



MEDIA RELEASE

EDGY NEW DRAMA SERIES COMMISSIONED BY SHOWTIME

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – WEDNESDAY 23 AUGUST 2006 – SHOWTIME, Australia's premium movie channel, has commissioned a quality new one hour series with the working title SATISFACTION, it was announced today.

The ten episode series created by writer/producer Roger Simpson is based around the lives and loves of a group of women who work in a city brothel.

In making the announcement SHOWTIME's Chief Executive Peter Rose said: "SHOWTIME is absolutely committed to both creating and acquiring ground-breaking television to augment the outstanding movie entertainment the channel provides."

With a group of Australia's best writers currently scripting, the series centres on women involved in prostitution. From the nightly traffic of a city brothel to high-class escorts and their clients, **satisfaction** delves into the shadowy world where normal emotions are put on hold, and sex comes at a price. But what happens when a simple business transaction is interrupted by emotions too powerful to ignore? **satisfaction** is a series about love where you least expect to find it – in the oldest profession in the world.

With Roger Simpson (*Halifax fp*, *Stingers*, *Answered by Fire*) and Andy Walker (*Answered by Fire*) producing and SHOWTIME's Kim Vecera (*Love My Way*) as Executive Producer, it is anticipated that **satisfaction** will go into pre-production later this year - for exclusive broadcast in 2007.

Executive Producer, Kim Vecera said "Being on SHOWTIME gives the show the freedom to tell great stories in a unique and daring way. **satisfaction** represents all that is exciting about the new wave of Australian drama – it's confident, modern and the type of show that audiences simply could not see on broadcast television."

"Creatively, subscription television is Australia's best kept secret" said writer/producer Roger Simpson. "SHOWTIME has given me an opportunity to develop a drama I didn't think was possible in this country. For television writers everywhere, HBO has become the standard: *Deadwood*, *The Sopranos*, *Six Feet Under* - truly original, ground-breaking writing where the old formulas and usual limitations don't apply. The chance to have our own HBO with SHOWTIME in Australia is the most exciting development in Australian TV drama since I've been in the business" he continued.

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FOXTEL Executive Director of Television and Marketing Brian Walsh said "FOXTEL applauds SHOWTIME's initiative in developing this drama series, which further cements the subscription television industry's ongoing commitment to marquee local production."

Upon the announcement AUSTAR's Group Director, Corporate Development and Legal Affairs Deanne Weir said "AUSTAR is committed to providing our customers with a broad range of quality programming options that wouldn't necessarily be available on commercial television. SHOWTIME has never been afraid to push dramatic boundaries, and we are delighted that they are making this further investment in what promises to be a very exciting production. I am sure that **satisfaction** will find a responsive audience amongst AUSTAR viewers."

Both **Love My Way** Seasons 1, 2 & 3 and **satisfaction** will be shown exclusively on SHOWTIME in the first half of 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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About SHOWTIME:

SHOWTIME is the provider of Australia's premium movie channels. Jointly owned by four of the world's leading film studios - Sony Pictures, Paramount Pictures, 20th Century Fox and NBC Universal – as well as global television distributor Liberty Global International, the SHOWTIME channels are available on FOXTEL, AUSTAR and Optus.



MEDIA RELEASE

SHOWTIME'S SATISFACTION TO BE SET IN VICTORIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER 2006 – SHOWTIME, Film Victoria, FOXTEL and AUSTAR today announced that the new quality one hour series currently titled SATISFACTION, will be produced in Melbourne.

Pre-production will start at the end of November 2006, with shooting scheduled over a period of twelve weeks commencing February 2007, the ten episode series created by writer/producer Roger Simpson is set in and around a city brothel and tells the story of five very different women as they juggle personal and professional lives in their secret world.

In making the announcement SHOWTIME's Chief Executive Peter Rose said: "Victoria has a high level of industry skill and creativity. SHOWTIME is committed to creating quality groundbreaking television and we are pleased that **satisfaction** will be set in Melbourne."

