

# Ray Matsen

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## Summary

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I'm a comedy writer with over 20 years experience on sketch and narrative TV shows such as *True Story with Hamish & Andy* and light entertainment programs such as *Spicks & Specks*. I've also written a feature and several short films and continue to produce radio and online content.

As Head Writer on *Rove*, *Adam Hills In Gordon Street Tonight*, *This Week Live* and the award-winning ABC kid's sketch series *You're Skitting Me*, I've managed countless writers and other creatives and always work well under pressure and to a deadline.

## Experience

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Apr 2019 – Present

### **Lingopont Adult Language Schools**

*Content creator & scriptwriter for books, animation and online videos - Lingopont*

- Brainstorming, developing comedic ideas and writing scripts for educational books and online videos.

Mar 2019 - Present

### **The Christian O'Connell Show**

*Writer - Daily FM radio show - Gold 104.3*

- Writing topical jokes and creating segment ideas for Christian's breakfast radio show every weekday morning.

Feb 2021 – Present

### **Matsen Creative Copywriting & Content**

*Creator, Founder, Writer*

- A business I established to create copy and content for anyone who needs it. Clients include Canadian company Seven Summits Snacks, Instrumec, Loops of Learning and Lingopont.

Nov 2021 – Present

### **Maze Productions**

*Animator*

- Animating promotional and explainer videos for legendary Australian comedian Elliot Goblet (aka Jack Levi) using Toon Boom Harmony animating software.

Mar 2021 – May 2021

**The Weakest Link**

*Writer – Weekly game show hosted by Magda Szubanski (10 episodes) – BBC Australia – 9 Network*

- Writing jokes based on questions and contestant reactions and answers.

Sep 2020 – Nov 2020

**Spicks & Specks (New series)**

*Head writer - Comedy music quiz (10 episodes) - ABC*

- Developing game ideas, writing jokes and questions for host, running writers meetings, finalising and preparing scripts for autocue and overseeing other writers submissions.

Jan 2020 – May 2020

**Kinne Tonight (Series 2)**

*Writer - TV sketch series - 10 Network*

- Writing sketches & jokes.

**Ray & Jason's Variety 10 Minutes**

*Writer, Producer, Presenter - Weekly You-Tube series – Ray & Jason*

- Writing, producing and presenting a weekly 10 minute You-Tube video, uploading it and promoting it via social media including Twitter, Instagram, Tik-Tok and the Ray & Jason website.

2019

**Mission Brown (Short Film)**

*Writer – Short Film – Lisa Defazio Productions*

- Writing a short dark comedy film script based on an idea by Lisa Defazio. (NB. Received the award for best international screenplay at the Atlanta Women's Film Festival)

Aug 2019 – Oct 2019

**Spicks & Specks (2019/20 Specials)**

*Head writer - Comedy music quiz - ABC*

- Developing game ideas, writing jokes and questions for the host, running writers meetings, finalising and preparing scripts for autocue and overseeing other writers submissions.

Apr 2019 – May 2019

**Tutto Benne**

*Writer, Creative - You-Tube educational comedy series – Lingopont*

- Brainstorming, developing ideas and writing scripts for 2 seasons of a narrative comedy series that teaches Italian to beginners.

July 2019 – Jan 2020

### **Night Talkers**

*Writer, Producer, Presenter, Audio Editor - Weekly podcast – Ray & Jason*

- Writing, producing, presenting and editing a 20 minute podcast, uploading it and promoting it via social media including Twitter, Instagram, Tik-Tok and the Ray & Jason website.

Jan 2019

### **Kinne Tonight (Series 1)**

*Writer - TV sketch series - 10 Network*

- Writing sketches & jokes.

Nov 2018 – Mar 2019

### **Show Me The Movie (Series 2)**

*Writer - Comedy movie quiz - 10 Network*

- Brainstorming & developing game ideas and writing jokes for host and celebrity contestants.

2018

### **Pointless**

*Question Writer - Nightly game show - Endemol Shine - 10 Network*

- Researching and writing questions.

### **Spicks & Specks Reunion Special**

*Head Writer - Comedy music quiz - ABC*

- Developing game ideas, writing jokes and questions for host, running writers meetings, finalising and preparing scripts for autocue and overseeing other writers submissions.

### **Tonightly with Tom Ballard**

*Writer - Satirical current affairs show – ABC*

- Writing topical monologue jokes and sketches.

