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Foxtel 'Home of HBO' screens *Westworld*, *Divorce* and *Quarry*

As the 'Home of HBO', Foxtel will exclusively premiere three of HBO's hotly anticipated new series – *Westworld*, *Divorce* and *Quarry* – on its showcase channel from October and available to view on demand in Foxtel's complimentary streaming service Anytime.

Westworld premieres first Mondays from October 3 at 12pm midday the same time as the US, followed by a prime time broadcast at 8.30pm. *Quarry* will premiere on Mondays from October 3 at 9.30pm, and *Divorce* will debut the following week Wednesdays from October 12 at 8.30pm.

Previews of the series have already been met with rave reviews from critics including:

- "Move over *Game of Thrones*! It's cowboy time," *The Guardian*
- "HBO's mysterious *Westworld* sent fans into a tweeting frenzy last week after the first sustained peek debuted on HBO," *EW*
- "*Westworld*: The first reviews are all raves," *EW*
- "HBO's major new drama [*Westworld*] is sinister and spectacular," *The Telegraph*
- "A funny, engaging look at divorce, where neither character is portrayed as an antagonist of any kind," *FILM*
- "Move *Quarry* to the top of your watchlist now," *The Washington Post*

Westworld, HBO's reality-bending drama, starring Anthony Hopkins, Evan Rachel Wood and James Marsden will premiere on Foxtel's showcase channel on **Monday October 3 at 12pm noon**, the same time as the US, with a prime time encore at 8.30pm. *Westworld* is an ambitious and highly imaginative drama series that elevates the concept of adventure and thrill-seeking to a new and ultimately dangerous level. In the futuristic fantasy park known as Westworld, a group of android "hosts" deviate from their programmers' carefully planned scripts in a disturbing pattern of aberrant behaviour. *Westworld* was inspired by the 1973 motion picture written and directed by Michael Crichton (*Jurassic Park*), and was created for television by EPs Jonathan Nolan (*Interstellar*, *The Dark Knight*) and Lisa Joy (*Pushing Daisies*, *Burn Notice*). Other Eps on the HBO series include J.J. Abrams and Bryan Burk (*Lost*, the new *Star Wars* and *Star Trek* movies) and Jerry Weintraub.

The exceptional cast is headed by Hollywood heavyweight **Anthony Hopkins** who plays Doctor Robert Ford, when speaking of his role in *Westworld*, Hopkins said, "I get to play these very strange characters who are always in control, which is completely against my nature. I just go with the flow of it all now... I can't take anything too seriously. With Doctor Ford it is on a massive scale – he controls everything and he wants to perfect everything, which means he's mad."

The **original film *Westworld* from 1973** is about a futuristic theme park where robots are programmed to fulfil guests' lustful and sometimes violent fantasies – until something goes wrong with their circuitry. Foxtel will air the original *Westworld* film starring Yul Brynner and James Brolin as part of their "Sunday Night At The Movies" weekly feature on the eve of the new HBO drama series debut. Discover the inspiration behind the incredible new *Westworld* on **Sunday October 2 at 8.30pm** only on FOX Classics.

Starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Thomas Haden Church, ***Divorce*** is a refreshingly honest new half-hour comedy series from HBO about the never-ending process of unwinding a marriage premiering exclusively on Foxtel's showcase channel **Wednesdays from October 12 at 8.30pm** Express from the US.

Created by Sharon Horgan (creator and star of the Emmy[®]-nominated series *Catastrophe*), *Divorce* centres on Frances (Emmy[®] and Golden Globe Award winner Parker), who, after more than a decade of marriage and two children, has suddenly begun to reassess her life and her strained relationship with her husband Robert (Emmy[®] winner, Haden Church).

The story of a very, very long divorce, Frances and Robert grapple with the fallout from their failing union, not just for themselves, but also for their children and friends. Finding sharp, observant humour in tense situations ranging from awkward public encounters to bitter private therapy sessions, *Divorce* is about two people at the most difficult moment in their lives, feeling more intense emotions for each other than they've felt in years.

Premiering **Mondays from October 3 at 9.30pm** only on Foxtel's showcase channel, ***Quarry*** is a thrilling action drama centering on the character of Mac Conway (Logan Marshall-Green *Prometheus*, *24*, *Spider-Man: Homecoming*), a Marine who returns home to Memphis from a second tour of duty in Vietnam in 1972, only to find himself stigmatised by his involvement in a highly publicised massacre while fighting abroad. Though he and his fellow Marine Arthur Solomon (Jamie Hector *The Wire*) have been exonerated of wrongdoing, they are greeted with hostility and rejection from their families and the public in Memphis, with neither able to land a decent job.

With Mac's relationship with his wife Joni (Jodi Balfour *Final Destination 5*) growing tenuous, he and Arthur are tempted by a lucrative offer from a shady criminal known as The Broker (Peter Mullan *Oliver Kitteridge*). At first, Mac refuses to offer up his services to The Broker, but after Arthur opts to trade his principles for quick cash, Mac – whom The Broker codenames "Quarry" – finds himself conscripted against his better judgement into The Broker's crew, a turn of events that has dire consequences for himself and those close to him.

Based on the novels of Max Allan Collins (who also wrote *Road to Perdition*), the eight S1 episodes of *Quarry* are directed and executive produced by Greg Yaitanes (*Banshee*), along with EP Steve Golin (*True Detective*). It is created and executive produced by Graham Gordy & Michael D. Fuller (*Rectify*). Other EPs are Matt DeRoss (*The End of the Tour*), David Kanter (*The End of the Tour*), Ken Levin (*The Scribbler*) and Max Allan Collins. *Quarry* was shot on location in New Orleans and Tennessee. As he struggles to cope with his experiences at war, Conway is drawn into a network of killing and corruption that spans the length of the Mississippi River.

Australian actor **Damon Herriman** (*Secret City*, *Justified*) plays Buddy, an eccentric member of The Broker's team in *Quarry*. About his character, Herriman said, "Buddy is someone who's been working for The Broker in this particular world for five years. I'm the most experienced of the guys that he's got working for him, so for the purpose of the show, I show [Mac] the ropes and show him what he's about to become a part of. In terms of Buddy the man, he's such a layered, complex character. He can be incredibly sensitive and quite charming, but he's also very violent and flies off the handle incredibly easily. Despite having a very tough front, he's finding life pretty hard at the moment. It's starting to get to him, the fact that his life pretty much amounts to going out and murdering people. He's a very layered guy. And he's gay and living in the South in 1972 – that's another tough combination."

As Australia's undisputed 'Home of HBO', Foxtel has access to even more HBO dramas, comedies and documentaries. In addition to current seasons of HBO shows that air on Foxtel, customers will now be able to stream their favourite HBO series, past and present – including *Westworld*, *Divorce* and *Quarry* – via Foxtel Anytime available on demand, all the time.

About Foxtel

Foxtel is one of Australia's most progressive and dynamic media companies, directly employing around 2,800 people and delivering a diverse subscription television service over cable, satellite and broadband distribution. We offer a better entertainment experience every day to each one of our 2.9 million subscribing homes through delivery of new and inspiring programming across all genres, the world's most popular channel brands, and investment in high quality local content. As constant champions of innovation we have brought customers the iQ personal digital recorder, Australia's largest HD offering, the Foxtel Go App for tablets and mobile devices, internet TV service, Foxtel Play, subscription on demand (SVOD) entertainment service, Presto and television, broadband and home phone bundles with Foxtel internet and voice services delivered over Australia's largest telecommunications network. Foxtel is owned by Telstra Corporation Limited ACN 051 775 556 (50%) and News Corporation (50%). foxtel.com.au

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