



STAN COMMISSIONS ITS BIGGEST ORIGINAL LOCAL PRODUCTION YET

ICONIC AUSTRALIAN FILM *ROMPER STOMPER*

TO BE RECHARGED AS STAN ORIGINAL TV SERIES

Production commences this week

31 July, 2017 – Australia’s leading local streaming service **Stan** announced today that production will commence this week on its newest Original Series, *Romper Stomper*, a 6-part drama continuing the story first told in the ground-breaking and controversial feature film of the same name, released 25 years ago.

Romper Stomper is produced by multi award-winning veteran producer **John Edwards** (*Love My Way, Puberty Blues, Paper Giants: The Birth of Cleo*) and **Dan Edwards** for **Roadshow Rough Diamond** with major production investment from **Stan** and **Screen Australia** in association with **Film Victoria**, and international distribution by **DCD Rights**.

A high stakes crime drama/political thriller that explores the human face of extremism, *Romper Stomper* will join the rapidly expanding Stan Originals roster of award-winning, fresh and diverse dramas, comedies and movies, including the AACTA Award-winning and Logie Award-nominated series *No Activity* and the critically acclaimed AACTA Award-winning and Logie Award-nominated drama series *Wolf Creek*, returning for its second season later this year. Stan’s latest series, Matt Okine’s *The Other Guy*, premieres 17 August.

Thrilling, bold and provocative, *Romper Stomper* will pick up on the prescient themes and story of **Geoffrey Wright**’s 1992 classic film, following a new generation of the activist Right, their Anti-Fascist counterparts, and the multicultural fabric of a country each of them threatens to tear apart.

Twenty-five years ago, *Romper Stomper* made headlines around the world. It brought the hidden fragments of society to the fore and made Russell Crowe a star, with his unforgettable portrayal of belligerent skinhead Hando.

Romper Stomper will star **Jacqueline McKenzie** (*The Water Diviner, Love Child*) and **Dan Wyllie** (*Love My Way, Puberty Blues*), reprising their roles from the original film. Joining them are **Lachy Hulme** (*Power Games: The Packer-Murdoch Story, Beaconsfield*), **Sophie Lowe** (*The Beautiful Lie, The Slap*), **David Wenham** (*Lion, Top of the Lake, Killing Time*) and rising star **Toby Wallace** (*Boys In The Trees*).

The new series is the brainchild of original filmmaker Wright himself, who will direct alongside the formidable talents of **Daina Reid** (*The Secret River, Never Tear Us Apart: The Untold Story of INXS, Howzat! Kerry Packer’s War*), and exciting New Zealand director **James Napier Robertson** (*The Dark Horse*). The 6 x 1 hour drama is written by Wright, Robertson, award-winning author/poet and rapper **Omar Musa** (*Here Come the Dogs*), and Walkley award-winning journalist and author **Malcolm Knox**.

Producer John Edwards said: “*Romper Stomper* is a fantastic chance to break the mould of Australian drama – a contemporary thriller with competing tribes and different points of view battling for power. The series brings together some of our greatest character actors and wonderful new talents as well. Very exciting.”

Stan's Chief Content Officer, **Nick Forward** said: "With such an extraordinary creative team, *Romper Stomper* will be unmissable television, as provocative now as the film was in 1992, examining at a personal level the hatred, fear, vengeance and politics hidden in plain sight all around us. Stan is privileged to bring Geoffrey's prodigious talents to bear on a contemporary exploration of the themes his film tackled so brilliantly."

Mesmerising, confrontational and controversial, the original film's ideas are more relevant than ever now, 25 years later, as the world confronts the politics of hate and hard-right populism. This bold, new Stan Original Series will be a must-see TV event, and will be available exclusively on Stan.

Screen Australia's Head of Production, **Sally Caplan** said: "'Few Australian films provoked more social commentary than *Romper Stomper* did in 1992. With prolific producer John Edwards and original *Romper Stomper* writer/director Geoffrey Wright at the helm, this project came to us with an exceptional creative vision, now supercharged by a stellar Australian cast. We commend Stan on taking a risk with this story and are delighted to partner with them once again as they continue to expand their original local content offerings."

Film Victoria CEO, **Jenni Tosi** said: "In 1992 Film Victoria supported Geoffrey Wright as he set the Australian feature film world alight with his fearless debut feature *Romper Stomper*. Twenty five years later we are delighted that he is leading this reimagining of the original story along with the equally talented Victorian Director Daina Reid and being produced by John Edwards and Dan Edwards from Roadshow Rough Diamond."

ROMPER STOMPER will premiere exclusively on Stan

For further information, please contact:

Stan Publicity - stan.publicity@stan.com.au



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About Stan: Stan is Australia's leading local subscription video-on-demand provider. Stan offers unlimited access to thousands of hours of entertainment, with an outstanding lineup of exclusive premieres such as *Better Call Saul*, *Sherlock*, *Girlfriend Experience*, *Transparent* and *UnREAL*. New SHOWTIME series also premiere exclusively on Stan, including the recent second season of *Billions* and most recently, David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*.

Stan Originals include the AACTA Award-winning and Logie Award-nominated series *No Activity* and the critically acclaimed AACTA Award-winning and Logie Award-nominated drama series *Wolf Creek*, which has been commissioned for a second season and goes into production shortly, to air in late 2017.

Stan's award-winning TV shows, classic catalogue, blockbuster movies and popular kids content can be watched in full HD on your TV or favourite device, including tablets and smartphones. Now you can download and enjoy your favourite TV shows and movies and watch them anywhere, anytime, without being tied to an internet connection. Stan is a joint venture between Nine Entertainment Co. and Fairfax Media. For more information, visit www.stan.com.au.

About Screen Australia: Screen Australia is the Australian Federal Government agency charged with supporting Australian screen content through development, production and promotion across television, film, documentary and digital originals. The agency administers Australia's official co-production program, in addition to the Producer Offset tax rebate which assists eligible television, film and online works to be made. Screen Australia provides a range of resources and opportunities to the industry including access to research, market intelligence plus special initiatives such as its highly success Gender Matters program. For more information visit screenaustralia.gov.au.

About Film Victoria: Film Victoria is the State Government agency that provides strategic leadership and assistance to the film, television and digital media sectors of Victoria. It aims to increase screen activity in Victoria and be a responsive advocate for the screen industry through funding the production and development of screen content, industry placements, filming incentives, location assistance, industry events, partnership activities and other support, all which help develop and strengthen the Victorian screen industry. More at film.vic.gov.au