

JONATHAN M. SHIFF PRODUCTIONS  
Presents

# Mako

Island of  
Secrets



26 X HALF HOUR TELEVISION SERIES FOR NETWORK TEN

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## SERIES SYNOPSIS

Real life mermaids, Sirena, Nixie and Lyla are part of a mermaid pod, which lives in the waters of Mako Island.



As young members of the pod, it is their job to protect the Moon Pool, and guard it from trespassers. But on the night of a full moon, the mischievous mermaid girls neglect their duties. Sixteen-year-old land dweller Zac (*Chai Romruen*) enters the Moon Pool and forms a special connection with Mako. Zac is given a fish like tail and amazing powers.

The mermaid pod is forced to leave Mako. Sirena (*Amy Ruffle*), Nixie (*Ivy Latimer*) and Lyla (*Lucy Fry*) are left behind, cast out of the pod. The mermaid girls know there is only one way they will be allowed to rejoin the pod. They must get legs, venture onto land, and take back Zac's powers or risk being outcasts forever.



## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Continuing the company's highly successful Mermaid franchise, **MAKO Island of Secrets** is the new 26 half hour children's series spin off of the smash hit **H2O JUST ADD WATER**, which is enjoyed by an audience of tens of millions in over 160 territories including Germany, the United States and the United Kingdom.



**MAKO Island of Secrets** centres on three mermaids, Sirena, Nixie and Lyla, who are charged with the task of protecting their magical Mako Island from trespassers, only to be thwarted by the arrival of a 16 year-old land-dweller Zac - who forms a special connection with the island and is granted a fish-like tail and amazing powers.

Threatened by his existence, the mermaid pod are forced to move away, abandoning Sirena, Nixie and Lyla - who in a bid for survival must get legs, venture onto land, and take back Zac's powers ... or risk being outcasts forever.





With hundreds of teenagers auditioning for the coveted lead roles, the three mermaids are **Lucy Fry** (*Lightning Point*, *Reef Doctors*), **Ivy Latimer** (*Me & My Monsters*, *All Saints*, *Home & Away*, *Love My Way*) and **Amy Ruffle**, a stunning newcomer to television with experience in stage and musical theatre.

The series also introduces **Chai Romruen** as the merman, Zac.

Produced by **Jonathan M. Shiff**, directed by **Evan Clarry** (*Lightning Point*, and the feature films *Blurred*, *Under the Radar*) and **Grant Brown** (*Reef Doctors*, *The Elephant Princess*, *Rush*, *Crownies*) and executive produced by **Jonathan M. Shiff** and **Julia Adams**, **MAKO Island of Secrets** was filmed at the Village Roadshow Studios and around the Gold Coast.

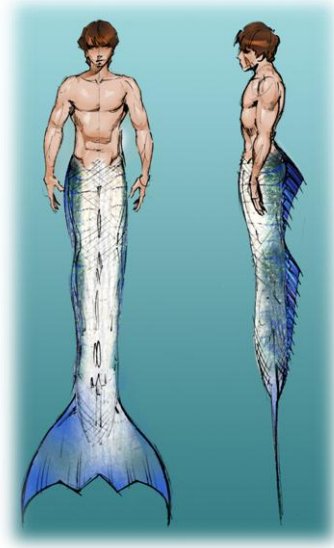
**Jonathan M. Shiff** said “Children all over the world love mermaids – but now a merman opens up a whole new world of fantasy and action.”



Jonathan M Shiff Productions commissioned JMB FX Studio – the makers of the mermaid tails of **H2O** – to further their already outstanding design to create even more spectacular tails for **MAKO Island of Secrets**.



**MERMAIDS**



**MERMAN**

With a crew of nine artists working tirelessly for eight weeks, the Tails are made from lighter more flexible materials, and the colours are far more striking.

The Mermaids' 'tails' are based on the **H2O** shape, but the Merman's 'tail' was designed from scratch – using all new sculpted Fluke and a spine ridge. As with **H2O**, each 'tail' was finished with the individual scaling system developed by JMB FX Studios, using approximately 5000 scales on each.

