

CINESPACE PRESENTS

HERE'S THE REAL JOKE, MATE!

A CRASH COURSE IN ANTI-RACISM



@therealjokeseries

A CINESPACE PRODUCTION

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY Steve RE Pereira
PRODUCER Layla Chaouk

WRITTEN BY Chido Mwat, Kevin Racines, and Steve RE Pereira
WITH Tahlee Fereday, Belinda Mawoko, Claudia Fan, Esha
Hassan, Lily Major, Stinoj Shaju, Tiernyn Taula



Here's The Real Joke, Mate! A Crash Course in Anti-Racism

Cinespace – the Maribyrnong-based non-profit media training organisation focused on cultural diversity – is launching an anthology of short anti-racism films for TikTok pitched at 12- 15-year-olds funded by Multicultural Victoria's Local Anti-Racism Initiatives Program.

The phrase "It's just a joke, mate!" is often used to excuse racist behaviour. This series of ten short clips turns the 'joke' on its head by exposing the toxic underpinnings of racism and demonstrates strategies for non-confrontational responses.

From an engaging primer on the history of how racism has become entrenched in our social constructs to ways that racism plays out in our day-to-day lives, the clips are intended to 'word up' people at a formative stage in their young lives to identify the nuances of racist behaviour in our society today. Dr. Sarah Tartakover, the education consultant from Victoria University, notes, "This project engages young people in discourse around racism. The discussions it provokes are critical to achieving a more equitable and just society."

A key element of the approach to this series is to recognise the insidious ways in which racism of the colonial imperative has been embedded in all our social systems and has made us all complicitous. Accordingly, we take the view that dealing with racism is a collective responsibility ending our series with two quotes that we take to heart. The first from educator and activist Angela Davis says, "In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist. We must be anti-racist." And the second is from Ijeoma Oluo (*So You Want To Talk About Race*), which notes, "... you don't have to be free of racism to be an anti-racist. Anti-racism is a commitment to fight racism wherever you find it, including in yourself. And it's the only way forward."

Designed for TikTok (remember 12- to 15-year-olds!) with an emphasis on authenticity, the style of the series is deliberately raw, honest, direct, and informative. And humorous.

"In this curated series of TikTok truth bombs, 'Here's the Real Joke' cuts to the heart of young people's experiences of enduring racism, in their words and on their terms. This collection of clips cleverly addresses the what, why and how of racism, via a cast of culturally diverse young Australians who drop facts in ways that resonate with an intended audience of 12-15years olds. Kudos to producer Steve Pereira for reading the room on this series with a new approach to an entrenched problem, delivered straight up."



Tasneem Chopra, Cross-cultural Consultant

The series is anchored by First Nations actor Tahlee Fereday and features an exciting cast of six young, emerging, culturally diverse performers: Belinda Mawoko, Claudia Fan, Esha Hasan, Lily Major, Stinoj Shaju, and Tiernyn Taula. The series is produced and directed by Steve RE Pereira.



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A CINESPACE PRODUCTION

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|-------------------------|--|
| Producer/Director | Steve RE Pereira |
| Production Manger | Layla Chaouk |
| Script Writers | Chido Mwat, Kevin Racines and Steve RE Pereira |
| Script Editor | Kath Dolheguy |
| Education Consultant | Sarah Tartakover, Victoria University |
| Actors | Tahlee Fereday Belinda Mawoko Claudia Fan Esha Hasan Lily Major Stinoj Shaju Tiernyn Taula |
| Director of Photography | Shyam Ediriweera |
| Gaffer | Daniel Tan |
| Grip | Ryley Warner |
| Sound Recordist | Georgina Hanley Hayden Guildford |
| Camera Assist | Oliver Lucantonio |
| 1 st AD | Abir Hiranandani |
| Props Manager | Sue Choauk |
| Stills Photographer | Nishant Gupta, Sarah Mohamed |
| Story Boarding | Stephanie Liew |
| Runner | Stephanie Liew |
| Editor | Murray Enders |
| Poster/Backdrop Design | Marta Kamilla |
| Production Consultant | Daniel Schultheis |
| Research | Michael Mifsud |
| Anti-Racism Consultants | Angella Liu Christabel Chen Farida Iqbal Kassandra Le Leah Quach Richard Filer Touka Shoukor |
| Studios | Victoria University Live Stream Studios |
| Marketing | Ryand Victor Millete Claudia Fan Theresa Gunarso Tiernyn Taula Madeleine Trudel |



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THE CAST



TAHLEE FEREDAY: YOUR HOST

Tahlee is a 2017 graduate of Victorian College of the Arts. Before her studies she was based in Darwin where she hosted *The Breakfast Show with Tahlee* on Larrakia Radio 94.5FM. Theatre credits include *Because the Night* (Malthouse Theatre), *Blackie Blackie Brown: The Traditional Owner of Death* (Malthouse Theatre/Sydney Theatre Company), *Astroman* (Melbourne Theatre Company), *Fallen* (She Said Theatre), and *Love* (Dee & Cornelius), which toured to the Venice Biennale after its Melbourne season. Tahlee is making her film debut in the lead role of Australian Feature film *Blue Canaries*. As a First Nations and queer artist, Tahlee is an advocate for representation of minority voices on the mainstage.



BELINDA MAWOKO



CLAUDIA FAN



ESHA HASSAN



LILY MAJOR



STINOJ SHAJU



TIERNYN TAULA





