

ABBA & ELVIS IN THE OUTBACK



EQUAL PARTS HEART AND HUMOUR, THIS UNIQUELY AUSTRALIAN TALE DELIGHTS IN SEQUINS, SIDEBURNS, AND SMALL-TOWN SPIRIT

Set in Trundle, a tiny rural town in New South Wales, this engaging documentary captures the town's ambitious bid to harness the power of a music festival to deliver economic survival and regional pride.

In the quest to launch the world's first ABBA Tribute Festival, Trundle strives to follow in the footsteps of neighbouring town Parkes, home to the world-renowned Parkes Elvis Festival which each year injects \$15 million into the local economy.

The rural community at Parkes has grown its event to be the biggest Elvis Festival in the world – but it has also made the town a shrine to Elvis, 365 days a year, with murals, statues, plaques and more. The townspeople of Trundle are determined to bring an extra layer of verve to their celebration of ABBA – having fun and bringing new life and people back to the community that means so much to them.

ABBA & Elvis in the Outback isn't just about sequins and pop music. It's about survival. Against a backdrop of drought, floods, and even locusts, this uplifting documentary spotlights the resilience of rural communities as they turn nostalgia into an economic lifeline.

HD 1 X 60'
NEON JANE PRODUCTIONS



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT TAHYNA TOZZI MACMANUS

'There's something beautiful and unexpectedly moving about these towns choosing joy, and international pop icons, as a means to endure. Trundle's celebration of ABBA is filled with pride and positivity. Then nearby, Parkes feels like an international shrine to The King himself. What struck me was the humour and heart in how these communities reinvent themselves in the face of hardship.

I was captivated by the idea that these rural communities have chosen to live in celebration of the past as a way to secure their economic future.

This documentary is our love letter to rural Australia. I hope audiences enjoy the spectacle but also see the strength – the role these communities play in our cultural fabric, and how ABBA and Elvis helped keep their spirit alive.'

PRODUCTION COMPANY NEON JANE

Australian actor, director, writer and producer Tahyna Tozzi MacManus co-founded the all-female led production company Neon Jane alongside producer Kelly Tomasich. Kelly has worked in front and behind the camera for over 15 years and is also a qualified senior lawyer specialising in entertainment.

The duo also launched the Australian Women's Film Festival, which celebrates and honours those who have made a significant contribution to industry.

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