### **Show Me The Movie (Series 1)**

*Writer - Comedy movie quiz - 10 Network*

- Developing game ideas and writing jokes for host and celebrity contestants.

### **Hughesy We Have a Problem**

*Writer, Segment Developer - Celebrity panel show - 10 Network*

- Developing segment ideas and writing jokes for host and guest celebrities.

2017

### **True Story with Hamish & Andy (Series 2)**

*Writer - Narrative live action comedy series - Radio Karate - 9 Network*

- Viewing Hamish & Andy's filmed interview with story teller, condensing story into half hour episode and writing 1<sup>st</sup> draft of filmed scenes. Writing subsequent drafts according to producer notes.

### **Larry The Wonderpup**

*Writer - Live action and animated narrative children's series - The Chocolate Liberation Front - 7TWO*

- Developing stories & writing outlines. Writing 1<sup>st</sup> draft and subsequent drafts following producer notes.

### **When TV Was Awesome (Series 2)**

*Writer, Vision Editor, Voice Artist - Comedy re-voice series - ABC & iView*

- Researching old ABC footage to be re-voiced for comic effect. Writing 1<sup>st</sup> draft based on footage and doing a rough edit of found footage on Adobe Premiere. Performing various voices on final edit.

### **Ask The Doctor (Series 1)**

*Write, Researcher - Medical documentary series - WTFN - ABC*

- Researching and developing segments, writing scripts and inserting jokes where needed.

### **Behave Yourself**

*Writer, Script Editor - Celebrity comedy quiz show - Eureka Productions - 7 Network*

- Researching and developing game and segment ideas, writing jokes for host and guest celebrities, finalising and preparing script for autocue.

2016/17

### **True Story with Hamish & Andy (Series 1)**

*Writer - Narrative live action comedy series - Radio Karate - 9 Network*

- Viewing Hamish & Andy's filmed interview with story teller, condensing story into half hour episode and writing 1<sup>st</sup> draft of filmed scenes. Writing subsequent drafts according to producer notes.

2016

**You're Skitting Me (Series 3)**

*Head Writer, Animation Director - Live action and animated sketch series for 8-14 year olds - CJZ - ABC 3*

- As Head Writer: Developing character and sketch ideas, coordinating submissions from external writers and editing final scripts. Attending production meetings to answer questions on casting, props, costumes and locations.
- As Animation Director: Developing animated characters and sketches, and writing scripts. Directing voice actors while recording dialogue. Drawing characters, animating sketches with Toon Boom Harmony, coordinating other animators and exporting for final sound and vision edits by CJZ.

Dec 2016

**Australian Film Television & Radio School**

*Lecturer - 3 Day Sketch Comedy Writing Course*

- Teaching 12 to 14 year old students how to write, shoot and edit a short sketch over a 3 day period. Including: how to use the Celtex screenwriting program, how to stage, light and shoot their sketches and how to edit them on Adobe Premiere.

2015

**Channel 2 Trillion**

*Creator, Writer - Satirical online blog*

- Writing satirical articles, drawing cartoons and creating other humorous content. Development of website with Wordpress and creating images and vision using programs such as Adobe Premiere and Photoshop.

2014-16

**Family Feud with Grant Denyer**

*Host Writer, Contestant producer, Script editor, Question writer - Nightly game show - Fremantle Media Australia - 10 Network*

- Talking to families and working up their on-air stories.
- Working closely with host to develop jokes and chat based on contestant stories.
- Preparing script for autocue and feeding host lines via coms during the record. Shooting 5 shows per night.
- Writing questions.

Dec 2015

**Australian Film Television & Radio School**

*Lecturer – 3 Day Sketch Comedy Writing Course*

- Teaching 12 to 14 year old students how to write, shoot and edit a short sketch over a 3 day period. Including: how to use the Celtex screenwriting program, how to stage, light and shoot their sketches and how to edit them on Adobe Premiere.

2014

**This Week Live**

*Head Writer - Live weekly satirical panel and sketch series – Roving Enterprises - 10 Network*

- Coordinating a room of writers and overseeing meetings to develop topical jokes and sketches. Attending production meetings and running through script with lawyers. Finalising and preparing script for autocue.

2013

**You're Skitting Me (Series 2)**

*Head Writer, Animation Director - Live action and animated sketch series for 8-14 year olds – CJZ - ABC 3*

- As Head Writer: Developing character and sketch ideas, coordinating submissions from external writers and editing final scripts. Attending production meetings to answer questions on casting, props, costumes and locations.
- As Animation Director: Developing animated characters and sketches, and writing scripts. Directing voice actors while recording dialogue. Drawing characters, animating sketches with Toon Boom Harmony, coordinating other animators and exporting for final sound and vision edits by CJZ.

