Sunday 12 to Saturday 18 November 2017

Week46 Highlights







Louis Theroux: **My Scientology Movie** Monday 13 November 8.30pm



Artsville: Blasko Tuesday 14 November 9.30pm



ABC The Doctor Blake Telemovie Premieres Sunday 12 November 8.30pm





Screen Time

Bingeing, streaming, surfing, or just settling down with a bucket of popcorn in front of a good old-fashioned cinema screen. These days we have more choice than ever when it comes to how - and where - we watch our favourite screen content.

All over the world people are constantly talking about what to watch, from hit television shows, to home grown documentary series to big cut-through movies like the latest instalment from the Marvel or DC universe. And don't forget the quirky low-budget obscurity served up to you by the recommendation algorithms that now run the world.

A side-effect of this content obsession is the tyranny of choice. **Screen Time** is a series that will cut a path through the jungle of content and help each of us answer the burning questions "What should I watch next?" "Where can I find that clip that's gone viral?" and "Is that hit show really all it is cracked up to be?"

Hosted by Chris Taylor, with an ensemble cast of regular panellists, *Screen Time* goes beyond the binge to bring you the latest from the world of TV, streaming, cinema and the web. Each panellist brings a wealth of cultural knowledge and experience, but more than anything – and perhaps most importantly – they are enthusiastic and avid consumers of screen content themselves. They aren't cultural arbiters of what's good and bad, but they WILL each bring strong and varied opinions to the *Screen Time* table. From highbrow to lowbrow, prestige 'golden age of television' moments, to bedroom YouTube stars, it's all worth talking about for our cast of screen timers.

Screen Time is not a show solely for film buffs or critics. It is for each and every one of us everyday viewers (and let's face it we all watch a lot of screen content) who love to have their finger on the cultural pulse. Entertaining, but rooted in cultural critique and analysis, *Screen Time* will be the go to show for anyone who likes to watch, well...just about anything!

Short synopsis

All over the world people are constantly talking about what to watch, from hit TV shows, home grown documentaries to big cut-through movies, or quirky low-budget obscurity served up to you by the recommendation algorithms.

Production details

Acting Head of ABC Arts, Linda Brusasco. ABC Arts Executive Producer, Jo Chichester. Series Producer, Martin Robertson.

Contact

Kim Bassett on 03 9524 2580/0409 600 456 or <u>bassett.kim@abc.net.au</u> **Program not available for preview. For more information and images visit the <u>media portal</u>.**





The Doctor Blake Mysteries Telemovie: Family Portrait

It's 1961, and wedding bells are in the air... but not for Blake and Jean. Not yet anyway. A few weeks ahead of their own nuptials they've been invited to what promises to be Ballarat's society wedding of the season. The night quickly turns ugly, and Blake and Jean make a hasty retreat, glad to have put all that nastiness behind them.

But then the next morning a prominent member of the bridal party is found dead at the Reception venue. And Blake, of course, is still forbidden from working the case, as he's no longer the Police Surgeon. Instead he's tasked by an estranged relative to investigate a seemingly innocuous missing persons case in Melbourne.

It soon becomes clear that his case and the murder at the wedding are actually intertwined. The further Blake digs, the more complicated these cases will prove to be. Along the way he and Jean will have to navigate through three murders, two weddings and a funeral. And Blake will discover that the key to solving this unsolvable puzzle may lie somewhere in the past, and the tortured relationship he shared with his own father....

Short synopsis

Three murders, two weddings and a funeral... life's never been straightforward for Doctor Lucien Blake and Jean. So why would anything change now? CAST: Craig McLachlan, Nadine Garner

Production details

A December Media Production in association with ABC TV and Film Victoria. Producers George Adams and Tony Wright. Executive Producer Stuart Menzies and Associate Producer Craig McLachlan. ABC Executive Producers Brett Sleigh and Alastair McKinnon.

Contact

Yasmin Kentera (03) 9524 2629 / 0418 813 071 or kentera.yasmin@abc.net.au

<mark>★Top Pick</mark> Tuesday 14 November 9.30pm





Artsville: Blasko

As part of AusMusic Month on ABC we present a brand new documentary.

