



Sun December 4  
to Sat December 10  
2016

# Week 50 Highlights



## Joanna Lumley's Japan

Series Premieres Sunday 4 December 7.40pm



## Glenn Murcutt: Spirit of Place

Premieres Tuesday 6 December 9.30pm



## Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am

Thurs 8 Dec 9.30pm (binge on iview)



## Fancy Boy

Thurs 8 Dec 10.00pm (binge on iview)





## Joanna Lumley's Japan

In episode one of this three-part series, Joanna starts her 2000-mile journey across Japan in Hokkaido – one of the four main islands, where she travels to meet one of the most important animals in Japanese culture, the red-crowned cranes.

Leaving the countryside behind her, Joanna heads to Sapporo her first Japanese city. She arrives during the middle of the annual Snow Festival, and meets members of the local indigenous community, the Ainu. Travelling south she visits a brewery that has been making sake since 1689 and walks to see one of the oldest Pagodas in Japan, dating back to the 10th century and constructed entirely out of wood with no nails.



Joanna travels into the Fukushima exclusion zone, where a huge tsunami devastated the nuclear power plant in 2011. She visits Jigokudani Onsen which is not full of people.... but Japanese Macaques or snow monkeys. Over 150 of them come down from the frozen mountains every morning and spend most of the day enjoying the steaming hot waters. Joanna takes a Shinkansen (bullet train) from Nagano to Tokyo, the capital of Japan and world's largest metropolis; where it's time to embrace the modern metropolis of Japan's post war economic boom.

### Short synopsis

In episode one of this three-part series, Joanna starts her 2000-mile journey across Japan in Hokkaido where she travels to meet one of Japan's famous red-crowned cranes.

### Production details

A Burning Bright production

### Contact

Safia van der Zwan on 02 8333 3846 or [vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au](mailto:vanderzwan.safia@abc.net.au)

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



## Glenn Murcutt: Spirit Of Place

**Glenn Murcutt: Spirit of Place** explores the life and work of Australia's most famous living architect. Murcutt's extraordinary international reputation rests on the beauty and integrity of his work.

With a swag of international awards (including the prestigious Pritzker Prize) Murcutt has literally put Australian architecture on the world map. And yet, by choice, he has never built outside his own country. Murcutt's focus instead has been the creation of energy-efficient masterpieces perfectly suited to their environment and his breakthrough designs have influenced architects around the world.



This documentary follows Glenn Murcutt, now 80 years old, as he designs his most ambitious project to date – a mosque for an Islamic community in Melbourne.

As Glenn said at the outset, *"Some people have said I am only good at houses. Well time will tell whether my ability in larger scale work can match some of the quality that I have tried to achieve in the smaller scale work. It is my view that the mosque will be a very significant building for me."*

### Short synopsis

Glenn Murcutt: Spirit of Place explores the life and work of Australia's most famous living architect. Murcutt's extraordinary international reputation rests on the beauty and integrity of his work.

### Production details

Catherine Hunter Production. Director and Producer Catherine Hunter. Producer Julia Overton. ABC Executive Producer Mandy Chang.

### Contact

Yasmin Kentera on 03 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 or [kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au](mailto:kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au)

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



## Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am

Joint winners of the Fresh Blood initiative - **Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am** is a sketch comedy with a twisted and unique female skew from Skit Box - the creators of the viral sensation "Activewear". It's an outrageous series made by women and is all about women. The show is a fun and twisted cavalcade of sketch, music video and narrative comedy that highlights and flips commonly accepted social constructs around women, men and society.



Wham Bam is heavily enmeshed in comedically dissecting what we all think are 'common' problems that women encounter - from sexism in film and media, to how to break through the glass ceiling, dealing with awkward but routine bodily functions, the pay gap, the thigh gap, the Kate Moss tooth gap. (Saah hot!)

The show also plays with very specific characters that are based on commonly accepted female archetypes and not so commonly accepted ones! From a semi sociopathic wellness blogger spewing health and spiritual wellbeing, one passive aggressive YouTube video at a time to two rich old South African women who argue about quantum mechanics. Three single, misogynistic men living in a hilarious sitcom world where they can treat women however they want with no repercussions and all to the tune of a plucky laugh track, a socially inept woman who literally smoke bombs herself out of any awkward situation she puts herself in and many more.

