

# Media Release

**Martin Foley MP**

Minister for Housing, Disability & Ageing

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Creative Industries

Minister for Equality



Friday, 31 March, 2017

## WORLD'S BIGGEST TV FESTIVAL COMING TO MELBOURNE

The world's biggest television festival, Series Mania, is coming to Melbourne this July – bringing with it the latest in small screen comedy and drama from across the nation and around the world.

Series Mania is the Cannes Film Festival of the television world. Held annually since 2009, the event is a launching pad for new television and web series. The Melbourne outing will be the first time the festival has been staged in the southern hemisphere.

Series Mania Melbourne will take over ACMI from 20–24 July with a bumper program of highlights from Paris Series Mania 2017 and sneak peeks of upcoming local productions.

The festival will include over 40 free screenings alongside talks and Q&As with key creatives and stars of the television world, as well as workshops and masterclasses for the public and screen industry practitioners.

Regarded as a key event on the global TV industry calendar, Series Mania has provided an international platform for Victorian-made programs including *Please Like Me*, *Gallipoli* and *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*. The event also features an influential co-production forum for the industry to discover new talent and share ideas.

Series Mania Paris, which takes place in April, has already announced that its high-profile program will include the world premiere of the Melbourne-made series *Seven Types of Ambiguity*. The series, by Matchbox Pictures, stars Hugo Weaving, Xavier Samuel and Suzie Porter and is based on the novel by Victorian author Elliot Pearlman.

Series Mania Melbourne is supported by the Andrews Labor Government, through ACMI and Film Victoria in partnership with Paris' Forum des Images. The festival will take place at ACMI from 20–24 July 2017. The Melbourne program will be launched on 3 July.

For further information, visit [acmi.net.au/seriesmania](http://acmi.net.au/seriesmania)

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley

*"Securing the first international Series Mania is a coup for Victoria. It reflects the international profile of our screen industry, particularly our strong track record of producing high quality TV that is in hot demand overseas."*

*"The festival will offer experiences to fans and industry insiders alike and give us our first chance to preview some of the best TV of the year ahead."*

*"We are proud to be part of Series Mania Melbourne and I look forward to welcoming this major event to our creative state this July."*