

Screen Australia empowers 100+ distinctive Australian narratives

Thursday 1 May 2025: Screen Australia has today announced a significant investment for local scripted projects, reflecting the agency's commitment to rich Australian narrative content and meaningful creator pathways.

Across feature film, television and online, \$7.6 million has been shared across more than 100 projects, contributing a substantial amount to the overall direct production and development funding provided in the 24/25 financial year so far. The mix of projects showcases a wide range of themes and formats, speaking to the evolving scripted landscape and highlighting the importance of reaching Australian audiences where they are watching.

Among the projects is the debut feature film from writer/director/producer/star Tilda Cobham-Hervey set in an aged care home, *It's All Going Very Well No Problems At All*; animated children's series *Jidoo & Ibis*, about the relationship between a grumpy Grandpa and Australia's beloved bin chicken; comedy series for TikTok *CEEBS* about two friends on a mission to save their local youth centre from imminent closure; and a series inspired by a true story, *DIVA*, about 21-year-old Elly who balances his strict, religious Samoan life with ambitions of becoming a professional wrestler in drag.

Screen Australia Director of Narrative Content **Louise Gough** said, "Screen Australia is uniquely positioned to support a thriving pipeline of Australian stories that connect with audiences across multiple platforms and genres. This funding reflects our commitment to both emerging and established creatives, reinforcing the strength and diversity of our industry."

"Demand on Screen Australia funding remains high, and our recent survey was a reminder of the value that the sector places on our direct funding. In an ever-changing landscape, one thing remains constant – Australian screen storytelling is a vital cultural force that continues to resonate with audiences here at home and across the world. We're proud to back this extensive collection of distinct and ambitious projects," said **Gough**.

Screen Australia has also supported 11 major television series for production to be announced in coming months, sharing in \$12 million of direct funding and with a total production value of over \$117 million. The agency has recently supported Stan Original Series' *He Had it Coming* and comedy-horror *Gnomes*. Also recently announced is Bus Stop Films' first feature film *Boss Cat*, beginning production in June and starring Olivia Hargroder, Penny Downie and Julia Savage.

The supported projects include:

- ***It's All Going Very Well No Problems At All*:** This drama is the debut feature film from writer/director Tilda Cobham-Hervey (*A Field Guide to Being a 12 Year Old Girl*, *I am Woman*) and is produced by Liam Heyen (*Jimpa*, *Latecomers*), Dev Patel (*Lion*, *Monkey Man*), Jomon Thomas (*Hotel Mumbai*, *Monkey Man*) and Cobham-Hervey, with Natalya Pavchinskaya and Cyna Strachan executive producing. The film follows Audrey (Cobham-Hervey), a young artist teetering on the edge of a quiet collapse, who finds solace and understanding through a profound connection with Harold, an elderly resident at the care home where she works. Major production investment from Screen Australia and S'ya Concept in association with the South Australian Film Corporation, with support from the Adelaide Film Festival Investment Fund. Local distribution by Kismet. The film is a Mad Ones and Minor Realm production.
- ***Jidoo & Ibis*:** Inspired by the real-life shenanigans between the creator's father and the hungry bin chickens who flock to his garden, *Jidoo & Ibis* is from writer/producer Wendy Hanna (*Beep & Mort*) with writers Michael Drake (*Beep & Mort*) and Clare Madsen (*Little J & Big Cuz*). It is a 40-part animated series in development for young pre-schoolers about unexpected problems and unexpected friendships – told through the relationship between grumpy Grandpa Jidoo and an all too familiar larrikin, Ibis.
- ***CEEBS*:** This 18-part comedy for TikTok is from director Harry Lloyd (*Rock Island Mysteries*) and writers Betiel Beyin and Leigh Lule, some of the team behind *Turn up the Volume*. Nikki Tran (*Girl, Interpreted*) and Amie Batalibasi (*Blackbird*) are producing. *CEEBS* follows recent high-school graduates, Zion and Ruby, as they run for 'Youth President' to save their local youth centre from imminent closure – all while trying to ensure their lifelong

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friendship doesn't get caught in the crossfire. It has received principal production funding from Screen Australia in association with VicScreen.