**MAKO Island of Secrets** is a Jonathan M. Shiff Production produced in association with Screen Australia, Network Ten, ZDF Enterprises Germany and Screen Queensland, with assistance from Gold Coast City Council's Business Gold Coast.



## CAST

LYLA	<b>Lucy Fry</b>
NIXIE	<b>Ivy Latimer</b>
SIRENA	<b>Amy Ruffle</b>
ZAC	<b>Chai Romruen</b>
CAM	<b>Dominic Deutscher</b>
DAVID	<b>Rowan Hills</b>
EVIE	<b>Gemma Forsyth</b>





## CREW

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	<b>Jonathan M Shiff</b> <b>Julia Adams</b>
CREATED & PRODUCED BY	<b>Jonathan M Shiff</b>
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER	<b>Kristen Souvlis</b>
LINE PRODUCER	<b>Stuart Wood</b>
DIRECTORS	<b>Grant Brown</b> <b>Evan Clarry</b>
STORY PRODUCER	<b>Greg Millin</b>
ASSOCIATE STORY PRODUCER	<b>Mark Shirrefs</b>
SCRIPT EDITOR	<b>Alexa Wyatt</b>
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	<b>Butch Sawko</b>
CASTING	<b>Tom McSweeney</b>
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	<b>Eugene Intas</b>
COSTUME DESIGNER	<b>Lucinda McGuigan</b>
MAKE UP & HAIR DESIGNER	<b>Sharon Robbins</b>
POST PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR	<b>Barry Lanfranchi</b>
DEVELOPED BY	<b>Jonathan M Shiff</b> <b>Greg Millin</b> <b>Sam Carroll</b> <b>Kristen Souvlis</b> <b>Amy Purton-Long</b>



## **EPISODE SYNOPSES**

### **Episode 1:**

### **OUTCASTS**

Young mermaids of the Mako Island pod, SIRENA, LYLA and NIXIE have the task of keeping trespassers off the magical island. On a full moon, they fail to stop a land boy, ZAC, from falling into the sacred Moon Pool, and the power of the moon transforms him into a merman! As punishment the mermaids are banished from their pod as it flees Mako. To redeem themselves, the mermaids must find a way to turn ZAC into normal boy once more.

### **Episode 2:**

### **GETTING LEGS**

To re-join the pod, SIRENA, LYLA and NIXIE must turn ZAC from part-time merman to full-time land boy. With the power of SIRENA's Moon Ring, the mermaids give themselves legs and walk on land to begin their task. But when ZAC spectacularly uses his newfound powers for good, the mermaids realise their plan may be simple, but not easy.

### **Episode 3:**

### **MEETING RITA**

Attempting to capture ZAC in his natural environment, SIRENA, LYLA and NIXIE follow him to school. When their plan fails, the school principal, RITA SANTOS, confronts them and confiscates SIRENA's Moon Ring. In trying to get the Moon Ring back, the mermaids uncover RITA's secret – she too is a mermaid! Begrudgingly, RITA agrees to help the mermaids while they're on land.

### **Episode 4:**

### **LYLA ALONE**

While NIXIE and SIRENA discover shopping, LYLA looks for ZAC at The Ocean Café. When a waitress accidentally spills a drink on LYLA, she rushes to the cool room - just before secretly transforming into a mermaid! Trapped and unable to regain her legs, LYLA's tail is on the line.



**Episode 5:****BLIZZARD**

Relentless rain keeps the mermaids indoors and unable to look for ZAC. LYLA and SIRENA try to use the Moon Ring to stop the rain, but inexperienced with their powers, the Moon Ring creates a blizzard in RITA'S house! LYLA and SIRENA fall ill with Snow Rash and it's up to NIXIE to find a mermaid cure before a land doctor takes them to hospital for tests.

**Episode 6:****DOLPHIN TALE**

JOE, who delivers seafood to the Ocean Café, has a new boat and takes his brother DAVID out for a spin. His fish-finder locates a dolphin, but it's not like any dolphin he's seen before. Out having a swim, NIXIE is in trouble as JOE decides to chase the 'dolphin'. While LYLA and SIRENA awkwardly try to befriend ZAC on land, NIXIE gets trapped under a jetty and desperately needs their help to escape!

