

NIGHT TERRACE

THE MOST FUN YOU CAN HAVE WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED

Splendid Chaps Productions are proud to announce Season Two of *Night Terrace*, an eight episode sci-fi comedy audio series starring **Jackie Woodburne**.

Night Terrace is a digital series that has taken the radio narrative comedy - a form now a hundred years old - and married it to 21st century distribution. The first season was entirely crowdfunded, hitting its target in only 11 days and reaching 160% of the proposed budget. The campaign for season two has now launched, with 30% of the goal pledged within 24 hours.

The success of *Night Terrace* comes as no surprise. There's been a resurgence (and revolution) in audio entertainment thanks to the rise of the podcast, as seen with *This American Life's* hugely popular spin-off *Serial*. Streaming and downloads now allow Australians to binge-watch whole seasons of entertainment in one go, and the arrival of Stan and Netflix makes accessing digital content (legally) even easier.

John Richards, Head Writer for *Night Terrace* and co-creator of ABC's *Outland*, says the way we consume entertainment has changed massively, and for the better. "The consumer, and not the broadcaster, is now in control of their entertainment choices," says Richards. "One of the fantastic things about this is the rise of more individual product. You don't need a huge audience, just a passionate one. *Night Terrace* fills this niche incredibly well".

Night Terrace stars *Neighbours'* **Jackie Woodburne** (Susan Kennedy) as Anastasia Black, a scientist from a secret government organisation who used to save the world, but now just wants a quiet retirement in the suburbs. She's understandably miffed when her house unexpectedly starts travelling through space and time. From the ancient past to the distant future, from pre-historic Melbourne to the edges of human understanding, Anastasia fights monsters and solves mysteries, all while trying to find a way home.

Having now appeared in over 5000 episodes of *Neighbours*, Woodburne clearly doesn't have a lot of spare time but found *Night Terrace* too appealing to turn down. It allows a side of Jackie not often seen - her playful enthusiasm in the project's Kickstarter video is endearing, where she even parodies her own *Neighbours* performance in a "clip" from the show.

"In the 80s, along with many others, I worked fairly regularly in radio at the ABC, recording plays and poetry. It was great then and even better now with the advances in technology to add richness and texture to the recording process," says Woodburne. "I'm very hopeful for a second series of 'Night Terrace', so I can get to play with this talented crew again!"

Joining Jackie are actor/comedian **Ben McKenzie** (*Ben McKenzie Is Uncool*, *Planet Nerd*) and actor/singer **Petra Elliott** (*Petraxsexual*, *Museum Comedy Tour*, *Sonnigsburg*).

Season one featured an impressive guest cast, including **Alan Brough**, **Cal Wilson**, **Toby Truslove**, **Adam Richard**, **Francis Greenlade**, **Cate Wolfe** and **Chris Taylor**. It even featured a cameo from **Nicholas Briggs** (voice of the Daleks on BBC TV's *Doctor Who*).

The cast list for the second season is just as remarkable, with current confirmations including actor and *Doctor Who* writer **Gary Russell** (*Big Finish*, *The Famous Five*, *Octopussy*), **Dave Callan** (*Rove*, *JJJ*) and **Lawrence Leung** (*Unbelievable*, *Maximum Choppage*). Returning from season one are **Dave Lamb** (*Bell Shakespeare*), **Amanda Buckley** (*Impro Melbourne*), **Jane Badler** (*V*, *Mission: Impossible*) and **Virginia Gay** (*Winners and Losers*, *All Saints*).

As well as a great cast, both seasons of *Night Terrace* involve members of the audience, who interact with the show through rewards in the Kickstarter campaign. You can choose to have your name incorporated into an episode; an "audio walk-on part" where you record a line of dialogue; or even an individualised mini-story (released on one-off 7" record) in which your name and details are included in a standalone adventure with Anastasia and the crew.

ABOUT THE SPLENDID CHAPS

The Splendid Chaps are John Richards (Head Writer, Producer), Ben McKenzie ('Eddie', Writer, Producer), Lee Zachariah (Writer), David Ashton (Writer, Sound) and Petra Elliott ('Sue', Co-creator).

The *Night Terrace* writing team have worked on 3RRR radio sketch show *The Third Ear*, ABC2 comedy *The Bazura Project*, ABC1 sit-com *Outland*, long-running television podcast *Boxcutters*, sketches for programs including *Shaun Micallef's Mad As Hell*, *The Hamster Wheel*, *The Hamster Decides* and *The Checkout*, and more than a dozen *Melbourne International Comedy Festival* shows. They spent 2013 running the "smash hit" (*Time Out*) live *Doctor Who*-themed tonight show/podcast **Splendid Chaps**, which led to the development of *Night Terrace*. David Ashton, the show's audio engineer, has recorded big names including The Church, Regurgitator and Michael Franti, and worked for SBS and ABC radio.

Detailed biographies for each of the Splendid Chaps are available on the website.

FREE EPISODE

Episode one of the first season, *Moving House*, has been released for free so a new audience can get a taste of what the series is all about. It's available to stream online via YouTube and Soundcloud, and to download directly as a DRM-free MP3. Links to all formats are available on the *Night Terrace* website.

WHERE TO FIND NIGHT TERRACE

To find out more about *Night Terrace*, including the downloadable first episode, visit:

www.nightterrace.com

The season two crowd funding campaign (and video featuring Jackie Woodburne) is available at:

www.kickstarter.com/projects/labcoatman/night-terrace-season-two

MEDIA CLIPS & IMAGES

Images and audio clips are accessible at www.nightterrace.com/media or for a review copy of the full first season, please email us at info@nightterrace.com

INTERVIEWS & ENQUIRIES

Contact Barbara Wright at thewrightwordpublicity@gmail.com for interviews with cast and crew.



"Wonderfully strange" (SameSame)

"4 stars - Laugh out loud" (Audio Drama Reviews .com)

"Like Doctor Who, if Tom Baker had corks dangling from his hat and was more interested in physics than flirting with his side kick". (Broadsheet)

"Stellar cast ... a superb piece of work" (Katherine Phelps)

"Extremely enjoyable" (The Weekly Review)

"Well worth your time ... Permission to squee?" (Paul Cornell – Writer, BBC's *Doctor Who*)