

SERIES MANIA FORUM ANNOUNCES 15 PROJECTS PLUS THE WINNER FROM BERLIN'S DRAMA SERIES DAYS SELECTED FOR ITS 2022 CO-PRO PITCHING SESSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL JURY OF INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

Winner of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions to be awarded a grand prize of €50,000

LILLE, FRANCE – February 17, 2022 – At the press conferences today in Lille (morning) and Paris (evening), France, Rodolphe Belmer, President of Series Mania, and Laurence Herszberg, founder and general director of Series Mania (March 18-25), announced the 16 projects selected as part of the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions, the founding premise and most anticipated event of the Series Mania Forum (March 22-24). Having received 330 projects from 56 different countries, the goal of the Forum's Co-Pro Pitching Sessions is to help these high-end European and International drama projects find potential financial partners. An international jury of industry professionals will determine the best project among the 16 projects (excluding the winner from the Berlin Film Festival Drama Series Days which is out of competition) and prize the Best Project Award €50,000 to help develop the winning series.

More than a hundred projects have been pitched through this program since its creation in 2013, including winners at last year's Festival *Blackport* (Best Series International Competition) and *The Last Socialist Artifact* (Best Series International Panorama). This year, two previous Co-Pro Pitching Sessions entrants are part of the official Festival selection: *Des Gens Bien* (Belgium/France) and *Hors Saison* (*France/Switzerland*).

The Forum's Co-Pro Pitching Sessions has also been a launchpad for such series as No Man's Land (France), Banking District (Switzerland), Eden (France), Keeping Faith (Great Britain), Manor House (Czech Republic), Stella Blomkvist (Iceland), Tabula Rasa (Belgium), Trepalium (France), Warrior (Denmark), Devils (Italy), The Head (Spain), Ever After (Italy), and We Got This (Sweden).

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The 2022 international jury of industry professionals includes:

- JURY PRESIDENT: Antony Root, EVP, Head of Original Production, WarnerMedia EMEA, WarnerMedia UK
- Noel Hedges, EVP Acquisitions, International Distribution at eOne, UK
- Yi Qiao, Director ZDFE Drama at ZDF Enterprises, Germany
- Yaël Fogiel, Producer, Co-Founder and Co-Director, Films du Poisson, France
- Daniele Cesarano, Head of Drama, RTI Mediaset Group, Italy

The following list of selected projects (in alphabetical order) will be pitched by their producers to a panel of potential financiers and are eligible for the Best Project Award of €50.000:

A BOY DISAPPEARS - 6 x 50' - Denmark

Produced by Live Hide for Nimbus Film Written by Julie Budtz Sørensen

THE ACCIDENT – 8 x 30' – Israel

Produced by Maya Fischer for Green Productions Written by Matan Yair

THE CUCKOO TREATMENT – 8 x 60' – Canada

Produced by Jennifer Kawaja for Sienna Films (a Sphere Media Company) Written by Kris Bertin and Naben Ruthnum

DEAD END – 6 x 50' – Belgium

Produced by Dimitri Verbeeck and Bert Hamelinck for Caviar Antwerp Written by Malin-Sarah Gozin

DETECTIVE TOURÉ – 8 x 50' – Spain

Produced by Mariela Besuievsky and Elena Bort for Tornasol and DeAPlaneta Written by David Pérez Sañudo, Carlos Vila Based on the books "The Detective Touré Saga" by Jon Arretxe

HORMONES – 6 x 52' – France

Produced by Alex Berger for TOP-The Oligarchs Productions and Benjamin Elalouf for Moonshaker

Created by Noé Debré and Joachim Schnerf

THE IMPOSSIBLE SHE – 8 x 50′– Italy

Produced by Domenico Procacci and Laura Paolucci for Fandango Created by Simone Manetti, Federica Pontremoli and Lorenzo Sportiello

ISLAND OF YOUTH – 8 x 50' – Germany

Produced by Daniel Hetzer for Turbine Studios Written by Jon Atli Jonasson

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THE LIBERTIES – 6 x 55' – Ireland, Belgium

Produced by Laura McNicholas, Peter De Maegd, Cormac Fox, Brian Durnin for 925 Productions, Vico Films, Potemkino and Greenhorn Films.

Written by Gary Duggan, Brian Durnin, Pierce Ryan

LITTLE HANDS – 6 x 52' – France

Produced by Caroline Adrian for Delante Productions Written by Lou Zidi, Alexandra Bialy

THE MARS PROJECT – 8 x 52' – Germany, France

Produced by Gregory Strouk and Henning Windelband for Wild Bunch and youngfilms GmbH & Co.KG

Written by Maxime Crupaux

Directed by Patrick Tatopoulos

Based on the short stories by Andreas Esbach

PARADISE – 8 x 48' – South Africa

Produced by Nimrod Geva for Quizzical Pictures and Avi Nir (Executive Producer) for Keshet International

Created by Darrel Bristow-Bovey and Anton Visser

Written by Darrel Bristow-Bovey

RANK – 10 x 30'– Ireland, France & Australia

Produced by Matthew Gledhill and Ailish McElmeel for Wheelhouse Productions and Deadpan Pictures

Written by Brendan Berne, Dillon Mapletoft and Oliver Taylor

SALVATION – 7 x 50' – Hungary

Produced by Viktoria Petranyi for Proton Cinema Written by Aniko Mangold

THE WINTER PACK – 6 x 45' – Sweden

Produced by Moa Westeson, Anni Fernandez and Cindy Hanson for Nevis Productions

Written by Christoffer Örnfelt

Directed by Charlotte Brändström

And, out of competition (ineligible for Best Project Award), in partnership with Drama Series Days, sidebar of the Berlin Film Festival:

THE REPORT – 6 x 60' – Germany

Produced by Michael Weber, Viola Fügen, Tobias Pausinger (development producer), Ben von Rönne (co-producer) for Match Factory Productions

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Full program available 1 March. For more information on the Series Mania Forum program, please go to: https://seriesmania.com/forum/en/

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