



**SLR PRODUCTIONS IN DEVELOPMENT ON
BEST-SELLING AUSTRALIAN BOOK SERIES *ALICE-MIRANDA***

***ANIMATED SERIES IN DEVELOPMENT WITH PARTNER
ZDF ENTERPRISES***

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA, June 20 2016...

SLR Productions, one of Australia's leading children's and family entertainment companies, has commenced development on *Alice-Miranda*, a best-selling and multi-award winning Australian children's book series from popular Author Jacqueline Harvey and published by Penguin Random House.

SLR Productions, along with partner ZDF Enterprises, will develop the *Alice-Miranda* books into a 26 x half hour animated drama-comedy television series which will be aimed at the 6 to 9 year old audience, a demographic that has been extremely successful for the books both domestically and internationally. Australia's NINE Network will be the local broadcaster.

The 14 part book series (and counting) has been a phenomenal success in Australia with 650,000 copies sold locally. *Alice-Miranda* has also achieved international acclaim with the books being published in over 80 countries including the UK, North America, Indonesia, Turkey and Brazil.

Combining comedy, drama, friendship and mystery, the stories pivot around Alice-Miranda Highton-Smith-Kennington-Jones, an extraordinary young girl who at the age of ten has organized her own early entry into boarding school along with her cheeky pony, Bonaparte. She's the youngest girl ever to attend Winchesterfield-Downsfordvale Academy for Proper Young Ladies, a delightful country boarding school with a difference!

Alice-Miranda's two best friends are Millie and Jacinta, and the boarding school they attend is a dream come true for these young girls. A home away from home, where you never have to leave your friends and can have all the exciting adventures any girl can dream of; like riding ponies across the emerald green fields, the excitement of camping out in the woods, skiing in the Alps, acting in the school play with a famous celebrity, fabulous midnight feasts, exotic overseas excursions and outings with the Fayle School for Boys. They even experience a brush with Royalty.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be developing this extraordinary book property into a 26 x half hour animation series with our partner ZDF Enterprises and for the local broadcaster to be the NINE Network. This is the first time SLR has optioned a book property under the banner of the newly formed Penguin Random House and it is an honour to be working with the very talented Australian Author, Jacqueline Harvey and the publishing team. The *Alice Miranda* TV series will focus on friendship, fun, mystery and intrigue – all the elements 6 to 9 year olds love," said SLR Productions' CEO and Executive Producer, Suzanne Ryan.

"I am so excited to be working with Suzanne and her incredibly talented team at SLR Productions. It's a huge thrill to know that *Alice-Miranda* and her friends are destined to reach an even broader audience around the world via a television series that has the support of ZDF Enterprises," said *Alice-Miranda* series Author, Jacqueline Harvey.

"*Alice Miranda* has all the ingredients it takes to make a children's series an international success. We are sure it will capture the hearts not only of young girls but entire families. It is a delight to be working with Suzanne Ryan's team at SLR Productions again," said VP of ZDFE, junior, Arne Lohmann.

"Having seen firsthand how well the *Alice Miranda* series has been received in Australia and internationally, I am thrilled to see it in the very capable and experienced hands of SLR Productions. This is a series whose characters and themes will translate perfectly to television and will no doubt bring joy to all its viewers," said Penguin Random Australia House Senior Rights Manager, Nerrilee Weir.

SLR Productions

SLR Productions is one of Australia's leading Emmy and multi award winning children's entertainment companies, specialising in the creative development and production of world-class media content.

SLR Productions is recognised for brands such as the internationally acclaimed preschool property *Guess How Much I Love You*; the animated adventure comedy series *The Skinner Boys – Guardians of the Lost Secrets*; the animated twin detective series *Lexi and Lottie – Trusty Twin Detectives* and the Emmy Award winning animated series *I Got a Rocket*. SLR's passion is to make creative, adventurous, imaginative and exciting programmes for audiences worldwide.

The company has produced more than 160 hours of content sold in more than 100 countries. With its highly experienced development and production divisions, SLR partners with major broadcasters, producers, distributors, publishers and creative both locally and internationally to create hit shows with a truly global reach.

About ZDF Enterprises

ZDF Enterprises was founded in 1993 as a commercial subsidiary of ZDF, one of the largest and most renowned TV broadcasters in Europe. Headquartered in Mainz, Germany, ZDF Enterprises is responsible for the worldwide sale of programs, the making of international coproductions, the acquisition of licenses as well as the merchandising of strong program brands in its own name, for the ZDF, and for third parties. ZDF Enterprises has successfully established itself as an independent market player on the German and international stage. Bound into a strong group, the company manages the largest German-language stock of programs in the world and, next to this, a continuously growing portfolio of international productions consisting of series and miniseries, TV movies, documentaries and children's programs. In the course of the development and diversification process carried out up to now, many business fields in the television and media domains were made accessible in the ZDF Enterprises group. Thus ZDF Enterprises can provide a comprehensive, full-service offering today, and covers every step in the chain of origin and exploitation of successful TV programs, from development to production and up to the marketing of TV licenses, merchandising rights, online rights and much more.

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