The series swings between the absurd, the satirical, the slapstick and the parody. Each episode delves into various genres of film, music and tv - from sitcom, to fly on the wall doco, to sci fi fantasy, horror and gangsta rap. And because the internet and social media is kind of a big deal, we play with various formats here too - a glitchy skype call that goes horribly wrong, a pop song all about the severe importance of the insti filter and how to tastefully post a bronzed up selfie.

### Short synopsis

Superheroines botch up a battle, girly chit chat in a Ladies Room, A wellness blogger films at a local park, Australia's first male police officer suffers sexism on his first day at work and a hard hitting rap song all about 'That Flow'.

### Production details

Skitbox Pty Ltd in association with Hardy White Pictures and Sticky Pictures. Written, Directed and Starring Sarah Bishop, Greta Jackson and Adele Vuko. Producer Michelle Hardy. Executive Producer Donna Andrews.

### Contact

Yasmin Kentera on 03 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 or [kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au](mailto:kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au)

**Not yet available for preview.**  
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## Fancy Boy

Joint winners of the Fresh Blood initiative, **Fancy Boy** is a new six-part sketch comedy show that swings between the moody and downright dark. It's an itch that starts out small, but quickly becomes a weeping sore and soon there's not enough anti-fungal cream to go around.

Each episode is an interweaving narrative following twisted characters into the stranger corners of suburbia; like the couple whose communication breakdown leads to a kidnap, or the mum who can't accept her missing child, mainly because he's returned with a full beard and a foreign accent.



In an age when television programs love telling you how to live your life, **Fancy Boy** shows you exactly how not to live. It's about people making dubious decisions, then doubling down on those decisions, and never admitting they were wrong. There's the single issue politician whose lifelong dream is to raise the legal age of buggery to 25, or the artist who loses everything over his obsession with finding the perfect fart sound, or the family who find a body floating in their pool, but decide he's already dead, and it's bloody hot, so why not push it the down the deep end and keep swimming in the pool?

**Fancy Boy** introduces five fresh faces to sketch comedy (actually they're not that fresh, in fact some of them look quite unwell), John Campbell, Stuart Daulman, Henry Stone, Jonathan Schuster and Greg Larsen. And for this series they're joined by award-winning comedian Anne Edmonds.

*Guest stars: Ronny Chieng, Anna McGahan, Jack Charles, George Kapiniaris, Gerry Connolly.*

### Short synopsis

A single-issue political candidate wants to rise the legal age of buggery to 25. An American tourist walks into the wrong country pub. And a young racist faces her fears in a kabab shop.

### Production details

A December Media production in association with Checkpoint Media and Fancy Boy TV. Producer Nicole Minchin. Series Producer Declan Fay. Executive Producer Stuart Menzies. ABC Executive Producer Tarni James.

### Contact

Yasmin Kentera on 03 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 or [kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au](mailto:kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au)

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## Sunday Best: Citizenfour

Screening as part of the SUNDAY BEST, the ABC2 season of feature length documentaries, **Citizenfour** is a real-life thriller, unfolding by the minute, giving audiences unprecedented access to filmmaker Laura Poitras and journalist Glenn Greenwald's encounters with Edward Snowden in Hong Kong, as he hands over classified documents providing evidence of mass indiscriminate and illegal invasions of privacy by the National Security Agency (NSA).

Poitras had already been working on a film about surveillance for two years when Snowden contacted her, using the name 'CITIZENFOUR,' in January 2013. He reached out to her because he knew she had long been a target of government surveillance, stopped at airports numerous times, and had refused to be intimidated. When Snowden revealed he was a high-level analyst driven to expose the massive surveillance of Americans by the NSA, Poitras persuaded him to let her film.

**Citizenfour** places you in the room with Poitras, Greenwald, and Snowden as they attempt to manage the media storm raging outside, forced to make quick decisions that will impact their lives and all of those around them.

**Citizenfour** not only shows you the dangers of governmental surveillance—it makes you feel them. After seeing the film, you will never think the same way about your phone, email, credit card, web browser, or profile, ever again.

### Short synopsis

A real-life thriller where the documentary filmmakers get unprecedented access to Edward Snowden as he hands over classified documents providing evidence of mass invasions of privacy by the National Security Agency (NSA).