Sarah Blasko is a pioneer of the Australian indie music scene, and has been a steadily growing music icon since the early 2000s. She has been nominated for countless awards and has gone on to become one of Australia's most successful female singer-songwriters, walking the line between commercial success and artistic integrity with dignity. Sarah's music is filled with a cinematic sense of wonder and melancholy. Her new venture will be her most courageous undertaking yet. Blasko will follow Sarah as she creates an album of songs from scratch in a live theatre space with long-time collaborators. Together they will create this album in a high concept setting - a theatre space in at an arts centre complete with film projections, mirror ball and lighting - a very different way to write an album! With unique and intimate access, the creative process of one of Australia's most acclaimed singer songwriters is laid bare. Weaving through an intimate ob-doc style are bio beats that tell the story of Sarah's life from childhood to adulthood. The drama lies in the fact that Sarah has never attempted anything like this before. The documentary explores her life and history through her body of work. Her story involves an upbringing by religious missionaries and the loss of her mother when Sarah was 23, rich material that has never been discussed before.

Short synopsis

A pioneer of indie music, Sarah Blasko walks the line between commercial success and artistic integrity with dignity. Narrated by Sarah herself, this film is an intimate portrait of the artist as she writes a new album from scratch.

Production details

Barefoot Communications, Producer/Director Brendan Fletcher

Contact

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Louis Theroux: My Scientology Movie

'I find that the most inexplicable behaviour is motivated by very relatable human impulses,' Louis Theroux

Incomparable British broadcaster Louis Theroux is hilariously provocative in his first feature documentary, *Louis Theroux: My Scientology Movie*, created in collaboration with director John Dower and two-time Academy Award® winning producer Simon Chinn (*Searching for Sugar Man, Man on Wire*).

Following a long fascination with the religion, and with a lot of experience dealing with eccentric human behaviour, the beguilingly unassuming Theroux won't take no for an answer when his request to enter the Church of Scientology's Los Angeles headquarters is turned down.

Theroux's insatiable curiosity motivates him to understand what life inside the Church is really like, and with the aid of former second-in-command at the Church, Mark 'Marty' Rathbun, he uses actors to replay incidents people claim they experienced with high profile members such as Tom Cruise and leader David Miscavige. In a bizarre twist, it becomes clear that the Church is also making a film about Louis Theroux.

Suffused with a good dose of humour and moments worthy of a Hollywood script, *Theroux: My Scientology Movie* is stranger than fiction.

Short synopsis

Filmmaker Louis Theroux is denied admittance into the Church of Scientology's headquarters, setting into motion a clever, confrontational, and funny plan to try and reveal the inner workings of the mysterious organization.

Production details

Presenter/Writer: Louis Theroux, Director/Writer: John Dower, Producer: Simon Chinn, BBC Films & BBC Worldwide, A Red Box Films Production.

Contact

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





Keeping Australia Safe

Keeping Australia Safe is arguably the most ambitious observational documentary series ever undertaken in Australia. More than 24 government and private institutions granted privileged access for cameras to record their operations over the same 48-hour period. The entire 6-part series was shot in 2 days – revealing what it takes to protect our national and personal security while asking the central question: "What are the real costs?"

While we're at work, at school or living out the Australian lifestyle, who is watching our backs? How real are the threats that we read about every day? Is the sophistication of crime in 2017 matched by the sophistication of policing? With 'cybercrime' and 'terrorism' on the lips of politicians and police spokespeople, what is the changing face of security in 2017?

\$35 billion from the Federal Budget is committed to defence. Hundreds of millions of dollars goes to law and order. But does perception match reality? Are the national, state and community resources being directed at real threats or is the 'hype' overshadowing our awareness and understanding of what it really takes to keep Australia safe?

The series explores what it takes, on a daily basis, to protect our nation as well as our personal safety, through first person storytelling by those on the frontline of the **state police**, **the Australian Federal Police**, **the army, navy, air force**, **Australian Border Force**, **corrections, the courts and community groups** working within crime prevention or offender rehabilitation. Our cameras are there as these people face real challenges hour on hour, over one continuous 48-hour period.