Film Victoria CEO Sandra Sdraulig said, "Victoria has a long history of television production, and our diverse locations and experienced crews continue to attract producers. We're delighted to welcome Showtime and **satisfaction** to Melbourne."

With **Roger Simpson** (*Halifax fp, Stingers, Answered by Fire*) and **Andy Walker** (*Answered by Fire*) producing and SHOWTIME's **Kim Vecera** (*Love My Way*) as Executive Producer, the first two episodes will be directed by the multi-award winning **Ken Cameron** (*Monkey Grip, Brides of Christ, Bangkok Hilton, My Brother Jack*).

Executive Producer, Kim Vecera said "Melbourne's innate sense of style and modernism will provide the perfect backdrop in creating and designing the world of **satisfaction**. I'm looking forward to working with the enthusiastic Melbourne television community as it will be SHOWTIME's first production out of Melbourne".

FOXTEL Executive Director of Television and Marketing Brian Walsh said: "FOXTEL welcomes and applauds this initiative by SHOWTIME to fully produce **satisfaction**, an exciting new and exclusive subscription television series, in Melbourne. It is an important market for FOXTEL and this initiative marks what we intend to be the first of many productions shot in Victoria."

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Upon the announcement AUSTAR's Group Director, Corporate Development and Legal Affairs Deanne Weir said "We are delighted that SHOWTIME will be able to take advantage of the great production facilities and locations in Melbourne. With our increasing number of original productions, the subscription television industry is keen to tell stories and produce content which is relevant to all aspects of Australian life, and the quality environment offered by Victoria will help to make **satisfaction** a fantastic addition to the AUSTAR service."

Both **Love My Way** Seasons 1, 2 & 3 and **satisfaction** will screen on SHOWTIME in 2007.

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MEDIA RELEASE

FIVE OF AUSTRALIA'S FINEST ACTORS TO STAR IN **satisfaction**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MONDAY 18 DECEMBER 2006 - TV Week Silver Logie Award winner ALISON WHYTE (*Frontline, Good Guys Bad Guys, Marshall Law, Kangaroo Palace*), MADELEINE WEST (*Hercules, You And Your Stupid Mate, Big Reef, Neighbours*) DIANA GLENN (*Oyster Farmer, Somersault, Secret Life of Us, White Collar Blue*), AFI Award winner BOJANA NOVAKOVIC (*The Cooks, Marking Time, Blackrock, Wildside*) and PETA SERGEANT (*All Saints, Two Twisted, Headland, Last Man Standing*) headline the outstanding ensemble cast for **satisfaction when it commences shooting in February.**

Set in and around an up-market inner city brothel **satisfaction** follows the lives of five very different women as they juggle the pressures of their private lives, while competing with and supporting each other in their secret world. **satisfaction** is a series about the game of love - and the playing field is the oldest profession in the world.

Produced by Lone Hand's Roger Simpson and Andy Walker for SHOWTIME, **satisfaction** is a 10 x 1 hour series set in a world that captivates and fascinates, with Melbourne providing the backdrop.

While the series exists in what is traditionally a male landscape, the principal characters and their journeys are intrinsically female. Series creator, Roger Simpson said the story demanded performers with an extraordinary level of understanding and humanity. *"The roles are personally challenging, especially given the environment we're creating. It was critical we engaged actors who are prepared to extend themselves and push boundaries that until now haven't been present in Australian drama. We are delighted these remarkable actors will be telling these provocative and touching stories. There is nowhere to hide in a brothel".*

SHOWTIME's Executive Producer, Kim Vecera said the scripts, written by some of the country's most talented writers, offer the cast an all-too-rare opportunity to both explore and provoke: *"This show is a reflection of SHOWTIME's commitment to telling Australian stories in a fresh and gutsy way. We're aiming to give our audiences drama fare that's out of the ordinary."*

satisfaction will air exclusively on SHOWTIME in 2007 on FOXTEL, AUSTAR and OPTUS.

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