

- 00:17:37 Olivia Jane Parker: Thank you for having us!
- 00:17:55 KATHLEEN FOSTER: Thank you so much for these! They have been so helpful at the moment
- 00:20:03 Ahmad Masri: Good Morning from Docklands, Victoria.
- 00:20:14 Freya Higgins-desbiolles: I love your energy, Ebony. You are great at the mc'ing.
- 00:20:17 Judith Gamper: from Judith - Yeh! Ebony. I am "Back to Nature" too.
- 00:20:35 KATHLEEN FOSTER: I studied Children's Literature and Anthropology at university, and would have lost half of my entire degree if it wasn't for books, films, theatre, TV shows and all of the above.
- 00:20:43 Alan Coligado: Loved "Back to Nature".
- 00:20:44 Janette Gyselman: good morning from Nipaluna or 'Rosehaven' country
- 00:20:56 Richard Naylor: Thank you for the wonderful AI webinars. You have got us through lockdown in Victoria.
- 00:20:59 Margaret Lee: I loved Packed to the Rafters and am really sad the new series is on Netflix, to which I do not subscribe.
- 00:21:04 sheila pollard: From Melbourne These are stimulating. Thank you.
- 00:21:16 Wendy J Barnes: Good morning from the Yarra Valley. Rafter fan!
- 00:21:46 Alan Coligado: Margaret, Rafters is on Amazon Prime.
- 00:21:54 Jie Pittman: Hello all 🙋
- 00:22:11 Margaret Lee: It's all the same to me. I don't subscribe.
- 00:22:26 Ebony Bennett: here's some of the Australia Institute's arts reports

<https://australiainstitute.org.au/report/creativity-in-crisis-rebooting-australias-arts-and-entertainment-sector-after-covid/>

00:22:40 Ebony Bennett: <https://australiainstitute.org.au/post/new-analysis-arts-entertainment-funding-creates-10x-more-jobs-for-women-than-homebuilder/>

<https://australiainstitute.org.au/report/background-brief-economic-importance-of-the-arts-and-entertainment-sector/>

00:22:40 Jie Pittman: Thanks for the acknowledgment of country 🙏

00:22:59 Gerard Noonan: Morning all. Gerard Noonan here from Media Super. we're still underwriting the industry via the producer offset scheme, but are watching closely as the rules for this crucially important change

- 00:23:52 Kirsty Burke: Hello from Turrbal Country
- 00:24:06 Julianne Sweeney: Julianne Sweeney : read DRAMA IN HELL in October's The Monthly by Julian Meyrick to see the descent of creative arts in Oz Universities .
- 00:25:16 Donald Reid: Hello from Wardandi Noongar country, Bunbury WA
- 00:25:30 Marion Jacka: Have other countries put local content rules on streaming services?
- 00:25:34 bronwynm.davis@outlook.com: Hello from Tokyo
- 00:25:41 Ben Dal Farra: G'day from Mildura, Victoria
- 00:26:57 Robin Sproule: Hello everyone from unceded Dharug and Gundungurra lands in the Blue Mountains
- 00:27:06 Dianna Nixon: Hear hear Erik.
- 00:27:21 Jie Pittman: Hello Eric 👍
- 00:27:27 Deborah White: We are lucky here in Kurna Country (SA).
- 00:28:15 Wayne McMillan: Wayne from Whalan here on Dharug land.
- 00:28:17 Jie Pittman: Good man good heart for the people and industry ❤️
- 00:28:31 Alexa Scarlata: Marion: In Europe there's a minimum catalog quota of 30% European content imposed upon SVODs and a requirement to provide "sufficient prominence" for these European titles
- 00:28:53 Wayne McMillan: Great to hear Erik give us this talk. I am a big fan of his work. Superb actor.
- 00:29:03 Amelia Nemet: 37 ?!
- 00:29:42 Lucinda Bruce: Hi from a small town in rural Victoria, I'm an Independent Female Film Producer with a disability struggling to understand why, after working in both Canada and the US, I'm struggling so much more here in Aus than I ever did overseas to work and be recognised as a talent and find support, it would be great if there were more outreach programs for creatives and more incentive for creating a sustainable independent film industry here in Australia.
- 00:29:51 Gita Irwin: Thankyou Eric. We need to pressure govt to invest more in national and local creative industries. Have name actors grouped together as a delegation and approached the state and federal govts ? that method worked when Bryan Brown and other folks got the govt not to reduce the offset.
- 00:33:47 Margaret Lee: Love to see the government take into account those numbers.
- 00:35:20 Glenn O: Without these content requirements, Aust is just a dumping ground for other countries' content
- 00:35:29 Katrina Graham: Will this recording be accessible afterwards?
- 00:35:49 Ebony Bennett: Here's the Australia Institute SVOD polling