This landmark series shows, first hand, the work and intelligence that goes into protecting everyone from at-risk youths and the homeless, to a sports mad crowd on a Friday night. And it raises questions about where our money is being committed, where the hidden problems are, and whether our protection against (and vigilance for) terrorism on home soil is based on fact or fear.

The series will seek to answer: Is Australia safe? Do we feel safe? Are the threats we face real or perceived? Are we putting the right resources into the right areas? And what is the cost, other than money, of keeping Australia safe?

#KeepingAustraliaSafe

Short synopsis

In Darwin, a judge decides the fate of a 20-year-old man charged under the NT's Mandatory Sentencing Laws. And at a South Australian jail, six cells are raided to crack a suspected drug ring.

Production details

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Screen Australia present **Keeping Australia Safe,** an ITV Studios Australia production. **Keeping Australia Safe** is produced by Elle Gibbons (*Keeping Australia Alive, Paddock to Plate*) with executive producers Ben Ulm (*Keeping Australia Alive, The First ANZACs, Trishna & Krishna: The Quest For Separate Lives*) and Rob Wallace (*MasterChef, Find My Family*) for ITV Studios Australia. ABC Head of Factual, Steve Bibb and ABC Commissioning Editor, Stephen Oliver.

Contact

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It's the final episode of Season Nine of Gruen...

...There will be grandiose language, hastily gathered quotes and just enough information to sound enticing without actually giving anything away.

We are drowning in more marketing than ever. People are now brands, while brands pretend to be people, emailing you on your birthday and trying to seduce you to 'join the conversation'. We're living in a world where the US President is the biggest brand of all, celebrities are "influencers", influencers are celebrities and words like "influencer" have lost all meaning.

Whether you're spooling through Gumtree for a second-hand fridge, skipping through a podcast selling you a mattress, or checking the weather on the BOM website- you can't avoid advertising. It's as ageless as the airbrushed actor spruiking expensive face gunk. The only anti-venom is understanding how it all works.

Enter host Wil Anderson, Russel Howcroft, Todd Sampson and a trusty team of advertising experts, including veteran panellist Dee Madigan and some brand-new faces. The weekly topical series will drive through new marketing terrain - Amazon in Australia, the NBN and any PR disasters unlucky enough to erupt during the course of the season. Gruen will celebrate the good, the bad and the ugly. Plus, The Pitch returns with a whole new slate of impossible briefs and top agencies to battle it out in the Gruen ring.

Join us as we sneak ads onto the ABC and call bullshit on brands pretending they're just like us.

Short synopsis

Wil Anderson, Russel Howcroft & Todd Sampson pick over the good, the bad and the ugly of advertising. They explore the dark arts of branding & spin with a trusty team of advertising experts, including panellist Dee Madigan.

Production details

A CJZ and ABC co-production; Executive Producers: Nick Murray (CJZ), Wil Anderson, Richard Huddleston (ABC); Series Producer: Polly Connolly.

Contact

Kristine Way on 02 8333 3844 or 0419 969 282 or way.kris@abc.net.au

Wednesday 15 November 9.05pm





Rosehaven

When a blackout plunges Rosehaven into darkness, evening plans are thrown into turmoil.

Trapped by candlelight, Daniel, Grace, Emma and Barbara must fall back on actual conversation to get through the evening. Much, it seems, at the expense of Daniel whose hackles gradually rise.

Damien's arrival rescues Emma and as they take in the nocturnal sights of Rosehaven, long standing matters between Barbara and Daniel come to a head back at the house.

#Rosehaven

Short synopsis

When a blackout plunges Rosehaven into darkness, evening plans are thrown into turmoil. CAST: Luke McGregor and Celia Pacquola

Production details

A What Horse?/Guesswork Television production with Screen Tasmania, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and SundanceTV in association with Film Victoria. Created and written by Celia Pacquola and Luke McGregor; Directed by Jonathan Brough; Produced by Andrew Walker; Co-Producer Fiona McConaghy; Executive Producer Kevin Whyte; ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Brett Sleigh.