### Production details

Director: Laura Poitras. **Citizenfour** is a Praxis Films production.

### Contact

Bridget Stenhouse on (02) 8333 3847 or [stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au](mailto:stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au)

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



## **Back Roads**

Heather Ewart joins mobile hairdresser Lyn Westbury and her former-client turned apprentice Fil Stewart on a ten-day road trip from their home town of Innisfail to Normanton in Queensland's Gulf country.

Lyn has been cutting hair in Queensland's outback for 13 years, after she became aware that many salons in country towns were closing their doors.

With their 4WD crammed with shampoo, conditioner and colour, as well as deck chairs and a long mirror, Lyn and Fil hit the road travelling through tiny towns like Forsayth, Mt Surprise and Croydon; places most Australians have never heard of.

Heather discovers that Lyn and Fil are driven by a desire to help others, and giving up the comforts of home is a small price to pay. Heading bush for them is all about adventure and friendship.

### **#BackRoads**

### **Short synopsis**

Heather Ewart joins a big-hearted hairdresser and her 76-year-old apprentice on a ten-day road-trip from their home town of Innisfail to Normanton in Queensland's Gulf country.

### **Production details**

Executive Producer: Brigid Donovan. Supervising Producer: Kerri Ritchie. Field Producers: Karen Micheltore and Lisa Whitehead.

### **Contact**

Kim Bassett on 03 9524 2580/0409 600 456 or [bassett.kim@abc.net.au](mailto:bassett.kim@abc.net.au)

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



## Simply Nigella

Relaxed, inspiring and as mouth-watering as ever, Nigella Lawson's latest seven-part series shows us that what - and how - we cook can make us feel better and more alive.

Packed with new recipes and tips designed to make our lives easier, Nigella proves that whatever the occasion, food, in the eating and the making, should always be pleasurable. From energy-boosting breakfasts and satisfyingly simple suppers, to fuss-free ideas for feeding a crowd and 'bowl food' to nourish and uplift, every episode is full of irresistibly easy recipes to help create some breathing space after a busy working day, or unwind with friends and family at the weekend.

This episode is all about dishes that marry the comfort of the familiar with the freshness of the new, like Nigella's grown-up take on a family favourite - fluffy oat pancakes with a raspberry and honey syrup.

For a fun lunch, there's a riff on the classic Caesar salad. A casual supper with friends sees Nigella serving a Greek inspired feast of squid and orzo pasta, complete with the Greek dessert of 'old rag pie' – a sweet and savoury twist on a cheesecake.

And finally, Nigella's take on a rice bowl with ginger, radish and avocado celebrates a few but choice ingredients, making the result a dish that's calming and uplifting to look at, as well as to eat.

### Short synopsis

This episode is all about dishes that marry the comfort of the familiar with the freshness of the new, like Nigella's fluffy oat pancakes, a riff on the classic Caesar salad, and the Greek dessert of 'old rag pie'.

### Production details

A BBC Production/Pabulum Production.

### Contact

Amy Reiha on 02 8333 3874 or [Reiha.amy@abc.net.au](mailto:Reiha.amy@abc.net.au)

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





## **Rick Stein: From Venice To Istanbul**

Capturing the flavour of an ancient empire, chef Rick Stein embarks on a memorable odyssey through Italy, Croatia, Albania, Greece and Turkey during this new seven-part series.

Exploring the culinary legacy of the legendary Byzantine Empire, Rick uncovers its little-known history and cuisine, and relishes the food that many people associate with holidays in the eastern Mediterranean and the Adriatic – healthy, light, tasty dishes that go so well with sunshine, remote islands, chilled wine and clear, aquamarine seas.

Rick's culinary odyssey begins in Venice, a place that played a major role at both ends of Byzantine history and his travels twist and turn past the shorelines of the Adriatic, Ionian and Aegean seas. Continuing through the stunning mountains of Croatia, Albania and Greece, down to the Peloponnese, and through western Turkey, he concludes his journey in Istanbul, formerly known as the city of Byzantium and gateway to the flavours of the Middle East. Along the way he visits local markets, cafés, restaurant kitchens and people's homes to show how their evocative dishes have developed over thousands of years.