**Episode 7:****ZAC'S POOL PARTY**

ZAC's struggle with his merman secret intensifies when his girlfriend, EVIE, throws him a pool party. At the party, CAM pushes ZAC into the pool and the mermaids see him in his transformed state. When they help him keep his secret from the rest of the guests, he finds new allies, and the mermaids are one step closer to getting back to their pod.

**Episode 8:****ZAC'S RETURN TO MAKO**

It's a full moon and the mermaids think that if they keep ZAC out of the moonlight, he'll lose his powers and return to his land-dwelling self. Then they can return to their pod. Despite their best efforts to keep him indoors out of the moonlight, the power of the full moon is too strong and ZAC is drawn to the Moon Pool, where he gains even more power!

**Episode 9:****THE SIREN**

While listening to SIRENA sing, LYLA has an idea. If SIRENA sings the Enchantment Song to ZAC, he'll fall under her spell and they'll have the chance to take his powers. It's a risky plan, but LYLA talks SIRENA into it. Except the song misfires, and the Café's waiter DAVID falls under NIXIE'S spell. LYLA and SIRENA must find a way to reverse it.

**Episode 10:****ZAC RETURNS TO MAKO**

Against NIXIE and SIRENA'S advice, LYLA helps ZAC get to the Moon Pool. But when the Moon Pool entrance suddenly closes LYLA and ZAC are trapped inside! ZAC discovers a new chamber and discovers an ancient prize - a Trident. Before he can obtain it, SIRENA and NIXIE arrive to save them. Now ZAC's sights are set on the mysterious Trident. The mermaids don't know what will happen if he gets it, but they're sure it won't be good.

**Episode 11:****I DON'T BELIEVE IN MERMAIDS**

Fearing they'll never get the pod to return to Mako, a despondent NIXIE finds herself at odds with LYLA and SIRENA. Seeking solitude, she meets BEN, a young boy whose family is leaving their home to live on a yacht. Things couldn't be worse for BEN. But as NIXIE shows him the magic of mermaids, BEN looks forward to life at sea and NIXIE regains her hope.

**Episode 12:****CLOSE CALL**

SIRENA is collecting shells on the reef when she sees merman ZAC. Luckily, she torpedoes away before he recognises her. But it's not enough - ZAC saw her tail and now believes there's another merman in the Mako waters. Without giving away their secret, the mermaids must put ZAC off their scent and keep him away from the island.

**Episode 13:****BETRAYAL**

The full moon is once again upon Mako and the mermaids have to stop ZAC from getting the all-powerful Trident. But the full moon draws ZAC to Mako where he fights off the mermaids and seizes the Trident. In their struggle, ZAC sees the mermaids' true identity, tails and all! But the Trident vanishes from his grasp. Feeling betrayed, ZAC poses a new threat that the mermaids never expected.

**Episode 14:****BATTLELINES**

Now that he knows SIRENA, LYLA and NIXIE are mermaids, ZAC begins to wonder about his school principal, RITA, and why she helps the mermaids. ZAC quickly uncovers the truth – RITA is also a mermaid. He uses this insight to get out of doing homework, but SIRENA, LYLA and NIXIE won't stand to see RITA pushed around. By giving him a taste of his own medicine, the mermaids convince ZAC to leave RITA out of their problems.

**Episode 15:****SIRENA'S SECRET**

When DAVID invites SIRENA to sing with him at the Ocean Café, their connection grows. Seeing SIRENA'S attachment to a land boy, LYLA and NIXIE fear that SIRENA might not want to return to the sea. To stop DAVID and SIRENA growing closer, LYLA and NIXIE sabotage SIRENA's audition, only to realise what a terrible mistake they've made.

**Episode 16:****TRUCE**

While showing off his brand new smart phone, CAM takes video footage of ZAC swimming as a merman. During an argument with NIXIE in the café, CAM accidentally loses his phone. The mermaids must work with ZAC and CAM to retrieve the phone before anyone sees the footage of ZAC and discovers his secret.