2012

**Problems with Sam Simmons**

*Writer - 4x30min surreal narrative sketch series - ABC*

- Writing and developing characters, storylines and sketches.

2011-12

**Adam Hills in Gordon Street Tonight**

*Head Writer - Talk and sketch series involving audience stories & celebrity guests - ABC*

- Researching audience surveys and developing segments and sketches based on their stories.

- Coordinating a room of writers and segment producers and overseeing meetings to develop jokes and sketches based on stories.
- Working closely with host developing jokes and guest interviews.
- Attending production meetings, finalising and preparing script for autocue.

2011

**You're Skitting Me (Series 2)**

*Head Writer, Animation Director - Live action and animated sketch series for 8-14 year olds - CJZ - ABC 3*

- As Head Writer: Developing character and sketch ideas, coordinating submissions from external writers and editing final scripts. Attending production meetings to answer questions on casting, props, costumes and locations.
- As Animation Director: Developing animated characters and sketches, and writing scripts. Directing voice actors while recording dialogue. Drawing characters, animating sketches with Toon Boom Harmony, coordinating other animators and exporting for final sound and vision edits by CJZ.

2009-11

**Spicks & Specks**

*Writer - Comedy music quiz - ABC*

- Developing game ideas, writing jokes for host, finalising and preparing script for autocue.

2010

**The Johnny Cant Function**

*Producer, Director, Camera, Editor - You-Tube - Comedy Web Series*

- Directing, producing, filming and editing sketches written and performed by Jason Marion.

2005-09

**Rove Live/ Rove**

*Head Writer - Live weekly, topical talk variety and sketch show - Roving Enterprises - 10 Network*

- Coordinating a room of writers and overseeing meetings to develop topical jokes and sketches. Finalising and preparing script for autocue. (Approximately 40x1hr episodes per year).

2006

**Real Stories with Hamish & Andy**

*Writer - Documentary human interest comedy series - Roving Enterprises - 10 Network*

- Developing characters and stories, writing 1<sup>st</sup> drafts of episodes.

2005

**The Brian Munich & Friends Radio Show**

*Writer, Presenter, Panel Operator - Radio talk & sketch show - Triple R Melbourne*

- Presenting and panel operating a 2-hour live, Sunday afternoon radio program.
- Writing, recording and editing audio sketches for broadcast.

2004

**Kath & Kim S3 (Episode: Cactus Hour)**

*Actor - Narrative comedy series - ABC*

- Several scenes playing Brett's work colleague.

**Hamish & Andy**

*Writer, Co-Producer - Sketch series - I'm Spartacus - 7 Network*

- Part of the writing, producing team developing topical jokes and sketches.

2003

**Nova 100 Summer Breakfast Show**

*Writer, Presenter - FM radio show - Nova 100 Melbourne*

- One half of on air duo with Meshel Laurie presenting a 3-hour breakfast radio show x 3 weeks.
- Writing and performing sketches to be aired on the show.

**Sunday Bloody Sunday**

*Writer, Presenter - FM radio show - Nova 100 Melbourne*

- One half of on air duo with Meshel Laurie presenting a weekly 3-hour afternoon radio show x 4 weeks.
- Writing and performing sketches to be aired on the show.

**Brian Munich & Friends – Pop Goes the Eyeball (Live MICF Show)**

*Co-Creator, Writer, Producer, Performer – Melbourne International Comedy Festival*



- Developing, writing, producing then performing a live show 6 nights a week for 4 weeks at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

**Comedy Inc.**

*Writer - Sketch series - 9 Network*

- Writing topical and generic sketches for 1 hour weekly sketch show.

2002-03

**The Hughesy, Kate & Dave Breakfast Show**

*Writer, OB Presenter - FM radio show - Nova 100 Melbourne*

- Writing sketches & imaging
- Presenter of live on-air crosses.

2002

**Brian Munich & Friends – Lord of the Ringos (Live MICF Show)**

*Co-Creator, Writer, Producer, Performer – Melbourne International Comedy Festival*

- Developing, writing, producing then performing a live show 6 nights a week for 4 weeks at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. (NB. Short listed for MICF Award for Best Show)

2001

**The Big Schmooze**

*Writer, Performer – Live, weekly, topical talk, variety and sketch show – The Comedy Channel*

- Part of the writing and performing team developing topical jokes and sketches.

