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Heartbreak, heartache and extra rent; who will be... *The Housemate*?

New online comedy series coming to ABC iview, Facebook and YouTube in 2018

ABC and Screen Australia are excited to announce *The Housemate*, a new online comedy series from Chips and Gravy Films, premiering on ABC iview later this year.

Created, written by and starring talented new creative duo, Alexandra Keddie and Gemma Bird Matheson, *The Housemate* online pilot was an instant hit with Facebook fans in 2017, receiving widespread media attention and acclaim.

In this new full online series adaptation, definitely not based on *The Bachelor*, best mates Alex and Gemma get to know a host of potential housemates over several weeks, eliminating them from the competition one by one until they finally find the new housemate of their dreams.

Through heartbreak and heartache, Alex and Gemma learn who is ready to put themselves on the line for an affordable room in inner-east Melbourne, featuring good light and easy access to public transport and shops.

ABC Head of Comedy Rick Kalowski said, "*The Housemate was one of our most joyful recent online comedy discoveries, and we're delighted to be making a full digital series of it with the incredibly talented new creator-writer-performer team of Alex Keddie and Gemma Bird Matheson. Here's hoping this is but their first collaboration with us at ABC and our partners at Screen Australia.*"

Dynamic duo, Alexandra and Gemma also said, "*It's been a pretty surreal experience to be able to create our own work; especially to have the opportunity to share our silly story with a wider audience. Our mums are really proud.*"

Rosie Lourde, Investment Manager of Online Production at Screen Australia said "*Gemma and Alex successfully demonstrated their capacity to build an online audience for The Housemate when they racked up 264,000 views for the teaser trailer. This commission is an opportunity we're very pleased to support.*"

The Housemate is a Chips and Gravy production with principal production investment from the ABC and Screen Australia in association with Princess Pictures.



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