**Episode 17:****MOON RING 2**

ZAC finds a Moon Ring on the ocean floor and when he gives the ring to EVIE, the mermaids know it's no ordinary ring. They have to get it back! But EVIE isn't about to hand it over, and ZAC knows the ring holds great power. Over lunch with his parents, ZAC and the mermaids scuffle for possession of the Moon Ring, and accidentally cast a spell on RITA.

**Episode 18:****THE TRIDENT JOB**

A full moon. A Halloween party at the café. The perfect chance for ZAC to seize the Trident. The mermaids keep a close watch on ZAC at the party, but with CAM's help, he evades them. The mermaids aren't sure how ZAC did it, but they're certain he has unlocked the Trident from the chamber. He denies it to the mermaids, but ZAC's quietly thrilled. Finally, the Trident is his!

**Episode 19:****WHERE'S THE ON BUTTON?**

The Trident is every bit as powerful as ZAC imagined. Only, he can't get it to work! ZAC wonders if the Trident needs to be activated by moonlight and breaks into RITA's secret Grotto. While the mermaids try to take the Trident from him, SIRENA's Moon Ring triggers a glow from the Trident. ZAC escapes with the now activated Trident... and the ability to wield its mighty power.

**Episode 20:****NOWHERE TO HIDE**

The Trident is active and dangerous, and the mermaids must take it from ZAC. Knowing this, ZAC searches for the perfect hiding place and decides on an old warehouse. When the mermaids discover it's hiding place and try to take the Trident, the ancient weapon counteracts their powers. ZAC can't wait to see what else it can do!

**Episode 21:****AQUATA RETURNS**

SIRENA's sister AQUATA returns to Mako with wonderful news – SIRENA can return to the pod! Unfortunately, the invitation isn't extended to LYLA and NIXIE. When ZAC finds the Moon Pool he tries to kick LYLA and NIXIE out. In a showdown between ZAC and the mermaids, LYLA manages to seize the Trident from ZAC, and hides it in a cave deep in the ocean. SIRENA decides to stay and defend the island, and the Moon Pool, with LYLA and NIXIE.

**Episode 22:****EVIE TIMES TWO**

When RITA's cat, POSEIDON steps through a puddle of mermaid powders, he is transformed into a person. A girl - identical to EVIE! A boy cat, in a real girl's body, CAT-EVIE's behaviour raises many eyebrows. ZAC and the mermaids must work together to reverse the spell before CAT-EVIE and the real EVIE cross paths.

**Episode 23:****ZAC'S CHOICE**

ZAC's continued search for the Trident has LYLA worried. Although she hid it well, ZAC manages to find the Trident. But LYLA is right behind him, and as the two battle for possession, a flash of energy knocks LYLA unconscious. ZAC rushes her to RITA's place for help, and uses the Trident to save her. Rattled and guilty, ZAC realises just how dangerous a weapon it is. He locks the Trident away on Mako, vowing never to use it again.



**Episode 24:****TRUST**

For the first time, there are no secrets or differences between ZAC and the mermaids. While LYLA tries to teach him more about the ocean and mermaid/merman history, NIXIE refuses to trust him. Suddenly, NIXIE finds she has more in common with CAM than with SIRENA and LYLA.

**Episode 25:****BETRAYED**

Behind SIRENA and LYLA's backs, NIXIE helps CAM get into the Moon Pool to unlock the Trident. But EVIE insists on coming along for the dive. When the Moon Pool entrance suddenly closes, EVIE is trapped underwater with her oxygen running out! ZAC and the other mermaids come to rescue EVIE, and their true mermaid identities are revealed to her. Meanwhile, CAM escapes with the Trident.

**Episode 26:****DECISION TIME**

It's a full moon and NIXIE doesn't trust ZAC to stay away from the Trident. When CAM takes the Trident to Mako behind NIXIE's back, the mermaids realise that he intends to turn himself into a merman so he can rule Mako Island. ZAC and the mermaids work together to stop CAM, and to destroy the Trident once and for all. There's a new pod in the Mako waters – ZAC, SIRENA, LYLA and NIXIE – a new alliance!