<https://australiainstitute.org.au/report/polling-majority-want-video-on-demand-services-to-put-20-of-revenue-toward-australian-content/>

Written up here:

<https://tvtonight.com.au/2021/08/survey-backs-local-quotas-on-streaming-platforms.html>

00:36:26 Andrew Holliday: It's bizarre that we're having to put the industry through all this pain yet again. We've been here before. We had virtually no film industry for 30 years – until some quotas and govt tax breaks to get things going came in in the late 1960s – and the industry rose from the near-dead and flourished. We know this works. Why has it been so easily forgotten?

00:36:35 Wendy J Barnes: Hi Ebony will these links be emailed to us after?

00:37:22 Katrina Graham: + Andrew Holliday

00:38:18 Glenn O: I reckon multiplex cinemas should also be required to set aside one screen for local content...

00:38:49 Olivia Jane Parker: There is so much talent in this country. There are so many wonderful stories about our people that are diverse and rich. It has always baffled me that we don't produce more content.

00:39:45 KATHLEEN FOSTER: Olivia Jane Parker - I completely agree with you. Especially with the amazing authors and local artists that we have, surely the Government would want to embrace and show everything that we have to offer

00:39:53 Jonathan Nolan: Is there an issue with what we mean by 'Australian content' versus 'Australian made'? I love the Spanish or German or Scandinavian series on Netflix or Stan but they are not telling particularly Spanish or German or Scandinavian stories. They are just good series.

00:40:43 Kirsty Burke: Agreed Jonathan Nolan

00:41:52 Margaret Lee: Jonathan, the point to me is that we employ our actors, etc. and show our country, with a good, (even if universal) story.

00:42:16 Andrew Holliday: Mind you, if we're going to understand ourselves, by seeing ourselves on screens of various shapes and sizes then we need to be able to see our earlier selves as well. To have an identity we need continuity and a past. Seen any Cinesound features recently? ABC Archives have told me they can't repeat most old (over 10 years) ABC programs due to legal fees/royalties etc (despite being taxpayer funded). Yet I can stream DW Griffith, Rod Serling or Fawlty Towers at the drop of a credit card. Growing up I thought our cultural cringe had faded away. That's clearly not the case. And it's not telling our stories or seeing ourselves that keeps things this way. Catch-22.

00:42:48 Deborah Biancotti: Yes! I'd love to see our delegates talk more about how darn GOOD our stories are, not just how important our stories are. I don't want to watch important stories, gawd-dammitt, I just want to be entertained.

00:43:40 Dianna Nixon: Some of the issues arise with the criteria set by funding bodies. if you straddle jurisdictions, that can count against you in your application. I'm trying to develop work and find there is a sort of parochialism still evident in funding rounds.

00:44:08 Marion Jacka: Jonathan German, Scandi etc programs are good because they are authentic. I like them because they tell great stories and give us insights into the countries and cultures concerned. The key I think is that local creatives are making and telling the stories.

00:44:53 Jie Pittman: So great to hear you talking about our First Nations project in the main stream today

00:44:54 Robin Sproule: What is Australian and Australianness is a complex issue and can be presented in many ways. Is this not the foundation for employment in the industry rather than just relying on the finished images and sound ?

00:44:59 Glenn O: Wilfred was remade for the US context, for example

00:45:03 Margaret Lee: Right on, Marion. I love Scandinavian films and tv series for those very reasons.