Rick Stein continues his Byzantine odyssey through Croatia and savours the famous native oysters of Ston. He then crosses the border to Albania, a country loved by Lord Byron. Together with his son Jack, they travel through a land that time forgot visiting shepherds in remote mountain expanses and meeting the country's ground breaking chefs. In his own kitchen on the Greek island of Symi, Rick cooks traditional Albanian dishes like Lepur Comlek and Tave Kosi.

### **Short synopsis**

Rick Stein continues through Croatia and savours the famous native oysters of Ston. He then travels to Albania, and with his son Jack, visits shepherds in remote mountain expanses and meet the country's ground breaking chefs.

### **Production details**

Producer/Director: David Pritchard, Executive Producer: Grace Kitto, Associate Producer: Arezoo Farahzad. A Denham production.

### **Contact**

Amy Reiha on (02) 8333 3852 or [reiha.amy@abc.net.au](mailto:reiha.amy@abc.net.au)

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



## Good Game

Will Santa bring the gift of a good game?

Find out on the **Good Game Christmas Special**, screening Tuesday 6th December at 8.30pm on ABC2.

Good Game's last show of the year will see hosts Bajo (Steven O'Donnell) and Hex (Stephanie Bendixsen) reveal their thoughts on the deluge of new games that get released in time for Christmas.

The team will also be handing out the prestigious Good Game Award for the best (and worst) game of 2016 as decided by Bajo and Hex in consultation with our game loving audience.

Nichboy (Nich Richardson) host of Good Game's daily show Pocket will be sharing his highlights of the year and Goose (Gus Ronald) will be educating time poor gamers about maximizing their playtime.

### Short synopsis

Good Game's last show of the year will see hosts Bajo (Steven O'Donnell) and Hex (Stephanie Bendixsen) reveal their thoughts on the deluge of new games that get released in time for Christmas.

### Production details

An ABC TV production. Executive Producer Janet Carr.

### Contact

Bridget Stenhouse on (02) 8333 3847 or [stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au](mailto:stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au)

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



## Hard Quiz

Comedian Tom Gleeson wants to find the expertiest expert in the quiz show where the laughs matter almost as much as the facts. Which know-all really knows it all and which know-nothings don't? Competing for the Big Brass Mug tonight are J. R. R. Tolkien fan Angie, Elton John expert Sebastian, Renaissance art expert David and Frasier superfan Mac.

#HardQuiz

### Short synopsis

Tom Gleeson hosts the quiz show where the laughs matter almost as much as the facts. Battling it out tonight: J. R. R. Tolkien fan Angie, Elton John expert Sebastian, Renaissance art expert David and Frasier superfan Mac.

### Production details

A Thinkative TV production. Exec Producer: Chris Walker. Producers: Kevin Whyte, Charlie Pickering, Tom Gleeson. Series Producer: John Tabbagh. ABC Executive Producer Tarni James.

### Contact

Tracey Taylor on 03 8646 2313 / 0419 528 213 or [taylor.tracey@abc.net.au](mailto:taylor.tracey@abc.net.au)

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## Please Like Me

While Josh is out at a pub with Tom and Ella, he is thrilled by the unexpected arrival of his first love, Geoffrey, who promptly joins them all back at their house for a midnight feast.

As they reconnect, Josh is shocked to discover that Geoffrey has learnt a few new tricks that aren't entirely within his comfort zone.

Ella has convinced herself that she has breast cancer, and her trip to see a doctor with Tom is filled with tension. When the doctor turns out to be an absolute dreamboat, the tension between Ella and Tom reaches a whole new level.

Hannah meets up with her ex-girlfriend, Kyah, who has tracked her down and wants to get back together. Despite her misgivings, Hannah takes Kyah back to the caravan she's now living in and as they confront their past, they dare to talk about a future.

Meanwhile, Dad throws himself wholeheartedly into a new diet, and Josh receives a shock.

### Short synopsis

Josh reconnects with his first boyfriend, Geoffrey, who shows Josh some surprising new tricks. As Dad gets excited about a low-carb diet, Ella has a health scare which leads to a check-up from an extremely hot doctor, which makes Tom jealous.