## LYLA

A loner and a bit of a rebel, Lyla loves her life as a mermaid and is perfectly content swimming alone all day. She has her own fun in her own way, and she isn't used to having to rely on others – or even cooperating – so she can be a little prickly at times.

## LUCY FRY

is LYLA



Lucy's rapid career rise began in 2009, playing the lead in the short film **Instead of Breakfast** for Quinn Films and a featured role in a **Thirsty Merc** music video. Soon after, at the age of 18, she appeared in Jonathan M. Shiff's **H2O Just Add Water**, before starring as a series regular in **Lightning Point** and guest starring in **Reef Doctors**, also for Jonathan M. Shiff Productions.

Two weeks after touching down in Los Angeles in early 2013 Lucy has won the co-lead role in upcoming US feature film, **Vampire Academy: Blood Sisters**, a new film franchise based on the six-volume New York Times best-seller young adult novel series by Richelle Mead. Cast from an extensive international search, Lucy will play the role of *Lissa* opposite Zoey Deutch (*Beautiful Creatures*).



## NIXIE

Adventurous and fun-loving, Nixie sometimes gets herself in trouble for acting before she thinks. It's Nixie's mischievousness that helps lead to disaster for Sirena, Nixie and Lyla when they accidentally let Zac into the Moon Pool.

IVY LATIMER

is NIXIE



Making her feature film debut alongside Geena Davis in Andrew Lancaster's 2009 film **Accidents Happen**, Ivy's television credits include **Underbelly: Razor**, **Love My Way**, **Home and Away**, **The Cooks**, **White Collar Blue**, **All Saints**, **Grass Roots** and the Network Ten/BBC series **Me and My Monsters**.

Ivy also starred in the 2009 Award winning short film **Franswa Sharl**, directed by Hannah Hilliard. The film was awarded the *Crystal Bear for Best Short Film* at the Berlin International Film Festival, *Most Popular Film* at the Flickerfest International Short Film Festival and *Best Australian Short Film* at the Melbourne International Film Festival.

Ivy was also a **RAW Comedy Grand Finalist** at the 2012 Melbourne International Comedy Festival.



## SIRENA

Nixie's best friend since they were hatchlings, Sirena is a little naive, very trusting, can be unsure of herself at times and is easily treated like a doormat. Where Nixie is the leader, Sirena is the follower. She is loyal almost to a fault. She is a little clumsy, and of all three mermaids, struggles with legs the most.

AMY RUFFLE

is SIRENA



Making her screen debut in the 2012 feature film **Border Protection Squad**, written and directed by Ed Kavalee, Amy completed her training as a singer, dancer and actor with SHOWFIT at Centrestage Performing Arts School, Melbourne in 2010.

A trained classical vocalist, Amy has appeared on stage as a soloist performer in John Gibbard's *Honey Tummy* (2009) and Disney/Universal's *Juke-Box Parade* (2010).

Amy has also had roles in *Bare* (2010) for the New Beat Theatre Co. and in Paul Kelly's *The Last Train* for the 2011 Cabaret Festival, performing opposite Bert LaBonte, Melissa Bergland and Melanie Vallejo.





## ZAC

Good looking and charming, Zac starts out as an all-round nice guy. He's popular and sporty, always off on some adventure or another with best mate Cam. He and Cam have a healthy and long-running rivalry – based firmly in good-hearted mateship. The rivalry fuels both boys in everything they do – and they banter constantly. But truth be told, they both win as often as they lose. They are essentially equals. That is until the Moon Pool endows Zac with amazing powers and the ability to morph into a sea creature.

### CHAI ROMRUEN



### is ZAC

Launching his career in 2007, Chai Romruen is proving himself a multi-talented performer with skills in singing, dancing and acting.

With a Diploma in Musical Theatre and Performing Arts, in 2011 Chai appeared in Channel 7's **Packed to the Rafters** and **Crownies** for ABC TV, as well as on both **Sunrise** and **The Morning Show**.

As a dancer, Chai has featured in numerous music videos including *Brian McFadden's* **Just Say So**, *Dafina Zeqiri's* **Rock This Club**, *Jessica Mauboy's* **Inescapable** and *Anthony Callea's* **Oh Oh Oh Oh**, as well as appearing as a busker in

Australia's number one street show *Beat the Streets*. Chai has also appeared on stage in performances for *Scarlett Belle*, *Fearless*, *Rhonda Burchmore* and *Aida* at the Lyric Theatre, Brisbane in 2010.



