Julia (Genevieve Hegney), warns Sophie to SHUT IT DOWN, while Nick's friend Teddy (Mark Winter) urges him to tell Sophie how he feels.

Things are further complicated with the unexpected arrival of Daisy (Ainslie Clouston), Nick's work colleague, who harbours a thinly veiled obsession with him. When Daisy propositions Nick at the end of the night, he asks Sophie for advice. Conflicted, she nonetheless tells her friend to go for it. Daisy wastes no time dragging Nick off to their boss's office to act out her fantasy.

Meanwhile back at the bar Sophie's make-out session with resident playboy Harry (Andrew Steel), is interrupted when she gets an unexpected call from Nick.

Created, written and produced by Claire Phillips, Benjamin Mathews, Tom Keele and Jon Dalgaard. Directed by Benjamin Mathews.

WHAM BAM THANK YOU MA'AM

Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am is a twisted sketch comedy, created from a uniquely female perspective. Using a variety of formats including sketches, vignettes and animations, **Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am** sets a tone of rapid fast flowing comedy that packs a punch.



The show begins with a steamy *Valley of the Dolls* inspired sketch called *Pillow Fight* - featuring three 1960's mod babes who engage in a girly and giggly pillow fight, but after one over-enthusiastic hit to the head, things quickly escalate. Then two estranged uni friends catch up and try to outdo each other in their respective life achievements, whilst maintaining the typical 'frenemy' smile in *Girls One Upping*. We meet our *Junkies* - a recurring parody of the sitcom *Friends* featuring our tragically addicted young 20 something's who live in an amazing inner city apartment but still can't seem to feed themselves.

We continue on to watch almost Tinder-like dating go wrong in the eyes of three Victorian era ladies, desperate to find love and marriage in a world filled with bonnets, lutes and romance in the sketches *Old Fashioned Dating*. Our *Serial Killer Fan* goes deep into the horror genre where we meet Pam, who seems to be a hapless victim of Bob the Butcher, but it soon appears the tables might be turned. And we explore what sexual discrimination might be like in the police force, if it were run by women in *New Recruit*.

These sketches are interspersed with quick little interstitials, namely *Bitches Be Cray* which offers insights into the domestic life of modern girlfriends, bewildering boyfriends everywhere with their crazy logic, *Just Like My Dad* - vignettes that catch glimpses of a girl with severe 'daddy issues,' demanding the world from everyone she meets in the most bizarre way, and our animations which explore and re-imagine common and historical depictions of women.

Created, written and directed by Adele Vuko, Sarah Bishop and Greta Lee Jackson. Produced by Michelle Hardy.