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Mandy Chang departs ABC for BBC

The ABC has announced the departure of Mandy Chang, Head of Arts and Acting Head of Non-Scripted TV, who has accepted a role as Commissioning Editor of BBC documentary series *Storyville*.

Mandy has been a strong advocate for the Arts during almost five years at the ABC, bringing to screens programs that have shone a light on some of Australia's most influential and significant cultural figures. She left behind a long and distinguished career as a filmmaker in the UK and Australia to join the ABC first as the Arts Commissioning Editor and then as Head of Arts, and more recently as Acting Head of Non Scripted TV. She has set the vision for both TV Arts and the iView Arts Channel. Some of her recent projects have included *David Stratton's Stories of Australian Cinema*, *Stop Laughing...this is serious (series 2)*, and documentary strand *Artsville* which has recently showcased cultural mavericks such as Mambo, Glenn Murcutt and Harry Seidler. As Head of Arts Mandy has overseen the iView Arts Channel, steering many innovative arts series and instigating initiatives like the *Art Bites* and *Love Bites* series'. She has continued to be an advocate for the Hive initiative, which commissions artists to make their first films and which represent the most innovative and risk-taking programming on television with films like *Spear* and *Girl Asleep*.

David Anderson, Director Television, expressed the ABC's great appreciation of Mandy's work and her contribution to the national broadcaster and the wider arts community. "Mandy has been a fantastic advocate of the Arts and has done an outstanding job of delivering vibrant and engaging content to all Australians over many years. She is highly regarded across the industry and brought a creative and innovative edge to the ABC Arts team. Mandy is taking up a brilliant opportunity and we wish her the very best with this next stage of her career."

Mandy thanked her ABC colleagues and the high level of work at the ABC.

"Over the past four and a half years I have been at the ABC, I have had the great privilege and pleasure of seeing and engaging with the best of the arts that this country has to offer and of working on an incredible slate of arts programming with some very talented people," she said.

"I am extremely proud of the work our passionate and hardworking little Arts Department has commissioned, made and overseen. I'm very sad to be leaving the ABC at this exciting and crucial time in its history, but I'm also looking forward to a new challenge."

Mandy will depart the ABC in September.

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