## CAM

Cam is Zac's offsider and best mate. Cam is good at most things, same as Zac – but his exuberance can put people off... especially girls, with whom he is hopeless to a comedic extent. He doesn't mind the constant rejection – it's all part of a big game as far as Cam's concerned.

DOMINIC DEUTSCHER

is CAM



Making his screen debut as the lead role of *Mike* in feature film **Charge Over You**, Dominic has made a strong start to his career. The film received an *Honourable Mention* in both the Los Angeles New Wave International Film Festival and the LA Film and Script Festival.

Following this, Dominic was cast in a guest role in Season 4 of the hugely popular **Sea Patrol** and subsequently a series-regular in Season 5.



## DAVID

David is the boy-next-door – cute, honest, matter-of-fact, and always happy to help out. David works at his dad's cafe business. His family own the beloved Ocean Café and are well liked in the local community.

ROWAN HILLS

is DAVID



Currently one of the presenters on ABC3's **You're Skitting Me**, Rowan began his career as *Marcus* in Disney's **As the Bell Rings**.

Part of the elite *Triple Threat Senior Show Chorus*, Rowan studied drama and performing at The Children's Performing Company Australia and attended Screen Actors and TAFTA camera classes for many years.

Rowan has appeared in many guest roles in television and film as well as many television commercials. Season two of **You're Skitting Me** will begin filming in March this year.



## EVIE

Evie (Short for Evangeline) is a good looking, easy going, sporty girl with a strong work ethic and plenty of ambition to get ahead in life. She has always been a battler. Nothing has ever been delivered to her on a silver platter. Whatever she's achieved, she's done it herself.

GEMMA FORSYTH

is EVIE



One of Queensland's exciting up and coming talents, Gemma Forsyth was always interested in the creative arts.

Having recently completed shooting the feature film **Fatal Honeymoon**, starring Harvey Keitel, it was through dance that Gemma developed her love for storytelling, ultimately leading her to pursue a career in film and television.

Gemma trained under Emmy nominated casting director and teacher, Tom McSweeney.





## JONATHAN M SHIFF

## EXECUTIVE PRODUCER/PRODUCER



Jonathan M Shiff founded Jonathan M Shiff Productions in 1988, establishing an innovative and independent boutique production house, which has quickly become a world leader in children's television programming.

Jonathan has created a highly-awarded catalogue of live-action drama and documentary series, including **Wicked Science**, **Cybergirl**, **The Elephant Princess**, **Ocean Girl** and **Thunderstone**: the last two having claimed BAFTA Awards for Best Children's International Programme in 1998 and 1999 respectively.

As the creative force behind the productions, he has become one of the best producers of children's and Tween television in the world. Each week his critically acclaimed programs are enjoyed by tens of millions with the smash-hit **H2O - Just Add Water** having been sold to more than 170 territories worldwide.

Most recently Jonathan's company produced the family drama **Reef Doctors**, which premiered on Network TEN.

Jonathan has personally been awarded the 2002 Australian Institute of Export Heroes Award for Screen Production as well as the 2001 Screen Producers of Australia (SPAA) Children's Producer of the Year Award.



## EVAN CLARRY

## DIRECTOR

With an extensive career in film and television, Evan Clarry's credits include the AFI Award winning children's drama series **Mortified**, which was also nominated for an Emmy Award for Best Children's Series in 2007. His other credits include the AFI Award winning children's series **Cybergirl**, **Andrew's Guide** and **C2R2T**.

His feature credits include the 2004 comedy-thriller **Under the Radar** and the 2002 AFI Award nominated **Blurred** starring Matthew Newton, Craig Horner and Kristian Schmid.

Evan commenced his career writing and directing the celebrated short film **Mate** which won *Best Australian Film* at the Academy Award accredited Flickerfest Short Film Festival, as well as Best Screenplay for a Short Film at the 1998 AFI Awards. His other short film credits include **The House I Grew Up In** and **Crack**.

