



RULES AND REGULATIONS

PREAMBLE

SERIES MANIA LILLE / HAUTS-DE-FRANCE (“Series Mania”) is France’s international festival entirely dedicated to the best of scripted fiction series. It aims to spotlight works of quality from all around the globe and encourage the development of the international series industry. This festival will take the form of eight festive and stimulating days with over 100 screenings, including world premiere series, as well as master classes, conferences, panel discussions and exhibits.

This non-profit event will gather a substantial and diverse audience composed of industry professionals, international broadcasters, journalists and general public to appreciate the quality and audacity of today’s best series.

Series Mania chooses and invites the series that will be presented in International Competition, French Competition, International Panorama, Short Forms Competition, Made in USA, Comedy Competition, Special Screenings, New Seasons Premieres, Series Mania Cult and FORUM Exclusives (aka Buyers’ Showcase).

The next edition of Series Mania will be held in Lille from August 26th to September 2nd, 2021.



ELIGIBILITY

Series Mania only accepts first seasons for new scripted series or mini-series (dramas, comedies and short forms). Submitted series or mini-series must be fictional.

For the competitive sections, the Festival will not accept:

- Documentary series
- Children's series
- Series pilots
- Follow-up seasons

To be eligible for consideration:

1. You must fully comply with these Entry Rules & Regulations, including all deadlines, entry material and other requirements.
2. Submissions should include **at least the first 2 episodes for series that exceed 40 minutes of length per episode, and at least the first 3 episodes for series under such length.**
3. All submitted episodes must include **English subtitles** except for series in French and English. Dialogue lists will not be accepted.
4. All series must have been produced in 2020 or 2021.
5. Work in progress can be submitted.
6. Series that have been exhibited at a different French festival and/or broadcast on French television (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on a platform or streaming service available in France before September 2nd, 2021 will not be accepted (*see criteria in charts, below*).
7. For the International Panorama and Comedy Competition, only series released after September 1st, 2020 will be accepted.

No submissions will be accepted for the following sections: Made in USA, New Season Premieres, Special Screenings, Series Mania Cult and Forum Exclusives (aka Buyers' Showcase). The series selected in these categories will be invited by the Festival.



HOW TO ENTER

Apply online at: <https://film.series-mania.festicine.fr/en> and, after fully completing the online entry form, click “submit”. Please note the online entry form will require you to submit a password-protected URL that links to your series.

There is **no entry fee**, submissions are entirely free of charge.

KEY DATES AND SUBMISSION DEADLINE

- October 19th, 2020 – Open call for submissions
- **May 10th, 2021 – Submissions close at 11:59PM (UTC+1)**
All entries must have been completed and received by the festival at this time.
No submissions will be accepted after this date.
- July 1st, 2021 – Official selection announced
- August 26th – September 2nd, 2021 – Series Mania Lille / Hauts-de-France Festival

Rights holders will be informed by the Festival team of the selection of their series before the Official announcement. The Festival will announce the selection during a press conference on July 1st, 2021.



ENTRY MATERIAL

All entries must include the following:

- An official Series Mania entry form properly completed
- A password-protected streaming link of the required episodes of the series
(*please see details below to define the number of required episodes*)

If you are unable to submit your series by URL link, follow the prompts in the online entry form to contact the festival Programming team to discuss an alternate method of submission.

Additional material:

- 4 royalty-free stills from the submitted episodes that the festival may use for communications purposes in case of selection only.

The festival requires that the episodes of your series must be submitted via a password-protected streaming URL link. Links must remain active and accessible until September 2nd, 2021. This streaming link must include a downloadable version of the available episodes. Please prepare this link prior to completing your online entry form.

Note: Submissions may be on a work-in-progress form; however, episodes that are not final cuts must be **clearly labeled** Work in Progress (“WIP”) or Rough Cut with an indication of what will change or what is missing at the time of submission.



Required number of episodes:

Drama and Comedy Series

All submitted series must consist of episodes intended to be at least 20 minutes in length:

- For series that exceed 40 minutes in length per episode, including credits, the selection committee will screen the first 2 episodes.
- For series between 20 and 40 minutes in length per episode, including credits, the selection committee will screen the first 3 or 4 episodes.

Short Form Series

All submitted series (scripted fiction only) must consist of episodes intended to be under 20 minutes in length and produced to be aired specifically online:

- For series that exceed 15 minutes in length per episode, including credits, the selection committee will screen the first 3 episodes.
- For series under 15 minutes in length per episode, including credits, the selection committee will screen the first 4 episodes.



