

Media Release | Strictly embargoed until Friday 30 November 2018

**VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT ATTRACTS MAJOR US TV SERIES,
DELIVERING \$50M BOON FOR VICTORIA**

US television series *Preacher* is coming to Victoria for its fourth series in a deal that will inject \$50 million into the Victorian economy and generate 740 jobs for local cast and crew.

Secured by the Victorian government via Film Victoria, *Preacher* is set to be the biggest budget television production to come to Victoria since Steven Spielberg's *The Pacific* (2007).

The production schedule for the 10-part series will span seven months in Melbourne and regional Victoria, with pre-production set to commence at Docklands Studios Melbourne before the end of the year.

Based on DC Comics' supernatural comic book series, *Preacher* follows a conflicted preacher who, during a crisis of faith, gains extraordinary power.

Developed by writer and producer Sam Catlin (*Breaking Bad*), with Executive Producers Evan Goldberg and Seth Rogen, the series has gained a global cult following since it premiered in 2016.

In addition to generating significant employment and skills development opportunities for Victoria's screen industry, the series will feature a Melbourne-based plotline, showcasing iconic locations in the city and regional Victoria to the world, with a potential reach of more than 100 million viewers in the US alone.

More than 800 local screen businesses will be engaged on the project as well as associated services such as catering, transport, construction and security.

Preacher stars UK actor Dominic Cooper and is produced by Sony Pictures Television and Playmaker Studios. Commissioned by the AMC network in the USA, the series streams locally on Stan.

The production adds to Victoria's reputation as a location of choice for high-end television, with BBC co-production *The Cry* and HBO's *The Leftovers* among the state's recent international productions.

The project has been supported by the Victorian Government through Film Victoria's Incentives Program and the Australian Government's Location Incentive program, in collaboration with Ausfilm.

Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley said: "*Preacher* will create hundreds of jobs and development opportunities for our local screen industry talent while putting Victoria on screen for the world to see.

"Productions like this aren't just a boon for our screen industry, but for the state economy too – in this instance to the tune of \$50 million."

Film Victoria CEO Caroline Pitcher said: "Securing the production of *Preacher* for Victoria is a major coup; it is the biggest budget television production to film in our state in more than a decade.

"We look forward to showcasing the work of our industry internationally, and to seeing Melbourne shine on screens around the world through this series."

Docklands Studios Melbourne CEO Rod Allan said: "Large scale productions such as *Preacher* are a perfect fit for Docklands Studios Melbourne and demonstrate our reputation as a world-class facility. We look forward to welcoming the cast and crew to the studio."

Image: Preacher image available to [download here](#).

MEDIA CONTACTS

Sarah Finney Publicity | Sarah Finney +61 400 197 558 sarahfinneypublicity@gmail.com

Film Victoria | Brooke Daly +61 449 900 466 brooke.daly@film.vic.gov.au