

Press Release

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KYLIE WASHINGTON TO HEAD UP AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTION ARM FOR BBC STUDIOS

Matchbox Pictures' Director of Unscripted and one of Australia's leading television producers, Kylie Washington, is to join BBC Studios as its first Director of Production in Australia.

With an impressive track record of developing and overseeing formatted factual entertainment, including the hugely successful *Real Housewives* brand for Foxtel, *Australian Spartan* for Seven and *Room 101* for SBS, Kylie joins BBC Studios with a wealth of experience in adapting international formats for the Australian market. She has also successfully developed original formats, including *Formal Wars* for Seven and *Everyone's A Critic* for ABC.

In her role, Kylie will launch and manage the growth of BBC Studios' television production arm in Australia, exploit the rich potential of BBC Studios' format catalogue, drive the creation of new intellectual property and build creative partnerships between BBC Studios' editorial teams in the UK and Australian broadcasters and digital platforms.

Kylie will join BBC Studios in the coming months and report into its international production division, led by Anna Mallett, Managing Director, Production and COO, BBC Studios. She will work closely with Jon Penn, Managing Director, BBC Studios, Australia & New Zealand and his executive leadership team.

Anna Mallett says: 'It's wonderful that BBC Studios has attracted someone of Kylie's calibre, experience and passion, and I can think of no one better to lead our Australian production operation at this exciting time.'

Kylie Washington says: 'I am thrilled to be joining BBC Studios as it establishes its first production studio in Australia. It's an exciting time of change in the Australian media and I look forward to joining a company that I have admired for many years. The BBC has such a wonderful rich history of content and I look forward to continuing that legacy within the Australian market place.'

Jon Penn says: 'Kylie is a talented creative who combines a strong track record in television production with insight into the entertainment experiences our



customers and their audiences are looking for. I'm looking forward to welcoming her into the business.'

BBC Studios recently gained their first commission in Australia with *Stargazing Live 2*, due to broadcast live on ABC and ABC iView from 22-24 May. It will be produced locally for ABC by a team from BBC Studios' Science Unit in the UK.

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Biography:

Kylie has been the Director of Unscripted at Matchbox Pictures since 2012. During this time, she has developed, pitched and overseen casting, production and delivery of 16 series, building a slate from scratch when NBCU bought out Matchbox in 2014. Titles include: *Real Housewives of Melbourne* and *Sydney* for Foxtel; *Real Housewives of Auckland* for Bravo NZ; *Australian Spartan* for Seven; *Room 101* for SBS; original format *Formal Wars* for Seven; and original arts entertainment series, *Everyone's A Critic*, for ABC.

Kylie has also set up the Matchbox Asia business which successfully delivered content across all of NBCU's Channels within Asia.

From 2006-2012, Kylie was a series producer and development producer for Active TV, working across 14 titles in a range of genres. She adapted *Prank Patrol* for ABC3, which also went out on CBBC in the UK and was nominated for Most Outstanding Children's TV Show at the 2011 Logies. Other titles include: *The Amazing Race Australia* for Seven, *Amazing Race Asia* for Sony's AXN, *To Be Or Not To Be* for Foxtel's Movie Extra, and adapting *Cash Cab* into Asia.

Prior to this, Kylie worked as a freelance producer and director on some of Australia's biggest formatted shows, including seven series of *Big Brother* for Channel Ten; *I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out of Here* for ITV1; and *The Great BBQ Challenge* for Foxtel's Lifestyle Food.

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About BBC Studios



BBC Studios, a global content company with British creativity at its heart, is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group. Formed in April 2018 by the merger of BBC Worldwide and BBC Studios, it spans content financing, development, production, sales, branded services and ancillaries. BBC Studios' award-winning British programmes are internationally recognised across a broad range of genres and specialisms. It has offices in 22 markets globally, including six production bases in the UK and production bases and partnerships in a further nine countries around the world. The company, which makes 2500 hours of content a year, is a champion for British creativity around the world and a committed partner for the UK's independent sector. BBC Studios has revenue of £1.4bn, and returns around £200m to the BBC Group annually, complementing the BBC's licence fee and enhancing programmes for UK audiences.

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