



Grand Designs: Living In Specials Series Premiere Sunday 8 January 7.40pm

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to Sat January 14

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2016

ABC Comedy Next Gen: Michael Hing Saturday 14 January 10.00pm АВС

ABC Stephen Fry In Central America Series Premiere Tuesday 10 Jan 8.30pm

ABC Wham Bam../Fancy Boy Final Thursday 12 January from 9.40pm



Grand Designs: Living in The City

Living in the City is the first of four Grand Designs special episodes. Kevin McCloud draws on 15 years of Grand Designs - and the astonishing homes that have been filmed in this time - to look at the challenges of self-building in the city, where space is at a premium and designers have to be at their most ingenious. Using footage from the best Grand Designs urban builds, and new interviews with experts in the latest architectural thinking, Kevin reveals which designs



work best and why. He meets the pioneers at the forefront of the latest ideas and looks at the clever innovations that continue to transform our lives.

Short synopsis

Kevin McCloud draws on 15 years of Grand Designs and the astonishing homes that have been filmed in this time to look at the challenges of self-building in the city. Kevin reveals which designs work best and why.

Production details

Written and Presented by Kevin McCloud. Series Producer: John Lonsdale. Director: Claire Lasko. Executive Producer: Fiona Caldwell. Production Co: Boundless.

Contact

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Program not yet available for preview. For more information and images visit the <u>media portal</u>.



Stephen Fry in Central America

Stephen starts his journey on the Sante Bridge that separates El Paso in Texas from Ciudad Juarez, an important transit point for the drug cartels and considered one of the most dangerous cities in Mexico. He meets up with his converted school bus and heads towards Chihuahua. En route his driver takes him to see some of the local cowboys before experiencing the enduring patriotism of the local hero, the revolutionary Pancho Villa who lead the army of the North in the revolutionary war of 1914. Boarding the El Chepe train



he heads into the Sierra Madre Mountains and the magnificent Copper Canyon, where he overcomes his fears and takes one of the longest zip wire rides in the world two kilometres down to where the Tamahumara people live.

Leaving the canyon, he arrives in the old silver mining town of Real de Catorce in time to experience their annual fiesta to celebrate the Revolution of Pancho Villa and importance of the donkey to both miners and revolutionaries. During the festivities he is persuaded to join in a pointy boots techno tribal dance group, but manages to avoid taking hallucinogenic peyote cactus with a Huichol shaman.

Nearing Mexico City he takes to the air in a balloon to witness the vast ruins of Teotihuacan, the greatest city of pre-Aztec Mexico and with archaeologist Sergio Gomez explores the excavations under the temple of the god Quetzalcoatl, the Feathered Serpent.

In the Xochimilco canals built by the Aztecs to feed and water their city he learns of the axolotl, an extraordinary species of salamander, worshipped by the Aztecs, which has the power to regrow any part of its body...an animal literally made up of stem cells.

A small role as a butler in a Mexican soap [telenovela] gives him an insight into the most important form of Mexican popular culture but it's smashing up the papier-mâché piñata that allows him to let off steam in truly Mexican fashion.

An emotionally charged demonstration in the capital to protest against the ongoing drug wars that have claimed over 100,000 lives in the last 8 years, and most recently the 'disappearance' of 43 students drives home to a visibly upset Stephen just how messed up the country is yet full of a desperate kind of hope.

In the mountains of Michoacan Stephen witnesses the extraordinary migration of millions of Monarch butterflies who overwinter here after a 3000-mile flight from North America. Doctor Pablo Jaramillo explains how the butterflies are the great grandchildren of the ones that were here last year – the only multi-generational migration on the planet. Stephen is moved beyond words by one of the greatest natural history phenomena.

Ending this first part of his travels he heads to the Pacific coast and the once glamorous resort of Acapulco, where he meets cliff divers and marvels at their extraordinary bravery as they plunge 115 feet into 12 feet of water.

Short synopsis

Stephen Fry explores Mexico. From cowboys and canyons, to donkey fiestas and great Aztec cities. He also takes part in a soap opera and is entranced by the courage of the Acapulco cliff divers.

Production details

A Sprout Pictures production for ITV.

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Program not yet available for preview. For more information and images visit the <u>media portal</u>.





Wham Bam Thank You Ma'am

A sexy get together in a groovy 1970's home takes an interesting turn. In the Ladies Room, Adele shares with Sarah and Greta that she didn't get the role she auditioned for. Sarah and Greta do their best to console her. Shani and Tani argue about Paradoxes and white wine. A typical 1950's ad becomes re-animated and we see a man struggle with reading a cookbook.



Rose, our Smoke Bomb Girl tries to get out of a bind

at work, but things escalate. A glitchy skype call between friends gets intense. Officer Michaels, Australia's first male police officer, is proud to be finally making headway at the office, Officer Brody seems to be warming to him. But a new member of the team threatens to ruin it all.

