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Series Mania Festival - season 5

Record attendance!

Created by the Forum des images, the **Series Mania** festival **welcomed almost 18,500 spectators** for its **fifth edition**, which ran from 22 to 30 April 2014.

Attendance was up by 23% over last year, underlining the audience's insatiable enthusiasm when offered a selection of some of the best French and international series shown on the big screen. Hailing from **17 countries** (Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, South Korea, Denmark, United States, Finland, France, United Kingdom, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Netherlands, Russia, Sweden), **more than 50 fictions previously unseen in France** were screened, with the creators and cast in attendance.

The crowds for certain sessions were exceptional, starting with the **opening evening** which, for the first time, featured simultaneous screenings in four Forum des images theaters of the event series ***True Detective***, with a combined audience of more than **900 spectators!** The show's creator, novelist **Nic Pizzolatto**, was among the **guests of honor** at the festival, and his master class was a sell-out.

The presence of the actress **Oona Chaplin** (***The Crimson Field*** and ***Dates***), the British screenwriters **Bryan Elsley** (***Dates***) and **Tony Grisoni** (***Southcliffe***), the Italian director **Stefano Sollima** (***Gomorra***), **Tamar Marom** and **Ram Nehari** for the Israeli series ***Mekimi*** and the **cast from the French series** gave rise to some passionate discussion on the fantastic creativity in the field of series, from whichever continent.

The industry side of the festival also moved up a gear, notably with the second **European Coproduction Forum**, held from **23 to 25 April** and backed by the **EU MEDIA Programme** and the **CNC**.

Drawn from the **89 projects** for series seeking additional financing which were submitted – three times as many as last year – **the 10 selected projects**, comprising two French ones, seven from elsewhere in Europe, and one from Israel, were presented to a panel of **121 industry professionals, an increase of 40%**, and who came from **22 countries** and met in 250 individual meetings during the Forum.

Among participants were: **21 TV channels, 20 international distributors and sales companies, 43 production companies** and **8 public or private financing bodies**. Their representatives took part in pitching sessions, round tables, and 250 individual meetings, positioning Series Mania as the leading **springboard for futures co-productions in Europe**.

In addition, the **521 accredited industry participants** discovered 60 series as part of the international showcase in the collections room of the Forum des images, between them clocking up an unprecedented **2,500 screenings**, equivalent to **1,200 hours** of programming.

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THE AWARD WINNERS

The Series Mania Awards were presented during the closing gala, held on Wednesday 30 April at 8.30pm.

The Audience Award involving all series screening across the whole festival.

- ❖ **Best series** : **Southcliffe**, British mini-series created by the screenwriter **Tony Grisoni** and broadcast in the UK by Channel 4. **Canal +** recently acquired the show for France and plans to broadcast it in the near future.

The International Press Jury Prize involving the six French series in competition, and discerned by five journalists from the following media outlets: *Cinéma & Vidéo International* (Italy), *Radio Canada* (Quebec), *Radio Times* (UK), *Seance* (Russia) and *Ystads Allehanda* (Sweden):

- ❖ **Best French series**: **Ainsi soient-ils** (season 2), created by Bruno Nahon, Vincent Poymiro, David Elkaïm and Rodolphe Tissot, this series is produced by Zadig Productions. It will be broadcast in the fall 2014 on **ARTE**.
- ❖ **Best actress in a French series**: **Marie-Eve Perron**, for the series **FranceKbek** produced by Love My TV – a coproduction from the label OCS Signature. Created by Jérémie Galan, Jonathan Cohen, from an original idea by Marie-Eve Perron and Lily Thibeault, this series will be broadcast starting on 5 May on **OCS City**.
- ❖ **Best actor in a French series**: **Jean-Hugues Anglade** for the series **Le Passager**, created by Jean-Christophe Grangé and produced by EuropaCorp Television. This series will be broadcast soon on France Télévision.

Bloggers Award

- ❖ **Best world series** : **Woman**, a Japanese series created by **Yuji Sakamoto** and produced by Ohira Futoshi. It was broadcast in Japan by **NTV**.

Web-surfers Award involving the selection of international web-series (online at: series-mania.fr)

- ❖ **Best web-series** : **High Maintenance** is an american web-series created by **Ben Sinclair** and **Katja Blichfeld** and is produced by Ben Sinclair, Katja Blichfeld and Russell Gregory.

**See the festival highlights and guest appearances
on the festival website: series-mania.fr**

SERIES MANIA PARTNERS

Privileged partners: OCS and JIMMY; **Official partners:** ARTE France and France Télévisions

Institutional partners: CNC, Région Ile-de-France, MEDIA, PROCIREP, SACD, SODEC, Israeli Embassy in France; **Associate partners:** ACER, Dubbing Brothers, Renault, Park Hyatt Paris-Vendôme

Series Mania would like to thank the following broadcasters **for their kind permission:**

OCS: *Black Sails* (season 1), *FranceKbek*, *Game of Thrones* (season 4), *Looking* (season 1), *Masters of Sex* (season 1), *The Walking Dead* (season 4), *True Detective* (season 1); **JIMMY:** *Ray Donovan* (season 1), *The Bridge US* (season 1); **CANAL+** : *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* (season 1), *Gomorra* (season 1), *Mafiosa* (season 5); **ARTE:** *Ainsi soient-ils* (season 2), *Peaky Blinders* (season 1), *Real Humans* (season 2), *Rectify* (season 1); **France 2:** *Hôtel de la plage* (season 1), *Le Passager* (season 1); **France 3:** *Ceux de 14*; **France 4:** *Black Mirror* (seasons 1 & 2); **France Ô:** *FDP (Filhos Da Puta)*; **TF1:** *Résistance*; **Sundance Channel France:** *The Red Road* (season 1); **SyFy France:** *Helix* (season 1); **MYTF1 VOD:** *Believe* (season 1)