Contact

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The Letdown

Life at home with baby fails to provide the mental stimulation Audrey craves. She's bored and increasingly forgetful. When she gets her days mixed up and turns up at an NA meeting instead of parents group, she stays.

But later that night when she uncharacteristically stumbles on a geography question at pub trivia and costs her team not only victory but also the vegan meat tray, the paranoia of brain atrophy becomes very real.

Ester and Ruben's healthy sex life has become decidedly unhealthy since the birth of Eva, and Ester tries desperately to revive it.

At Parents Group, Ambrose talks of the benefits of physical stimulation and has the parents apply massage techniques to the babies. The conversation naturally moves to other forms of stimulation – namely mental, and Barb – mother of three – declares baby brain to be an inevitable and irreversible outcome of childbirth.

Inspired by Ruben's job interview, Audrey heads into her old work to visit Emma and other colleagues.

Ruben's interview doesn't go well, he's distracted, disengaged and prematurely books an Uber to collect him. When Ester returns home later that evening, he declares he wants to spend more time at home with Eva, and take more time off work. This doesn't go down well, manifesting well into the next day when Ester brutally sacks her PR Manager for daring to ask for a pay rise to help support his family.

Audrey, now ridiculously immersed in TED talks, crosswords, cartoon caption competitions, admits, to herself, an early return to work might be in order. This could prove handy, given the uncertainty at Jeremy's work and he starts to seriously consider, to himself, an overseas job offer from one of his clients.

Back at pub trivia, Audrey, with the help of sub in team members, Ruben and Martha, has a better night. She learns that baby brain is a temporary state of brain pruning before a radical brain expansion. CAST: Alison Bell, Duncan Fellows, Sacha Horler.

#TheLetdown

Short synopsis

Life at home with baby fails to provide the mental stimulation Audrey craves. She's bored and increasingly forgetful. When she gets her days mixed up, she turns up at the wrong meeting group and stays. CAST: Alison Bell.

Production details

A Giant Dwarf production for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation with funding from Screen Australia in association with Create NSW. Executive Producer Julian Morrow. Produced by Martin Robertson. ABC Executive Producers Rick Kalowski and Rebecca Anderson. Directed by Trent O'Donnell. Written by Sarah Scheller and Alison Bell.

Contact

Tracey Taylor on (03) 8646 2313 or taylor.tracey@abc.net.au



My Online Nightmare

In Episode two, stories of romance, deception, fraud, bigamy, and ultimately justice for the women involved.

Liz Todd, a doctor from Newcastle in the UK met dashing barrister Chris 'Smith' on dating website Plenty of Fish. After a whirlwind romance, they move in together renting a sumptuous apartment in the grounds of Sandhoe Hall, a grade II listed house in Hexham Northumberland. Chris has convinced Liz he has a £6m property portfolio but claims he is waiting for a big contract to come through and is temporarily cash poor, so Liz puts the lease in her name. And so begins a lengthy and elaborate scam that sees Liz's life left in tatters.

The couple embarks on extensive renovations to the apartment, throw lavish parties and even get a photographer to document their lives. But after months of bills left unpaid, Liz is worried, and eventually it's the builder who checks on Chris and discovers that he is a serial fraudster who was released from prison just before he met Liz. Together Liz and her mother were conned of £168,000 and Liz now faces years of debt. Chris Heayns was eventually jailed for nine and a half years.

William Allen Jordan is possibly one of the worst love cheats ever: an American who gained worldwide notoriety after he pretended to be a CIA agent so he could defraud vulnerable women looking for love in Britain, he then went on to have 13 kids with eight different women in the UK and America. At one time, he had two wives, two fiancés, and another girlfriend on the side.

Short synopsis

A notorious American who pretended to be a CIA agent so he could defraud vulnerable women looking for love; and a 'dashing barrister' who leaves his new partner in debt for £168,000 after lying about his assets.

Production details

A Blast! Films production; Producer: Sarah Lambert; Shooting Producer/Director: Christian Watt; Produced and Directed by Ali Naushahi.

