



TV Screenwriters' Festival
Aix-les-Bains, France
October 18 – 21, 2007

Screenwriters Speak Out

« Scénaristes en Séries » is the innovative brainchild of screenwriting members of the French Authors' Club. It is a bold attempt to draw attention to their profession by highlighting the driving force, in terms of volume, behind current levels of distribution and media impact: Series for Television.

This important gathering --- based on meetings and screenings, without any competition --- has the ultimate goal of uniting players from the world of television series to discuss the problems they encounter. In the spirit of exchange, positive developments and new ideas, both in method and content, will carry over into a direct dialogue with the public and the media.

More than just another “festival,” *Scénaristes en Séries* is primarily for communication and collaboration among French television screenwriters and their foreign counterparts to discuss their problems and their points in common.

The Goal :

To promote among professionals, the media and the general public the role of writing and the screenwriter's place in the heart of television production, with a special focus on television series and serials. To be a meeting place for innovation and critical evaluation, coupled in the long term with an international screenwriting market.

Anchored in the professional field and its partnership with the world of distribution (broadcasters, institutions, service providers), it will become the annual meeting, specific and not-to-be-missed, of the audiovisual world.

The Idea :

- Increase publicity for the profession and the role of the screenwriter, the basis of every audiovisual work.
- Help professionals to meet and collaborate better.
- Create a point of contact with the public targeted by audiovisual creations and help that public to understand how to “decode” their television programs.

Activities

- Numerous other events will be offered to the public (for example: A Night of Cult Series, A Generic Quizz on Series, Dedication Screenings, Meet Professionals).

This rendez-vous will become a unique annual event by:

- uniting the most active french and foreign screenwriters with all of the professional players (producers, directors, distributors, actors);
- presenting unseen works as avant-premieres to the public and the media;
- encouraging exchange and critical analysis among professionals in order to improve the creative process;
- creating meetings and exchanges with the public concerning the audio-visual field;
- presenting every year the chance to discover the structure and functioning of foreign audiovisual fiction by inviting a panel of professionals representative of their sector;
- establishing the basis for an international screenwriting market;
- organizing programs with schools and young people in order to help children and adolescents discover the various writing professions.

An International Event

This meeting is international, accentuating every year series from one or several foreign countries. As American TV series are so important beyond the world, we started in 2006 by a focus on US series, projected and introduced by their screenwriters. Rod Lurie and Marc Frydman came to talk about their work on "Commander in Chief" and Carol Flint also came to Aix where we organised one master class about her work in writing different series.

Each year many countries will be invited in Aix.

The international dimension of the meeting is essential. Exchanging ideas with foreign screenwriters, master classes, and debates about foreign models will be key elements in these annual meetings.

In 2007, focus will be made upon Europe and Quebec.

The "Scénaristes en Séries" ...

The founding members of "Scénaristes en Séries" are all members of the Authors'

The Authors' Club

This association is composed of 75 professional screenwriters, all working for television and film, all intimately involved in the creation and writing of telefilms, series and serials.

The Authors' Club was founded for the purpose of promoting the indispensable place of the screenwriter in audiovisual creation and to have the primacy of the writing process recognized for its true value in the whole process of production.

Close to the actors for whom its members write, in permanent contact with public and private broadcasters and producers, the Authors' Club represents today a true force and an indispensable go-between in the French audiovisual world. It has participated wholeheartedly in this event in order to gather all of the professionals around the subjects that preoccupy them and create a media focus.

A guarantee for participation in the festival and for the quality of its program!

www.clubdesauteurs.com.

Preview of the Program

Continuous screenings will be organized during the first two days. All screenings will be in the presence of the creative team (screenwriters, directors, producers, actors and broadcasters). They will be followed by question-and-answer sessions between the professionals and the public.

Our 2007 programmation is not established yet, for an exemple here are the meetings organised last year....

Friday Morning:

Half-day reserved for young viewers.

Projection of a series of cartoons (according to age) and eventually a fiction for youth (in the presence of a team of professionals who will animate discussions).

Real time presentation of a post-synchro session from part of a cartoon

Meeting between screenwriters and producers: New formats, new relationships?"

(or "Do 52 minutes series involve a new relationship between screenwriters and producers? The role of writing coordinators and writers.").

4 series will be used as a basis for discussions: *Section de Recherche*, *Engrenages*, *David Nolande* and *PJ*.

Special Master Class: The Example of *Plus Belle la Vie*. With screenwriters, actors, and producer from the series and a director to be confirmed.

Master Class: The Birth of a Series (screenwriters, producers, broadcasters, directors), using as examples four series being created and one broadcast.

Participants: screenwriters, executive producers, including the broadcasters involved.

Lecture: "Learn to Write for Television" with the European Conservatory for Audiovisual Writing.

Screenings Open to the Public

Friday Evening:

8:30 p.m.: Opening ceremonies for the Festival, presentation of the program and a major screening (for example: an avant-premiere of a series, including the screenwriters, actors, director and broadcaster).

Saturday Morning:

Round table discussion: Screenwriters and Actors (**open to the public**): How an Actor Becomes the Hero of a Television Series and How That Interfers with the Writing ...

Master Class Carol Flint (E.R , The Unit, The West Wing)

Master Class Rod Lurie / Marc Frydman (Commander in Chief)

Series screenings **open to the public**.

Saturday Afternoon:

Public debate ...: writing for cultural diversity in France. **Minorities that are said to be visible on the screen. Participants actors, screenwriters, executive producers and broadcasters.**

The phenomenon of sagas. *Open to the public.* **Participants: screenwriters, broadcasters, producers, actors in sagas: Dolmen/TF1; *Les yeux du volcan*/France 2; *Les Pasquier*/ France 2; *Laural* M6.**

7 p.m.:

Quizz on series generics.

Evening:

Closing Gala open to the public, with the screening of a not-yet-released program or a medley of upcoming series on French channels.

Cult series from midnight to 6 a.m.

And also:

Permanent booths with various professional organizations, the press, etc.

Workshops and mini-classes.

Pedagogical actions targeting young people.

Support from Aix-les-Bains

The city of Aix-les-Bains, chosen by the screenwriters for its dynamics, its superb environment, its international reputation, its accessibility, and its geographic location and tourist accommodations, has offered solid support in every area: human resources, logistics, and financing.

Scénaristes en Séries will rapidly become emblematic of this fast-growing community.

Partners

The official partners are:

Aix les Bains, SACD, TF1, France Télévisions, M6, Canal+, Dexia Private banking, Fot, Digimage, Michel Lafon Editing, Adami, Procirep, CNC

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