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**Christopher Quyen**  
Seakyu Creative

My name is Christopher Quyen and I'm an actor and filmmaker from Sydney, Australia.

Last year, I was blessed to fall into acting after being cast as a lead in an upcoming SBS/NBC Australian production, *Hungry Ghosts*. Being an avid consumer of imported content from overseas from America, the UK, and Asia, I had little to no interest for Australian content because growing up as an Asian teen I rarely saw myself represented in Australian content. So my knowledge of Australian content really only spanned from *Home and Away* to *Neighbours*. However, being a part of this production changed my entire perspective. I saw a full Asian cast before my eyes, but also a quintessentially Australian story.

Needless to say, it was an emotional experience being a part of this production, but it was only then that I realised we've only begun to break the glass ceiling to what Australian stories could actually look like beyond predominantly white Australian soap-operas. Unlike the majority of Australian content, the content that I consume from overseas both represents me and also the multiculturalism of the countries the content comes from. We are yet to produce stories that are true to what Australia actually represents. A multicultural society. A society filled with its own problems and struggles. A society with stories beyond the major cities. And if Australian content incentives and obligations are not upheld, then this glass ceiling will remain. Producers will not want to take risks on these stories.

Furthermore, if big digital platforms like Netflix and Stan were required to produce Australian content it would also mean that we could have a chance to play on a more international platform and represent our country truthfully and find respect within the international artistic community.

As an actor, yes it does mean more opportunity for work. But I'm more concerned with the big picture. The whole idea of what it means to be "Australian" is going through a major shift both in the youth and the older generations. And what do we often look to when we can't put our identity into perspective? Art. Films. Music. Literature. So I think it's so important for Australian content to continue to have support from the government not only for our entertainment, but for the populous to have something to reflect on themselves and the times.

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**I wish for my submission to be anonymous:** No

**I wish for my submission to be private:** No

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*This submission has been lodged via the [Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance](#).*