Katrina Hogger Wellness Blogger and Amanda Seydoux Lifestyle guru have their final showdown and Sheree makes a big decision. An Olympic style sports show captures a woman waking up from a big night out. A frustrated housewife Jane lectures her wayward husband, Tarzan. In the Ladies Room, Greta, Sarah and Adele all wonder what went wrong

Short synopsis

A sexy party in the 70s takes an interesting turn, Officer Michaels meets his enemy and isn't happy, Katrina and Amanda have a final showdown and a cautionary song about feminism and the sisterhood.

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

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Program not yet available for preview. For more information and images visit the <u>media portal</u>.



Top Pick

Fancy Boy

After a public meltdown, Karl is forced to attend a silent retreat to find inner calm. According to a Judge, if Karl can last the whole seven days seven days without saying a word, or suffering another outburst, then he'll avoid prison. At first it seems easy, until Karl attracts another participant, the very loud and very crude Mog, who talks, snores, swears and loves playing pranks with bowls of soup and fresh turds.

When Joe hires an accountant to help with his struggling butcher shop, he learns the big problem might be his long time sausage spruiker Mitchell. Joe is eventually convinced to trial a new spruiker, Tommy Degraves, a hot-shot performer who comes with turntables, light show and a smoke machine instantly has customers flocking through the door. Now Joe must make a tough decision between the success of his business and loyalty to his old friend Mitchell.

Terry is one of the best bellygrams in the business. With his massive stomach, and bawdy act, there's not a single party he can't get started. But something changes when Terry turns up to a party at Tom's house.

Short synopsis

An angry man has to choose between silence and violence. A good man has to choose between his butcher shop and family and a fat man must choose between his health and piles of money.

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

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Back Roads: Hermannsburg

Heather Ewart arrives in Hermannsburg, a town in central Australia, with country music star Warren H Williams, who was born here. Music has taken Warren far from his home, Hermannsburg, or Ntaria as it's called in the Western Arranta language. He's got 10 albums under his belt, and the most recent – *Desert Water* – was recorded in Nashville with emerging artist Dani Young. Warren tells Heather there's nothing like being recharged by the spirits of the countryside.

It doesn't take long for Heather to experience it herself as Warren introduces her to his family and his music by camp fire in stunning Palm Valley, just outside the town.

Sonya Braybon is among those Heather meets. She is a senior woman in the Hermannsburg community and works as a member of the Tjuwanpa Rangers, among other things. The rangers run the Junior Rangers program through Ntaria School in Hermannsburg, where they take the children out and teach them about the bird and animal life, and how to care for country.

Heather soon understands that this place is all about making sure the kids are happy and occupied, while also fostering in them a love of culture.

Among the young people Heather meets is 13-year-old Daryl Malbunka. He's a student at Ntaria school, but his real passion is horses. Daryl's part of a horse education program run through the school – but also driven by the community - where the students work with wild horses and train and care for them. The students go on riding camps in the bush throughout the year. Daryl's horse is a filly called Thelma who he helped to break in and care for after she was orphaned.

Short synopsis

This stunning Northern Territory birthplace of Albert Namatjira is full of culture and creativity, and it's working to nurture both in its young people.

Production details

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

Contact

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Sherlock

The question on everyone's lips is finally answered as Sherlock returns in three action-packed adventures. How did he do it? And how will John take the news that his best friend faked his own death?

Benedict Cumberbatch and Martin Freeman star as Sherlock Holmes and John Watson in the series return of Sherlock. Once again the game is on for Sherlock and John.

In the first episode, it's been two years after Sherlock's 'death', Dr John Watson has got on with his life. But, with London under threat of a devastating terrorist attack, Sherlock is about to stage his outrageous resurrection.

But if he thinks everything will be just as he left it, he's in for a big surprise. John has met the love of his life – Mary Morstan (Amanda Abbington). She's sensible, quick witted and not at all taken in by Sherlock's posturing. Will the boys resolve their issues in time to save Britain?

Short synopsis

With London under threat from a terrorist attack, Sherlock is about to stage his outrageous resurrection.

Production details

A Hartswood Films production for BBC, co-produced with MASTERPIECE. Written and Created by Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss. Producer Sue Vertue.

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Comedy Next Gen: Michael Hing

An hour of jokes, mostly about casual and systemic racism in Australia, as told through the eyes of stand-up comedian and certified disappointment to his parents, Michael Hing. Recorded at the Comedy Store in Sydney.

Short synopsis

An hour of jokes, mostly about casual and systemic racism in Australia, as told through the eyes of stand-up comedian and certified disappointment to his parents, Michael Hing. Recorded at the Comedy Store in Sydney.

Production details

Production credits: 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.

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