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Shaun Micallef's new comedy series commences filming

The Ex-PM, a six-part half hour comedy series created, written by and starring one of Australia's favourite comedians, Shaun Micallef, commences filming in Melbourne today.

As our third longest-serving Prime Minister, Andrew Dugdale (Shaun Micallef) was a man who mattered. He dined with Presidents and Kings, hosted world summits and changed the lives of millions of his fellow Australians. But now he's retired, this not-so-elder statesman has far too much time on his hands and no-one to waste it on.

A fabulous ensemble cast joins Micallef including Nikki Wendt, Kate Jenkinson, Lucy Honigman, Nicholas Bell, Francis Greenslade, Jackson Tozer, Ming-Zhu Hii and comedy veteran, John Clarke. Sian Davies (*Offspring, Mr & Mrs Murder*) will direct. Nick Murray (*House of Hancock, Stupid Stupid Man*) produces for CJZ.

Nick Murray says, "I can't wait to start shooting **The Ex-PM**. It's a rare pleasure with such a great cast and Shaun's scripts are wonderful."

Shaun Micallef says "I am very much looking forward to stepping in front of the cameras for my new series **The Ex-PM**. Hopefully they will be switched on".

After blowing the advance for his memoirs but writing nothing in return, Dugdale has to accept a ghostwriter, Ellen (Lucy Honigman), into his dysfunctional household (one that includes a wife in name only, a grown-up daughter with father issues – plus her son, a bodyguard who watches too much Person Of Interest on his iPhone, a PA who knows where all the bodies are buried, a chauffeur with a metal plate in his head and a heart of gold - and a cook on a 457 Visa).

So begins a comic tango between truth and spin as Ellen and Dugdale take to the dance floor. A tale of redemption somewhere between *House of Cards* and *One Foot in the Grave*.

Said ABC Head of Comedy Rick Kalowski, "Not too sure who this Micallef kid is, but we'll give anyone a go at the ABC."

The Ex-PM is a CJZ Production in association with ABC TV and Film Victoria. It will air on ABC later this year.

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