

Blown apart in the name of art

AN Officer house was destroyed in the name of art on Saturday when it was blown up for a scene in a new movie.

The explosion of the Peterson Road home was the final stunt for a new Australian movie, 'Razor Eaters'.

Local residents watched the event from nearby Dickie Road, while fire crews from Toomuc, Doveton, Cardinia and Officer provided support.

Producer and actor Paul Moder said the explosion was created on a shoestring budget.

"Normally this kind of stunt would costs tens of thousands, but everyone chipped in to help us out. The CFA were great," he said.

The producers said the house was prepped for weeks before the explosion. Barriers were constructed and nearby residents were notified to secure their livestock and stay a safe distance away.

Owners Dorota and Wojciceh Heicz donated the house, which had been scheduled for demolition.

Keith Lewis of Firetechnics said the house was mined with both high explosive and special effect fuel charges.

"We took the place apart room by room and burnt it to the ground, overall we were rapt with the result."

Mr Moder said the movie was about a gang that targeted members of the community,



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including parking inspectors, politicians, drug dealers, football stars, casino managers and the detectives assigned to apprehend them.

However, the producers said the film was not intended to paint a positive picture of violence.

"We never intended this to be a Hollywood type explosion," said director Shannon Young. "The film is gritty and realistic and is designed to shock and disturb instead of glorifying violence."

The film is scheduled for completion late this year and should hit screens early next year.