

# Darren McFarlane

## Senior Producer

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### PROFILE

DARREN MCFARLANE is a highly experienced senior producer having worked on commercials as well as numerous TV series, web series, short films and features. His projects include line-producing the AACTA award winning feature film 'High Ground', starring Simon Baker and Jack Thompson, Tony Rogers' award winning web series, 'Bruce', and the Jacobson Brothers feature film, 'Brothers Nest'.

He also was the Creative Producer for the award-winning short film, 'Grace', and Line Producer for the multi-award winning online series, 'Monologue' - both of these productions proving Darren's ability to help create outstanding content within challenging timelines and budgets.

Darren has also worked as a Story Producer on a few TV shows that are still in development. Participating in Writer's Rooms brainstorming ideas, crafting shared experiences into scenes, characters and collaborating with writers and directors to plot out the series.

Equally, Darren easily meets the challenge, having worked on American and Australian films and TV shows through to complex commercials. He has the know-how to source the best team for the production and manage extreme or unique locations, whether around the world for the highly popular Qantas safety videos, or in remote Australia for Nissan.

Recently Darren has worked in the corporate world having oversight of all aspects of production including creative delivery and financial reporting with Suncorp which is very much a *high volume, fast paced client*.

Highly skilled at managing complex relationships with key stakeholders across financiers, directors, cast, crew and corporate clients, Darren brings innovation, creativity and a clear a vision from pre- to post-production. His strong communication and negotiation skills mean he is proficient in meeting the needs of several stakeholders, while his high energy and willingness to go the extra mile in his support of others makes him an asset to any team.

With so many different elements to consider during film production, Darren has strong organisational skills, sticking to a budget and production schedule. As the producer Darren can delegate responsibilities and manage people effectively. He has strong interpersonal skills and a positive personality that keeps everyone motivated.

When problems and challenges arise Darren is quickly able to adapt to these new situations, adopt efficient problem-solving skills and effectively change strategy, to match the new requirements and deliver cost effective outcomes.

### WORK HISTORY

**2023** - Darren worked 8 months at Hogarth Melbourne as the Lead Producer overseeing a team of producers in cross-functional integrated & content production for Suncorp brands - AAMI, Vero, Bingle and GIO. This client-facing role required oversight of all aspects of production including creative delivery and financial reporting, the role saw him accountable for efficient and effective delivery of all projects across the team and working collaboratively with the creative agency; ensuring the team put forward

achievable solutions that are on brief, on brand, on time (no matter how tight that got), commercially effective to consistently meet client expectations.

**2021-2022** - Darren produced two seasons of comedy series 'Metro Sexual' for 9Now and 9GO and line-produced Truce Films latest award winning online comedy series, 'Monologue'.

**2020-2024** - In addition to his work in TV and Advertising, Darren has taken his production experience to Broad Radio, an independent media company which he co-founded alongside award winning No. 1 radio personality, Jo Stanley. Broad Radio is an online radio network for women by women to address the gender parity missing on our airwaves.

**2017-2019** – Darren Line-Produced the low budget feature “Brothers Nest” with Shane and Clayton Jacobson and Sarah Snook. He then travelled to central Australia and Line-Produced the \$8 million Indigenous outback western, 'High Ground', which was an incredible undertaking working hand in hand with the indigenous community, managing multiple production departments, keeping everything on track under tough conditions.

**2000's** - While Darren was researching his PhD at RMIT he met film students Leigh Whannell and James Wan and produced their short film, 'Saw', which they took to LA and launched their horror franchise careers. From there he went on to work with Glendyn Ivin and Greig Fraser on their Palm D'or winning short, 'Cracker Bag', then a number of long-form projects such as 'Charlotte's Web', 'Rush' and 'Nightmares & Dreamscapes' where he was the stand in for William Hurt's hands (true story).

## EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy (Applied Chemistry), RMIT University- 1997 to 2002

PhD Collaboration, Universite de Libre Bruxelles, Belgium- 1995 to 1996

Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical – Honours), University of Melbourne- 1988 – 1992

## PAST 10 YEARS TVC CAREER

TVC's Lead Producer - Hogarth Melbourne - March to October, 2023

Overseeing Suncorp brands - AAMI, GIO, Bingle and Vero.

Senior Producer - Flybuys “Get Reward Fit”- Truce Films - 2022

Directed by Jeff Johnson / Agency CHEP

Senior Producer - Tradies “Sustainability” - Truce Films - 2022

Directed by Nick Clifford / Agency Incubator

Senior Producer - Ryobi “Done & Dusted” - Truce Films - 2022

Directed by Josh Lawson / Agency Fenton Stephens

Senior Producer - Head & Shoulders “Free Your Head” - Truce Films- 2022

Directed by Tim Potter / Agency Prodigious Singapore

Senior Producer - Olay “FBI Skin Agent” - Truce Films - 2022

Directed by Jess Lawton / Agency Prodigious Singapore

Senior Producer - Oral B “3D White Lasting Toothpaste” - Truce Films - 2022

Directed by Jeff Johnson / Agency Prodigious Singapore

Production Manager - Nissan “Travel the Whole World of Australia” - TBWA - 2021

Directed by Brian Patto / Produced by Joel Morgan

Production Manager - Nissan "Travel the Hard Way" - TBWA - 2020

Directed by Brian Patto / Produced by Joel Morgan

Production Manager - ANZ Various TVC's - TBWA - 2020-21

Directed by Brian Patto / Produced by Caley Jowers, Margot Ger, Joel Morgan

Production Manager - Sweat "Sweat Nation" - TBWA - 2019

Directed by Brian Patto / Produced by Steph Leddin

Line Producer - Qantas "Safety Video III" (International) - Positive Ape - 2017

Directed by Josh Whiteman / Produced by Jason Byrne

Production Manager - Qantas Assure - Positive Ape - 2016/17

Directed by Josh Whiteman / Produced by Jason Byrne

Line Producer - Qantas "Safety Video II" (International) - Positive Ape - 2016

Directed by Josh Whiteman / Produced by Jason Byrne

Line Producer - FUSO "Sumo" (Japan) - Guilty - 2016

TBWA / Directed by Tovo / Produced by Jason Byrne

Line Producer - Qantas "Safety Video I" (Australia wide) - Positive Ape - 2015

Qantas direct / Directed by Josh Whiteman / Produced by Jason Byrne

Line Producer- Bonds "The Boys Phase II" - Guilty- 2015

Clemenger BBDO / Directed by Tony Rogers / Produced by Jason Byrne

Line Producer- Bonds "The Boys Phase I" - Guilty- 2015

Clemenger BBDO Directed by Tony Rogers / Produced by Jason Byrne

## REFEREES

On request.