

Show explores thirties reality

✦ **Shaya Laughlin**

IF YOU don't have your life sorted by the age of 30, don't panic.

That's the lesson local actors John van Putten and Helen Stuart, both in their 30s, learnt while filming the first season of a new web series.

Thirty is a female-driven drama comedy about four women in Sydney stumbling through their early thirties and "trying to get their s. t together".

It started when Tricia-Lyn Morosin, now the series writer and actor, hit 30 and decided to go back to acting school while wrangling a toddler.

She soon noticed the lack of roles for 30-plus, size 16 women and decided to stop whining and start writing.

"I thought, the best way to challenge the lack of diversity on our screens was to create a series that show-

cased real, wonderfully-flawed Aussie women of different shapes, ethnicities and sexual orientations," Ms Morosin said.

The web series has had great reviews and was nominated for Best Australian Drama at the Melbourne WebFest.

Mr van Putten, of Paddington, and Ms Stuart, of Woollahra, have been a big part of the success.

Mr van Putten plays lead character John, the bored husband of the main character Dalia, who takes an interest in her friend Bianca.

Ms Stuart plays politician Natalie who is having an affair with local journalist Anna.

"It's not just trying to create the perfect little world, it's actually showing those faults that we all have and the struggles that we have," Ms Stuart said.

"There's this whole kind of pressure from society that



Actors John van Putten and Helen Stuart star in new Aussie web series *Thirty*. Picture: Danny Aarons

is placed on us that we're meant to have a certain thing by the age of 30 that I think is ridiculous.

"I have to have a white-

picket fence, three children and be married and have to have found the man of my dreams and all this kind of stuff ... it doesn't exist."

Episodes from the first season are now on the show's YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/thirtytheseries.