00:45:49 Lucinda Bruce: There's no money for local film makers to produce the content, I can't even get Film Victoria to return calls or messages in regards to the RLAF! lol The general belief amongst independent film makers is that the funding bodies only give funding to projects with known elements (popular or known actors/directors producers etc) because it helps guarantee the film will get a return or succeed, it's understandable but it leaves a lot of film makers feeling like in order to succeed or be heard, they have to go overseas and give up on the Australian film market.

00:45:58 Gina Rizakos: The voices on our screens are also important - our accents are unique (there is no 'just one' Australian accent. People are not only entertained by our screen content , they also learn (language, behaviour, social skills, etc).

00:46:50 Freya Higgins-desbiolles: Cleverman was absolutely awesome so we need to support more First Nations creatives.

00:47:11 Marion Jacka: Having Australian content should be regarded as a crucial thing, almost a right for the whole country. We need our culture reflected on our screens. Imagine if we had no Australian literature!

00:47:32 Selin Kaya: I think Tom O'Regan found that the definition of what is "Australian" cinema and television should be as open as possible... in saying that, it begs the question of what would you like to be seeing on Australian screens?

00:47:43 Glenn O: Totes agree, Freya

00:47:45 Wendy J Barnes: As a lyricist, writing for sync, i'd also love to see more Australian music used here.

00:47:54 Jie Pittman: Our industry (and all forms of multi media) projects are a great tool for us here also to create real relationships with each other - not just abroad

00:48:20 Robin Sproule: Australian content is regulated for free to air. How receptive are the streamers to matching this content or at least being near it ?

00:48:23 Leanne Campbell: It's all good for government funding bodies to fund successful projects but why are they supporting multiple seasons of projects that Netflix are producing? Surely they have enough to fund the filming themselves?

- 00:49:33 Freya Higgins-desbiolles: Interesting about France- they have a strong strength of "national" or even "civilizational" pride. Do we have too much cringe to be the same?
- 00:50:55 Leanne Campbell: Screen Vic told me that I literally would not get funding if I put forward my feature film for funding but I would be more likely to be successful if I reworked it as a web series. Why is it so hard for new voices to get heard? Australian government doesn't value new voices!
- 00:51:10 Lucinda Bruce: Bring back the 10BA
- 00:52:01 Judith Gamper: from Judith - bring back another gaugh
- 00:52:15 Gina Rizakos: Sport justifies the spending on stadiums
- 00:52:40 Judith Gamper: fro Judith - Oops!
- 00:52:53 Jie Pittman: Sport & Arts has almost become a substitute for our own cultures we come from - They are both culture we all share as Australians today at some stage
- 00:53:14 Dianna Nixon: This sports v arts question has dominated our conversation for too long. Both are wonderful. Don Bradman was a pianist after all. The issue is political and cultural. There is not the high level valuing of arts practice that exists in Europe, Asia etc. Anti-intellectualism has a lot to answer for. We need to celebrate the many artists who lead companies all over the world, who kick goals every day but are not household names.
- 00:53:41 Olivia Jane Parker: Tina Arena spoke really passionately and pointedly about this on studio10 within the week.
- 00:54:00 Jie Pittman: Good point Eric 😂
- 00:54:01 Robin Sproule: The ABC has just dec commissioned their last OB's and sport coverage is very difficult without these
- 00:54:47 Gabriela Den Hollander: its a multicultural world!
- 00:55:40 Martin Russell: Governments like tribalism to gain votes and sports is well attuned to the competition of tribalism. The "arts" don't do this.
- 00:56:50 Leanne Campbell: It's not just tribalism it's also the double/triple dipping, they get taxes for you attending, the food and drink you have and the gambling dollar on sports.
- 00:57:01 Jie Pittman: I personally lost faith in the industry (as an actor) for the roles I kept getting 😞 Typecasting and the point of view of stories being told we off and glad to see its changing 👍
- 00:57:57 Jie Pittman: Love it!!! Back To Nature with big brother Aaron Pedder
- 00:57:58 Dianna Nixon: Should note that sport has been strongly supported to keep going during pandemic to a large degree because of its attachment to the gambling industry. Community sport hasn't kept going, just the pro stuff. Gambling.
- 00:58:06 Brad Elias: I loved Black Comedy. I hope they bring it back
- 00:58:30 Margaret Lee: And they've done a wonderful job: The Ghosts of Wheat Street and Redfern Now were terrific