Contact

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Thursday 16 November 8.30pm





The Ex-PM

Dugdale pays a visit to his billionaire benefactor Fabian Silver and his Man Friday, Reece, in an attempt to ease his conscience.

Silver convinces Dugdale he is merely an eccentric billionaire looking for redemption. With the unlikely assistance of Myles and Curtis, Ellen manages to steal paperwork 'treasure' from a safe in Silver's bedroom. Despite Curtis falling off the ladder and landing on a sprinkler head, the group somehow manage to get away with it.

Sonny discovers that Dugdale's sewage farm is to be compulsorily acquired for \$15 million as part of Silver's project. It's definitely *not* a bribe...or is it now Dugdale knows?

With this vital information, the team attempt a complicated reverse-heist to sneak back into Silver's and return the documents.

What could possibly go wrong? CAST: Shaun Micallef, Vince Colosimo, Nicholas Bell, Francis Greenslade, Lucy Honigman.

#TheExPM

Short synopsis

After paying a visit to eccentric, art loving, billionaire benefactor Fabian Silver, most of the team end up in prison. CAST: Shaun Micallef, Vince Colosimo, Francis Greenslade.

Production details

A CJZ production in association with ABC TV and Film Victoria.

Contact

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Victoria

Victoria (Jenna Coleman) and Albert (Tom Hughes) manage to offend each other within minutes of his arrival. Albert's brother Ernest (David Oakes) encourages him to flirt, but Albert is utterly humiliated by the situation. His unease around Victoria manifests as moody insolence, at least that's how she interprets it when she complains to Melbourne (Rufus Sewell).

Belowstairs, the royal servants clash with the Coburg princes' haughty valet Lohlein (Basil Eidenbenzand); and a girl called Eliza (Samantha Colley) turns up at the palace asking Skerrett (Nell Hudson) for money, and insinuating that she is not who she says she is.

Despite the cousins' firm protestations of indifference, there is unmistakable chemistry between the two. Leopold (Alex Jennings) is delighted, and while Melbourne is less enthusiastic, he nonetheless acquiesces when Victoria insists he attend a dance she is holding for the princes. He watches in agony as Albert sweeps Victoria away in a waltz and the young people connect for the first time.

Secretly hoping to impress Albert, Victoria transports the household to Windsor, where the tension between Victoria, Melbourne and Albert escalates. As she grapples to understand her feelings she must ask herself whether she wants the flattery Melbourne has hitherto reassured her with, or if she is ready for the challenging truth which Albert represents...But as she contends with this painful evolution, Albert's jealousy for the Prime Minister intensifies, and Melbourne, realising that he stands in the way of their happiness, knows that it is up to him to put things right.

Short synopsis

Although on the defensive and appearing indifferent, Victoria struggles to hide her true feelings and faces a difficult choice between the familiarity of Melbourne and the enthralling Albert. CAST: Jenna Coleman, Tom Hughes.

Production details

Directors: Sandra Goldbacher, Tom Vaughan, Oliver Blackburn; Executive Producers: Dan McCulloch, Damien Timmer, Daisy Goodwin; Producer Paul Frift; A Mammoth Screen & Masterpiece co-production

Contact

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Kristine Way	(02) 8333 3844 / 0419 969 282 <u>Way.Kris@abc.net.au</u>	Janet King, Gruen, The Checkout, My Online Nightmare, Victoria
Safia van der Zwan	(02) 8333 3846 <u>VanDerZwan.Safia@abc.net.au</u>	Mystery Road, Rake, Australian Music Month, Friday on My Mind, Making Muriel, NYE, Blasko
Peri Wilson (News and Current Affairs)	0409 888 866 wilson.peri@abc.net.au	ABC NEWS, 7.30, Four Corners, Foreign Correspondent, Media Watch, Q&A, Insiders, Lateline, News Breakfast, The Drum, Offsiders, Behind the News, Australia Wide, National Press Club, The Mix, The World, One Plus One, Grandstand, The Business
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Find publicity images and press kits for highlighted and ongoing programs at abc.net.au/tvpublicity