



THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure,
Cities and the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

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Disney+ Original Series to inject \$172 million into Australian economy

Upcoming Walt Disney Company EMEA live-action drama series *Nautilus*, developed and co-produced by Moonriver TV and Seven Stories, is the latest production to be drawn to Australia with \$23.3 million in assistance from the Morrison Government's highly successful \$540 million Location Incentive program.

Based on the Jules Verne classic novel *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, this epic ten-part live action series reveals the never before told origin story of Verne's most iconic character, Captain Nemo and his legendary submarine, The Nautilus.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the production is expected generate more than \$172 million of local economic activity.

"Nautilus will directly create more than 290 jobs for Australian cast and crew, more than 2,200 extras roles, and use the services of an estimated 200 businesses across the country when they begin filming early next year," Minister Fletcher said.

"The Morrison Government's \$540 million Location Incentive program is working very effectively to support the Australian screen sector to take advantage of the global boom in high-end content production, attracting substantial international series like *Nautilus* to our shores alongside Ron Howard's *Thirteen Lives*, and *Ticket to Paradise* starring George Clooney and Julia Roberts."

To date, the Government has distributed more than \$243 million under the Location Incentive to attract 24 international productions to Australia, generating more than \$1.89 billion of expenditure in the economy, providing more than 16,100 employment opportunities for local cast and crew, and creating work for over 15,400 businesses that support these big productions.

To be filmed in Queensland at Village Roadshow Studios and on location from early 2022, the Disney+ production is also funded by the Queensland Government via Screen Queensland's Production Attraction Strategy.

Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk welcomed the global media and entertainment giant Disney back to the state for another big-budget, high-end production which would bring millions into the local economy and create hundreds of jobs.

"The Walt Disney Company filmed *Pirates of The Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales* in Queensland, as well as *Thor: Ragnarök* via their subsidiary Marvel Studios, so we are thrilled that one of the biggest names in the global screen industry has once again chosen our state," Premier Palaszczuk said.

"Supporting the screen industry and luring big budget productions here through our Production Attraction Strategy is a critical part of our Economic Recovery Plan."

Director of Scripted Original Content at The Walt Disney Company EMEA, Johanna Devereaux, said Jules Verne's story is a beloved classic all around the world.

“It’s a huge privilege to bring the Nautilus and her crew to life again in such a bold, exciting way, with a diverse team of creative talent and on-screen characters. The series will be breath-taking, action-packed, and a huge amount of fun,” Deveraux said.

Developed and co-produced by Moonriver TV’s Xavier Marchand and Seven Stories’ Anand Tucker, *Nautilus* is written and executive produced by James Dormer (*Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands*) and is executive produced by Johanna Deveraux for The Walt Disney Company EMEA.

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