An accomplished screenwriter, Evan wrote the 2006 feature film **A World Away** which won the *Australian Writers Guild Monte Miller Award* and the Federation of Australian Writers' *Di Cranston Award for Best Screenplay*, as well as the television documentary **Evil Creatures**.

Most recently Evan directed 13 episodes of the upcoming children's television series **Lightning Point** for Jonathan M. Shiff Productions and currently has two feature films in development.



## GRANT BROWN

## DIRECTOR

Grant has been working in the Australian television drama industry for nearly 20 years covering many genres, with credits including **Crownies, Stingers, Last Man Standing, McLeod's Daughters, Underbelly, Dirt Game, Bed Of Roses, Rush** and the telemovie **Infiltration**.

His work for Jonathan M. Shiff includes the new family drama **Reef Doctors**, as well as children's television **Pirate Islands, Elephant Princess, Lost Treasure Of Fiji** and **Wicked Science**, which went on to win the 2004 Australian Film Institute Award for Best Children's Television Drama. This series also won the *2005 Silver World Medal* at the New York Festivals' International Television Awards.

He has been nominated 3 times for Best Direction in Television at the Australian Film Institute Awards for his episodes of **Stingers, Underbelly** and **Rush**. **Stingers** and **Rush** went on to win Best Drama Series. In 2009 he was twice nominated for an Australian Directors Guild Award – for his work on **Dirt Game** and **Underbelly: A Tale Of Two Cities**.

Grant is currently one of the directors of the new miniseries **Janet King** which is being produced for ABC TV.



### About Jonathan M. Shiff Productions

Founded in 1988, Jonathan M. Shiff Productions Pty Limited is one of the world's leading producers of high quality children's and family programming. The company's impressive catalogue of drama and documentary series has been sold to more than 160 territories worldwide entertaining an audience of millions of children.

Executive Producer Jonathan M. Shiff is the company's founder and creative producer of all programming. Formerly a lawyer, Jonathan is a graduate of Australia's prestigious Swinburne Film and Television School.

Jonathan M. Shiff Productions has received numerous accolades including BAFTA Awards for *Best Children's International Programme* for **Ocean Girl** (1998) and **Thunderstone** (1999), the AFI Award for *Best Children's Television Drama* for **The Elephant Princess** (2009), **Wicked Science** (2004) and **Cybergirl** (2001), and Jonathan M. Shiff received the 2001 Screen Producers of Australia (SPAA) *Children's Producer of the Year Award*.

The company also received the prestigious Australian ATOM Award for *Best Children's Television Series* for **Thunderstone** series 1 & 2 (1999, 2000), **Horace & Tina** (2001), **Pirate Islands** (2003) and **Wicked Science** (2004). In January 2005, **Wicked Science** was also awarded the *Silver World Medal* at the New York Festival in the category of Youth Programming (Ages 7-12).

An international smash hit **H2O - Just Add Water** won the 2008 and 2009 Australian Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Award for *Fave Drama Show*, received a nomination for an ATOM Award for *Best Children's Series*, won the 2009 Australian TV Week Logie Award for *Most Outstanding Children's Program* and earned four AFI nominations in 2008, including nominations for *Best Children's Television Drama Series*, *Best Lead Actress in a Television Series* – Phoebe Tonkin and *Best Supporting Actress in a Television Series* – Brittany Byrnes. The series won the AFI Award for *Best Visual Effects*.

In April 2010, **H2O - Just Add Water** series 3 was nominated for the 2010 *BANFF World Television ROCKIES Award* in the Youth Category, and more recently was nominated for an AACTA Award in 2012 for *Best Children's Television Series*.





In 2009, the company re-signed an ongoing output agreement with ZDF Enterprises, the sales and distribution arm of the German government broadcaster, with whom Jonathan M. Shiff Productions is developing an expanded slate of both family and prime time drama.

The company most recently produced the family drama **Reef Doctors** starring Lisa McCune which premiered on Network TEN.

In recognition of the company's international success, Jonathan M. Shiff Productions received the *2010 Governor of Victoria Arts and Entertainment Export Award*.

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