- 00:58:34 Gina Rizakos: Yes Back to Nature is a great ABC series. It is also interactive where viewers are encouraged to participate by sending in their pics.
- 00:58:34 Dianna Nixon: I loved Black Comedy, too. What's this then..... ;)
- 00:58:51 Elly Temelcos: Everyone agrees that we need to produce good stories. What are we doing as a nation to train and mentor our writers? Our universities seem very focused on teaching students how to write short films when the market is demanding complex TV series.
- 01:00:12 Dianna Nixon: There needs to be a stronger relationship between theatre & film to support theatres (many of whom already have thriving dramaturgical programs) to work on longer forms, and for a more generous amount of money & development time, to build the strength of our writing.
- 01:00:15 Amelia Nemet: the family law is a classic
- 01:00:57 Jonathan Nolan: I think we need to stop referring to 'Strictly Ballroom', 'Priscilla...', 'Muriel's Wedding'.... They are pretty old (and so are all the folk here!). The film 'Sweet Tooth', series 'Bump', 'Cleverman' etc. are more relevant, but probably too small or hidden to make an impact?
- 01:01:33 Selin Kaya: Babyteeth?
- 01:01:50 Jonathan Nolan: That's it! Babyteeth!
- 01:02:11 Jie Pittman: Great to work and spend some time with good man Eric #TheAlice
- 01:02:16 Kirsty Burke: Babyteeth was brilliant!
- 01:02:24 Selin Kaya: I think Babyteeth won quite a few awards locally and globally!
- 01:02:49 Jonathan Nolan: Babyteeth could be anywhere - not Australian content? But Australian 'made'
- 01:02:55 Ben Dal Farra: I became an extra on the third episode of an Australian drama called The Newsreader! Has anybody been watching that lately?
- 01:03:13 Pauline Bliim: Back to Nature is such a beautiful series and I love how it is culturally appropriate and educational
- 01:03:47 Selin Kaya: Yes - true with Babyteeth. Not necessarily an Australian story per se but situated in Aus, with not so much of a focus on landscape or suburbia but the coming of age narrative
- 01:03:48 Jonathan Nolan: Do I want to watch The Newsreader and witness the awful sexism of Australia again (and again) - no thanks! (Sorry)
- 01:04:01 Selin Kaya: Just finished watching the Newsreader!
- 01:04:11 Susan Pinnock: Both terrific! Newsreader and Back to Nature.
- 01:04:19 Michael S Goodman: What about "Sea Change" ? lol
- 01:05:22 Michael S Goodman: I could never understand why ABC named its investigative journalism series, "60 Minutes" after the US programme?

- 01:05:41 Andrew Holliday: It didn't. That was channel 9
- 01:05:52 Freya Higgins-desbiolles: A relevant event is coming up through Griffith University with Rachel Griffiths being interviewed by Kerry O'Brian.  
<https://enlighten.griffith.edu.au/rachel-griffiths/>
- 01:07:50 Michael S Goodman: Andrew, yes, but couldn't they have found a more original title for it?
- 01:08:35 Andrew Holliday: 4 Corners for example?
- 01:09:12 Michael S Goodman: or "Sixth Estate" ? lol
- 01:10:32 Ray Edmondson: It's an aspect of government and cultural priorities - sport vs. arts for example - that our National Film and Sound Archive is so under-resourced.
- 01:11:18 Michael S Goodman: The US definitely serves as a brain drain for Canadian talent.
- 01:11:35 Wayne McMillan: Fascinating discussion. Thank you Ebony , Erik and Matthew.
- 01:11:39 Andrew Holliday: Why doesn't the NFSA offer a subscription funded streaming service for it's holdings? It might be able to fund itself.
- 01:12:20 Margaret Lee: I think you'll find they were franchised (or something like that), because sometimes they had US 60 Minutes stories.
- 01:12:22 Freya Higgins-desbiolles: Yes, thank you. great discussion and important to have.
- 01:12:47 Michael S Goodman: Interesting, Margaret, I didn't know that!
- 01:13:11 Dianna Nixon: Bless you.
- 01:13:18 Michael S Goodman: lol
- 01:13:21 Leanne Campbell: WTF! That is disgusting! We need local Australian children's shows
- 01:13:31 Susan Pinnock: Really helped me understand the problems facing the industry and what needs to be done. Thank you.
- 01:13:36 Robin Sproule: Australian content is throughout the ABC charter
- 01:13:42 Andrew Holliday: Margaret's correct - but it's worth remembering that 4 Corners uses Panorama and PBS stories (and vice versa) at times - without requiring a name change.
- 01:14:17 Amelia Nemet: Little Lunch!
- 01:14:29 Margaret Lee: So many great kids' tv shows made here in the past, but the commercial channels' shows were often pretty ordinary.
- 01:14:41 Andrew Holliday: Ditto Leanne. The destruction of children's TV production is disgusting.
- 01:15:19 Ben Dal Farra: I myself have a bit old school lately, because I've been rewatching Round the Twist on Netflix



