



MINISTER FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS

MEDIA STATEMENT

Attention: News Editor/Chief of Staff

27/6/07

Exciting new drama wrestles justice outback WA style.

An explosive new drama mini-series launched today wrestles the confronting, moving and at times hilarious world of Western Australian legal system in the remote Kimberley.

Culture and Arts Minister Sheila McHale today launched 'The Circuit' – a six-part mini-series which is the biggest adult drama series ever produced in the State.

"'The Circuit', stars Aaron Pedersen and Gary Sweet and was filmed entirely on location amid the Kimberley's dramatic and breathtaking scenery," Ms McHale said.

"It tells the story of city lawyer Drew Ellis (Pedersen) and his rude awakening to the chaotic and challenging world of the Kimberley 'circuit' Court."

Ms McHale said the State Government had committed more than \$600,000 to mini-series through ScreenWest.

"Having such a major television drama shoot in the Kimberley provided significant economic and employment benefits as well as excellent work opportunities for local cast and crew," Ms McHale said.

"This uniquely Western Australian story was brought to life by a predominantly WA cast and crew including talented Indigenous actors Kelton Pell and Tammy Clarkson.

"'The Circuit' is full of rich characters that draw us into the heart of issues critical to people living in the North West of our State."

Series producer Ross Hutchens said the series was being hailed as a landmark drama because of the way it embraces Indigenous issues.

"Our aim was first and foremost to produce a television drama with strong characters, and gripping stories," Mr Hutchens said.

"We hope audiences will be challenged along the way, but our intent was always to create first-rate entertainment."

The series screens from Sunday 8 July at 9.30pm on SBS Television. For interviews with key cast and/or the creative team contact Louise Merrillees – (08) 9224 7436 or 0438 764 197 or louise@screenwest.com.au

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