### Production details

Written by Josh Thomas, Thomas Ward and Liz Doran, with additional writing by Hannah Gadsby. Directed by Josh Thomas and Matthew Saville. Produced by Todd Abbott and Lisa Wang. Executive Producers: Todd Abbott, Josh Thomas and Kevin Whyte. Executive Producers for the ABC: Rick Kalowski and Brett Sleigh. Executive Producers for Participant Media: Jeff Skoll, Belisa Balaban and Chris Loveall. *Please Like Me* is a Pigeon Fancier and John & Josh International Production of a Participant Media Original Series in association with ABC TV and Film Victoria.

### Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 9524 2580/0409 600 456 or [bassett.kim@abc.net.au](mailto:bassett.kim@abc.net.au)

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





## Candidate Games: Opening Shot

Five young Australian filmmakers are firing their OPENING SHOT, with a fourth instalment of five half hour documentaries from Australia's next generation of documentary filmmakers.

Money has been flooding into Perth on the back of a decade long mining boom and with an annual council budget of \$200 million dollars, the role of Lord Mayor is a tempting prize.

The 2015 election attracted a diverse range of young applicants. Candidate Reece is only 28yrs, one of the youngest ever Lord Mayoral nominees, and has a drive and ambition unusual for someone of his tender age. Candidate Mike, 33yrs, is the chalk to Reece's cheese: an entrepreneur with some big ideas who wants to add Lord Mayor to his impressive and eclectic resume, and turn Perth into a city full of electric cars.

Standing in the way of both Gen Y candidates is a popular 2-term incumbent and baby boomer: Lord Mayor Lisa Scaffidi. The bookies have Lisa as the runaway favourite, yet Reece and Mike may have timed their 'David vs. Goliath' attempts to seize power perfectly, with an investigation from The Corruption and Crime Commission looming over her head.

The stage is set for an explosive postal election, where three candidates with very different ideas about how to rule a capital city will clash head to head. The results are one thing, how this battle unfolds is quite another. Let the games begin!

### #OpeningShot

#### Short synopsis

Come behind the scenes on the campaign trail, as three very different candidates battle it out for the seat of ultimate power: the comfortable chair and river views of the Lord Mayor of the City of Perth.

#### Production details

Director: Sam Bodhi Field, Producer: Ella Wright, Producer: Alice Ross, Executive Producers: Brian Beaton and Celia Tait. CANDIDATE GAMES is a Periscope Pictures film.

#### Contact

Bridget Stenhouse on (02) 8333 3847 or [stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au](mailto:stenhouse.bridget@abc.net.au)

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



## Doctor Foster

Through devious means, Gemma learns that Simon has broken off his affair with Kate, so in the wake of his mother's death, she decides to give their marriage another chance. Simon, however, still has no idea she knows about the affair.

Meanwhile, nasty comments about Gemma have appeared on the clinic's website and a complaint has been made by someone in person – someone who is trying to implicate her in her mother-in-law's death. Gemma is genuinely unnerved by this, but her boss won't reveal who it is.

When Simon remembers it's the anniversary of when they met, Gemma confides in him about what's happening at work and he offers his support. Following another complaint Gemma is suspended, and finds out that her colleague told the police investigating Simon's mother's death, that she saw sleeping pills in Gemma's bag.

When Simon's mistress shows up at their son's football game Gemma begins to suspect the affair may not be over and follows him when he makes an excuse to leave. When her worst fears are realised she escapes to an old friend's house in the country to seek solace and advice. Gemma is so distraught she even considers leaving her son Tom behind with Simon and disappearing – maybe into the sea!

But then Gemma decides on a different course of action ... one that will have disastrous consequences

### Short synopsis

Through devious means, Gemma learns that Simon has broken off his affair with Kate, so in the wake of his mother's death, she decides to give their marriage another chance. But has she made the right decision?

### Production details

Creator/Writer/EP: Mike Bartlett; Director: Bruce Goodeson; Executive Producers: Roanna Benn, Greg Brenman, Jude Liknaitzky and Matthew Read  
Drama Republic Production for BBC

### Contact

Kristine Way on 02 8333 3844 or 0419 969 2982 or [way.kris@abc.net.au](mailto:way.kris@abc.net.au)

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



## Comedy Next Gen: Zoe Coombs Marr

A feminist comedian dressed as a mouthy male stand-up, dressed as a silent Gaulier clown, trying not to offend anyone. Sound confusing? It is. *Welcome to Trigger Warning* the award winning show from Zoë Coombs Marr, one of Australia's weirdest and wildest comedians.

