
Alistair Reilly

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Location Manager in film and tv

I've worked on films, tv and tv commercials for 37 years in various capacities as I worked my way up in the industry. I started as a lowly runner, (go for), became an assistant in the art department and then an assistant grip for 10 years. I then production managed tv commercials whilst also scouting locations for bigger films or tv series. I then began specializing in location management which I still do.

I've worked on all sizes of productions from large US funded tv series, (Leftovers, Childhoods End, Darkness Falls) to low budget indy productions, (Head On, Metal Skin, SuperWog). Last year I did the locations for a Stan series The Gloaming. Currently I was working on Wentworth for Foxtel when covid19 hit. Locations are currently suspended from filming until restrictions ease more.

I want my government to support us, not ignore us. I understand the perception of the arts is left centric and therefore you punish us with shrinking budgets and scoffing at the amount you already spend proclaiming this to be adequate. I want you to know though that for every dollar you spend with us 70% goes back into the economy directly through spending, by buying. We are an economic stimulus package in our own right. We buy clothes for costumes, building material for sets, accommodation for actors, tea & coffee for crew, make up, fuel, stationary, etcetera, etcetera.

We employ large amounts of people and spend our budget locally. On a small production we pay out around \$100,000 in locations alone. We will pay councils, cleaning, security & traffic control companies as well as the actual location

providers. A lot of the time the location providers are councils or national trust properties who derive much needed funds for their own maintenance needs.

Support us, don't shrink us. Don't think of us as lefties, think of us as innovators. Use your own spin doctors to turn your thoughts around from what we spend or take to what we give back in money and in identity to the country. The public broadcasters have been marvelous at supporting local content and how good is it seeing the outback on shows like Mystery Road, or Hobart in The Gloaming.

If we make online platforms have a 10%, (or 15%), local content we get so much more back than just the show. We get the money injected into the economy, just like everyone seems to say when they talk about economic stimulus packages. When will you wake up to what we give and stop talking about what we take.

International companies will not return to Australia for at least 2 years and so it is we look to our government for hope. Will you support us or ignore us?

I wish for my submission to be anonymous: No

I wish for my submission to be private: No

This submission has been lodged via the [Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance](#).