FESTIVAL SECTIONS AND AWARDS

Series invited to participate in the Series Mania festival will be included in the section determined most appropriate by the Festival programmers, in their sole discretion. In 2021, the Festival sections will include the following categories:

In competition

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

World or International Premieres section: the series must not have been exhibited in any international festival and/or been broadcast on any television channel (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on any platform or streaming service before September 2nd, 2021. Exceptions may be considered for series exhibited at local previews or market screenings strictly in their country of origin. *Please note that Series Mania gives priority to World Premieres.*

An international jury will award:

- the Grand Prix
- the Special Jury Prize
- the award for Best Actress
- the award for Best Actor

This section is also eligible for the Audience Award.

FRENCH COMPETITION

World Premieres section: The series must not have been broadcast on French television (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on any platform or streaming service and/or exhibited in any festival in France taking place before September 2nd, 2021.

An international press jury will award:

- the award for Best Series
- the award for Best Actress
- the award for Best Actor

This section is also eligible for the Audience Award.



INTERNATIONAL PANORAMA

The series must not have been broadcast on French television (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on any platform or streaming service Festival and/or exhibited in any festival in France taking place before September 2nd, 2021. Priority will be given to World and European premieres, provided all other criteria are met. Only series released after September 1st, 2020 will be accepted.

A professional jury and a separate student jury will each award:

- the awards for Best Series

This section is also eligible for the Audience Award.

SHORT FORMS COMPETITION

This section will be showcased online on the Series Mania platform.

The series must not have been screened in any French or international festival and/or have aired on a platform, streaming service or mobile app in France before September 2nd, 2021. Priority will be given to World premieres provided all other criteria are met, but series that premiered after October 1st, 2020 exclusively in their home country or have been exhibited at a local festival may also submit.

A specific jury will award:

- the award for Best Series

COMEDY COMPETITION

The series must not have been broadcast on French television (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on any platform or streaming service and/or exhibited in any festival in France taking place before September 2nd, 2021. Only series aired after September 1st, 2020 will be accepted.

A specific student jury will award:

- the award for Best Comedy

This section is eligible for the Audience Award.



MADE IN USA

This section is eligible for the Audience Award.

***Note:** All awards in the above-mentioned categories are honorary.*

Out of competition

Series Mania Cult
New Season Premieres
Fan Club
Special Screenings
FORUM Exclusives

FESTIVAL SCREENINGS

The screenings of the selected series will be held at the Nouveau Siècle, the UGC Ciné Cité Lille and the Majestic movie-theaters between August 26th and September 2nd, 2021. The festival is a non-profit event and admissions to screenings are entirely free. The screenings will be presented by a journalist, specialist, representative of the series or a member of the festival programming team and can be followed by a Q&A session.

Series Mania Digital for the PUBLIC VIEWING

Due to the sanitary situation and starting from May 2021, the public audience of the Series Mania Festival that will not be able to attend the screenings in Lille will find the pilots of the selected series on the Series Mania Digital platform. This service is based on the Cinando.com technology, using streaming with a secured watermark and individual access. The access to these pilots will be limited to 24 hours after the start of the public screening in Lille, and with a maximum capacity equivalent to the number of seats in the physical venue in Lille.

Series Mania Digital for the INDUSTRY

All series exhibited for the audience will be included in the FORUM Exclusives (aka Buyers' Showcase) **except for all the non-competitive sections**. The screened episodes will be digitized in the original version with English subtitles.



The Forum Exclusives (aka Buyers' Showcase) will be available online and on individual screens from August 30th to September 18th, 2021 the latest and will only be accessible through individual login for the registered industry professionals participating in the SERIES MANIA FORUM (August 30th – September 1st, 2021). This service is based on the Cinando.com technology, using streaming with a secured watermark and individual access.

COMMUNICATION

The Festival reserves the right to communicate on the selection ahead of the Festival. The synopsis for each series will be written internally, by the Festival's team.

If your series is selected, the rights holders will be required to submit **three 60-seconds sequences** for communications purposes that the Festival may use for trailers and promotional clips/videos.

The rights holders will also be required to submit **4 stills** (royalty-free until August 2022), from the screened episodes (no promotional material) that the Festival may use for press purposes and the official catalog.

The award winners, as well as the producers and distributors of the winning series are under the obligation to include the awards received and the Festival logo, on all promotion materials (credits, poster, trailer, press kit, website).

The rights holders of the award-winning series at Series Mania will authorize the Festival to screen their series (2 episodes) in case it is selected for the re-run of the laureates, taking place in Paris (exact day TBC).



SCREENINGS SUPPORTS

Public screenings: all the series will be screened in High Definition (DCP), in its original version with French and English subtitles. The right holders will provide the festival high definition supports (DCP) in their original language and with English subtitles.

Forum Exclusives (aka Buyers' Showcase): the right holders will provide the festival high-definition files with English subtitles.

For any question regarding rules and regulations, please send an email to:

For drama series only: katia.kirby@seriesmania.com

For comedy and short form series only: carlo.fasino@seriesmania.com