- **DIVA:** Inspired by a true story, *DIVA* is created by producer Jessica Magro ([Bad Ancestors](#)) and executive producer Jason Dewhurst, working alongside producer Lauren Brown ([Thou Shalt Not Steal](#)) and writer Nick Coyle ([Bump, It's Fine, I'm Fine](#)). It is also executive produced by Charlie Aspinwall and Daley Pearson. This eight-part series in development from Ludo Studio and Purple Carrot Entertainment follows 21-year-old Elly as he attempts to balance his strict, religious Samoan life and his secret queer identity as a professional wrestler in drag.
- **Dreamboat:** A feature comedy in development celebrating the enduring power of BFFs, second chances, and embracing life's next chapter, from writer Joan Sauers ([Ladies in Black](#), [Wakefield](#)), producers Courtney Botfield and Kate Riedl, script editor Megan Simpson Huberman and script consultant Zoë Coombs Marr. In *Dreamboat*, Suzy's plans for a cruises retirement are capsized when best friend, Val, takes her on a cruise to Antarctica.
- **All The Boys Are Here:** From Causeway Films ([Talk to Me](#)), this queer romance feature film is created by writer/director Goran Stolevski ([Of An Age](#), [You Won't Be Alone](#)) and produced by Kristina Ceyton and Samantha Jennings of *Talk to Me*. It is about a New York novelist who, while attending a family funeral in Vienna, discovers a German relative's illicit queer love affair with a Jewish man during WW2 – sending him on a journey through the past that changes his future. It has received major production investment from Screen Australia in association with the Polish Film Institute, with Maslow Entertainment distributing and New Europe Film Sales and Charades managing international sales.
- **A Model Family:** A 10-part comedy in development for the whole family from some of the team behind [The Disposables](#), including creator/writers Keir Wilkins and Sonia Whiteman, creator/writer/producer Renny Wijeyamohan, creator/producer/executive producer Karen Radzyner, producer Linda Micsko ([The Office Australia](#)) and executive producer Oliver Lawrance, with Guy Edmonds ([Spooky Files](#)) and Emmanuelle Mattana ([Fwends](#)) attached as writers. In *A Model Family*, five ultra-lifelike AIs have escaped from a secret research facility in the Australian countryside and must pass for a human 'nuclear' family to survive.
- **Fear is the Rider:** This horror-thriller is from the team behind *The Forgiven*, including writer/director/producer John Michael McDonagh, producers Elizabeth Eves, Kate Glover, Nick Gordon and Trevor Matthews, and executive producer Natalie Coleman. In *Fear is the Rider*, a lone woman searching for her missing mother is pursued into the Australian Outback by a terrifying family of cannibalistic serial killers, with only an ex-con and a young girl willing to help her. Major production investment from Screen Australia and financed with support from Screen NSW's Made in NSW Fund. Local distribution by Umbrella Entertainment, with international sales by Film Constellation and CAA.
- **After All:** From writer/director/producer Jess Murray ([Moments of Clarity](#)) and writers Tom Ward and Declan O'Byrne-Ingilis, *After All* is a six-part comedic adult YouTube animation set against a post-apocalyptic wasteland. After living in a bunker for most of their lives, mutant filmmakers Flynn and Marshall venture out to make "the best movie ever made", but quickly realise that stardom is not as important as friendship. It has received principal production funding from Screen Australia and financed with assistance from Screen Tasmania.
- **Bluebottle:** A thriller-comedy feature film from director Jim Weir and writer/director Jack Clark of [Birdeater](#), producers Gal Greenspan ([Moja Vesna](#)), Rachel Forbes ([Strange Creatures](#)) and Ryan Bartecki (*The Novice*), and executive producers Joel Edgerton ([Boy Swallows Universe](#)), Ari Harrison ([Lesbian Space Princess](#), [The Moogai](#)) and Jane Badler. During the final night of 'Schoolies' in an isolated coastal town, three local dropouts battle three handsome older men for the affection of three private school girls – tackling social issues of class, consent and identity. Major production investment from Screen Australia, with Co Created Media co-financing and Umbrella Entertainment distributing locally.

For the list of announced projects funded across the Narrative Content Department this financial year, visit:

- [Feature Film Production](#)
- [Feature Film Development](#)
- [Television Production](#)
- [Television Development](#)
- [Online Production](#)
- [Online Development](#)

For more information about Screen Australia funding and to apply, click [here](#).

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ABOUT SCREEN AUSTRALIA

Screen Australia is the Australian Federal Government agency charged with supporting the development, production and promotion of Australian narrative, documentary and children's content, across television, feature films, online and games. Screen Australia also administers Australia's Official Co-production program, in addition to the Producer Offset incentive. The agency provides a broad range of resources and opportunities to the industry including access to research, market intelligence and special initiatives. For more information visit www.screenaustralia.gov.au.

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