

PRESS RELEASE

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SHARMILL
FILMS

DOCTOR WHO: THE RETURN OF DOCTOR MYSTERIO **GETS BOXING DAY THEATRICAL RELEASE**



A special Boxing Day cinema event in Australia

BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand (ANZ) and Sharmill Films today announced a Boxing Day screening of this year's *Doctor Who* Christmas special, *The Return of Doctor Mysterio*, which sees the Doctor teaming up with a comic-book superhero in New York.

The cinema event will include the full 60-minute special plus two bonus features, *A New Kind of Superhero*, giving a special inside look at *Doctor Who*'s concept of a modern superhero, and a special Christmas *Doctor Who Extra*, showing the making of this year's special, with appearances by stars **Peter Capaldi** and **Matt Lucas**, and showrunner and executive producer **Steven Moffat**.

Fans throughout Australia will be able to enjoy the event in select cinemas through Sharmill Films. Information on participating cinemas and purchasing tickets for *Doctor Who: The Return of Doctor Mysterio* can be found at: www.sharmillfilms.com.au

Written by Steven Moffat, this family favourite will see the Doctor, played by **Peter Capaldi**, join up with an investigative journalist, played by **Charity Wakefield** (*Wolf Hall*, *The Player*) and a superhero to save New York from a deadly alien threat.

Grant, the superhero in human guise, is played by **Justin Chatwin** (*Orphan Black*, *War of the Worlds*). **Matt Lucas** (*Nardole*) will also be joining the cast of the special with **Adetomiwa Edun** (*Lucifer*, *Bates Motel*), **Aleksandar Jovanovic** and **Logan Hoffman**.

"Superheroes are a cinema staple so we're doubly delighted to give *Doctor Who* fans the opportunity to see this spectacular adventure on the big screen," said Louise Hill, Live Entertainment Executive for BBC Worldwide ANZ.

Natalie Miller AO, Sharmill Films Executive Director, said: "This special Boxing Day event will mark a new tradition in the Australian calendar! We're thrilled that Australian cinema audiences will have the opportunity to celebrate this time(honoured) Christmas tradition, which is perfect family viewing for old and young superheroes alike. "

The 60 minute *Doctor Who* Christmas Special will be available on iView (immediately after the UK broadcast) and will air on ABC and ABC ME at 7.30pm on Boxing Day. It is written by Steven Moffat, Executive Produced by Brian Minchin, Produced by Peter Bennett and Directed by Ed Bazalgette (*Poldark*). *Doctor Who* is made by BBC Studios Wales and shot in Cardiff at BBC Wales Roath Lock Studios.

Tickets for the theatrical release of *Doctor Who: The Return of Doctor Mysterio* go on sale nationally on Wednesday, 23rd November at: www.sharmillfilms.com.au

NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information, please contact: Jacinta Palmer, Sharmill Films on 03 9826 9077 or Sue Affleck, BBC Worldwide on 02 9744 4501.

About BBC Worldwide Australia & New Zealand

Australia & New Zealand (ANZ) is a priority territory for BBC Worldwide, focusing on growth across all its core business areas. Relocated to McMahons Point in 2015, BBC Worldwide ANZ wholly owns six channels: BBC First, UKTV, BBC Knowledge and CBeebies on Foxtel and Fetch TV in Australia; UKTV and BBC Knowledge on Sky TV in New Zealand; and is responsible for the distribution and promotion of BBC World News which transmits in both countries. BBC Worldwide ANZ distributes great British content from the BBC and other producers to free-to-air, subscription channels and SVOD platforms in Australia and New Zealand. It works with partners to bring BBC Worldwide DVDs, consumer products, entertainment formats and live events to the local market, as well as offering advertising opportunities for the BBC's world renowned bbc.com news site. In 2015/16, it generated headline sales of £79.1m - a 5.3% increase in local currency - and headline profit of £19.2m.

About Sharmill Films

Sharmill Films (established in 1967 by Natalie Miller AO) has an incomparable record of bringing sublime cinema to Australian shores. Sharmill specialises in arthouse cinema and is also the leading Australian distributor of Event Content, including *The Met Opera: Captured Live in HD* direct from

New York, and Great Britain's *National Theatre Live*. Recent feature film acquisitions include *Slack Bay*, the new film from the inimitable auteur Bruno Dumont, starring Juliette Binoche, *Lady Macbeth*, the critically heralded British hit of the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival, and *Frantz*, the captivating new film from beloved French auteur François Ozon.