**Brian Munich & Friends (Live MICF Show)**

*Co-Creator, Writer, Producer, Performer – Melbourne International Comedy Festival*

- Developing, writing, producing then performing a live show 6 nights a week for 4 weeks at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. (NB. This show won the Age Critic's Award and MICF Award for Best Show)

**Russell Gilbert Was Here**

*Writer, Performer - Sketch series - 9 Network*

- Part of the writing and performing team developing jokes and sketches.

2000

**Russell Gilbert Live**

*Writer, Performer - Live weekly, topical talk variety and sketch show - 9 Network*

- Part of the writing and performing team developing topical jokes, sketches and segments.

**Brian Munich & Friends (TV Show)**

*Co- Creator, Writer, Producer, Performer, Camera operator, Editor - 6 episode sketch series - Channel 31*

- Developing, writing and performing sketches then editing the program for air. (NB. Around 2012 I recut and remastered the series and loaded to You-Tube)

1998

**The Big News & The Late Report**

*Writer - Topical sketch series - 7 Network*

- Part of the writing team developing topical jokes, sketches and segments.

1998

**Boob & the Pigman Go to Mexico (Live MICF Show)**

*Co-Creator, Writer, Producer, Performer – Melbourne International Comedy Festival*

- Developing, writing, producing then performing this live show 6 nights a week for 4 weeks at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

1998

**Totally Full Frontal**

*Writer - Sketch series - 10 Network*

- Part of the writing team developing jokes and sketches.

1998

**In Melbourne Tonight**

*Writer - Talk, variety, sketch series - 9 Network*

- Part of the writing team developing topical jokes, sketches and segments.

1997

**Full Frontal**

*Writer - Sketch series - 7 Network*

- Part of the writing team developing jokes and sketches.

1997

### **Talking Fluff (Live MICF Show)**

*Co-Creator, Writer, Producer, Performer – Melbourne International Comedy Festival*

- Developing, writing, producing then performing this live show 6 nights a week for 4 weeks at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

## **Education**

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### **1 year full time – Audio Operations (Perth College WA)**

Audio operations – Panel Operating – Audio editing

### **2 year full time – Film & TV Production & Design (Perth College WA)**

TVC Production - TV Camera Operations - Lighting Design - Product Illustration – Advertising – Storyboarding - Creative Writing for Screen – Copywriting - Design Visual Literacy - Art History - Photo Design - Animation - Computer Literacy - Media Technologies - Post Production

## **Programs**

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- Final Draft (Screenwriting Software)
- Highland 2 (Screenwriting Software)
- Toon Boom Harmony (Animation Software)
- Wordpress (Web page development)
- Adobe Premiere (Editing Software)
- Photoshop
- Word
- Excel

## **Socials**

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Twitter: @matsenstuff  
 Instagram: raymatsen  
 Facebook: ray.matsen  
 LinkedIn: Ray Matsen  
 Tick Tock: rayandjason  
 Website: raymatsen.com

## **Awards**

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### **Atlanta Women’s Film Festival - Best International Screenplay 2020**

MISSION BROWN – Written by (based on an idea by Lisa Defazio)

### **Atlanta Women’s Film Festival – Nomination - Best Comedy | Short 2020**

MISSION BROWN – Written by (based on an idea by Lisa Defazio)

**ACCTA Nomination – Best Children’s Television Series 2017**

YOU’RE SKITTING ME S3 - Head Writer

**ACCTA Nomination – Best Children’s Television Series 2013**

YOU’RE SKITTING ME S2 - Head Writer

**Logie Nomination – Most Outstanding Children’s Program 2012**

YOU’RE SKITTING ME S1- Head Writer

**Logie - Most Popular Presenter Adam Hills 2011**

SPICKS & SPECKS & GORDON STREET - Writer/ Head Writer

**Logie – Most Outstanding Light Entertainment Program 2010**

SPICKS & SPECKS - Writer

**Logie - Most Popular Light Entertainment Program 2005/ 2007/ 2009**

ROVE - Head Writer

**Barry Award for Best Show - Melbourne Int Comedy Festival 2001**

BRIAN MUNICH & FRIENDS – Writer/Performer

**The Age Newspaper Critics Award - Melbourne Int Comedy Festival 2001**

BRIAN MUNICH & FRIENDS – Writer/Performer

FOR MORE INFO GO TO: [raymatsen.com](http://raymatsen.com)