- 01:15:19 Richard Naylor: Thank you Ebony,Erik & Matthew for a very
- 01:15:19 Jie Pittman: For mine, Australian content needs to help build better relationship with each other here first, the business should follow that principle
- 01:15:21 Robin Sproule: Its in the ABC Charter
- 01:15:43 Barbara Lyle: Yet another reason that we need the ABC
- 01:15:57 Margaret Lee: Yes, Robin, but without money, it just can't happen.
- 01:16:10 Michael S Goodman: Like with most things! lol
- 01:16:36 Gina Rizakos: Yay! Bring back the local cinema! They are wonderful! Thank you for this session! Keep well and safe!
- 01:16:39 Richard Naylor: A very interesting & entertaining discussion.Thank you
- 01:16:41 Wendy J Barnes: this has been great thank you Ebony, Matthew & Erik.
- 01:16:41 Jo Lyons: Thanks for a great discussion, and for the viewing recommendations!
- 01:16:43 Jenny Buckland:Children don't actually rate a mention in the ABC Charter. It mentions education, but not children. They should be mentioned!
- 01:16:44 Robin Sproule: Yes the ABC has traditionally had the non profitable like children's education by default be cause the ABC Charter requires them to be Australian and there for all Australians
- 01:16:51 Elizabeth Prime: Great information and discussion, thanks to all.
- 01:16:55 Ahmad Masri: Thank you everyone!!
- 01:17:01 Amelia Nemet: Thank you so much, very valuable info!
- 01:17:04 Jacinta Legge-Wilkinson: Thank you it was great
- 01:17:10 Aoife Hubbard: Thank you so much for this talk!
- 01:17:11 Monica Sayers: Thank you all
- 01:17:12 Barbara Lyle: Thanks again.
- 01:17:12 Jill Rogerson: Great discussion as always! Thanks TAI, Matthew and Erik.
- 01:17:13 Margaret Lee: Fantastic session. Glad you did this.
- 01:17:14 Pauline Bliim: Thanks guys loved it
- 01:17:15 Alan Coligado: Thank you!
- 01:17:21 Alexa Scarlata: Thank you!
- 01:17:23 Laura McKenzie: Thank you - valuable discussion. Please keep it up!
- 01:17:25 Richard Tuffin: Great to have a webinar focussed on the Arts.



More please!

01:17:25 Karissa McCabe: Thank you

01:17:26 Daisy Kate Kennington: thankyou

01:17:27 Peter Johnson: Thank you!

01:17:29 Geoff Dew: Thank you everyone!

01:17:33 Ben Dal Farra: Great experience and topic! Thank you!

01:17:35 Chris Runciman: Great discussion Thanks all

01:17:38 Jacinta Legge-Wilkinson: Yes more arts webinars please

01:17:41 Jie Pittman: Great talk 👍 Thanks you

01:17:43 Leanne Campbell: Thank you, but now we need to be armed to change it!

01:17:51 Helen O'Neil: thanks all

01:17:51 Karin Hawkins: Thank you

01:17:54 Michael S Goodman: lol !