Winner of the Melbourne International Comedy Festival the top prize, the Barry Award, *Trigger Warning* sees Zoë – as Dave, a meat-headed stand-up with a low slung ponytail, graphic t-shirt and plenty of dick jokes – suffer an epic meltdown on stage in a fashion that will leave you bewildered, challenged and completely hysterical.

### Short synopsis

A feminist comedian dressed as a mouthy male stand-up, dressed as a silent Gaulier clown, trying not to offend anyone. Sound confusing? It is. *Welcome to Trigger Warning* the award winning show from Zoë Coombs Marr, one of Australia's weirdest and wildest comedians.

### Production details

ABC TV Executive Producer, Nick Hayden. Series Producer: Andrew Garrick.  
Associate Producer: Michele Esteves.

Writers: Aunty Donna, Dave Eastgate, The Bear Pack, Luke Heggie, Zoe Coombs Marr, Rhys Nicholson, Dilruk Jayasinha, Simon Taylor, Michael Hing, Alice Fraser, Nath Valvo, Damien Power, Laura Davis, Corey White, Ivan Aristeguieta.

### Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 9524 2580/0409 600 456 or [bassett.kim@abc.net.au](mailto:bassett.kim@abc.net.au)

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

# Marketing Contacts

## Sydney

Chris Chamberlin	(02) 8333 2154 / 0404 075 749 <a href="mailto:Chamberlin.Chris@abc.net.au">Chamberlin.Chris@abc.net.au</a>	News Publicist - 7pm News, ABC News 24, 7.30, Four Corners, Foreign Correspondent, Media Watch, Q&A, Insiders, Lateline, ABC News Breakfast, The Drum, Offsiders, Behind the News, Australia Wide, National Press Club, The Mix, The World, One Plus One, Grandstand, The Business
Bridget Stenhouse	(02) 8333 3847 / 0419 846 333 <a href="mailto:Stenhouse.Bridget@abc.net.au">Stenhouse.Bridget@abc.net.au</a>	ABC2, Humans, Opening Shot, Compass, Sunday Best
Kristine Way	(02) 8333 3844 / 0419 969 282 <a href="mailto:Way.Kris@abc.net.au">Way.Kris@abc.net.au</a>	The Code, Rake, Janet King, Gruen, Silvia's Italian Table, Poldark, Doctor Foster
Safia van der Zwan	(02) 8333 3846 <a href="mailto:VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au">VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au</a>	Play School 50 <sup>th</sup> Birthday, Soul Mates, Nowhere Boys, You're Skitting Me, ABC ME, Class, Joanna Lumley's Japan
Amy Reiha	<a href="mailto:Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au">Reiha.Amy@abc.net.au</a>	Simply Nigella, Rick Stein: From Venice To Istanbul, Plumpton High Babies: Ten Years On

## Melbourne

Kim Bassett	(03) 9524 2580 / 0409 600 456 <a href="mailto:Bassett.Kim@abc.net.au">Bassett.Kim@abc.net.au</a>	Catalyst, Gardening Australia, Grand Designs, The Book Club, National Treasure, Streets Of Your Town, Please Like Me, Comedy Next Gen, Back Roads
Yasmin Kentera	(03) 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 <a href="mailto:Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au">Kentera.Yasmin@abc.net.au</a>	Rosehaven, Dr Blake Mysteries, Australian Story, Anh's Brush With Fame, Newton's Law, No Strings Attached, Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am, Fancy Boy
Tracey Taylor	(03) 9524 2313 / 0419 528 213 <a href="mailto:Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au">Taylor.Tracey@abc.net.au</a>	The Weekly With Charlie Pickering, Shaun Micallef's MAD AS HELL, Seven Types of Ambiguity, Upper Middle Bogan, Hard Quiz

## Communications

### Manager:

Imogen Corlette	(02) 8333 3845 / 0410 520 776 <a href="mailto:Corlette.Imogen@abc.net.au">Corlette.Imogen@abc.net.au</a>
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### Programming Enquiries:

Tania Caggegi  
(ABC & ABC News 24)  
(02) 8333 4633

Anna Bruter  
(ABC2 & ABC ME)  
(02) 8333 3843

### Media Portal:

Mary Fraser	(02) 8333 3848
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