

DEBRA LAWRANCE

Debra is an AACTA and Logie Award winning actor, who graduated from NIDA in 1977 and holds a degree in Dramatic Art – her classmates included Mel Gibson and Judy Davis. Debra has worked successfully in theatre, film and television since.

The highlights of her extensive television work include the lead role of Pat in two seasons of the ground-breaking ABC comedy series *The Fast Lane* written by John Clark and Andrew Knight, the long-running role of kindly foster mother Pippa in the hugely popular series *Home and Away*, and the role of Rose in all four seasons of Josh Thomas' critically acclaimed series *Please Like Me*. Debra was awarded the 2015 AACTA Award (Australian Academy award) for Best Performance in a Television Comedy and the 2017 Logie Award for Most Outstanding Supporting Actress for her role in *Please Like Me*.

Debra's other TV work includes spots on *The Doctor Blake Mysteries (Season 4)*, *Wentworth (Series 4)*, *House Husbands (Series 4)*, and *Hell's Kitchen Australia* where she put her cooking skills to the test as a contestant and eventual winner.

Debra's film highlights include the highly enjoyable experiences of working with Tom Conti in *Two Brothers Running*, with Meryl Streep in *Evil Angels (aka A Cry in the Dark)* and the highly regarded *The Jammed*.

Debra's theatre credits include the role of M'Lynn in the 2009 Australian tour of *Steel Magnolias*; the title role in the 2010 national tour of *Driving Miss Daisy* and Letitia Blacklock in the Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane 2013/14 seasons of *A Murder Is Announced*. In 2019 Debra will star in the Australian production of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*.

Debra has also been teaching vocal communication skills to women in the workplace – a role she is finding incredibly satisfying.

Debra married her *Home and Away* co-star Dennis Coard in 1992; they have two beautiful children, Grace and William, and live in rural bliss east of Melbourne.

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