



**SERIES
MANIA
FORUM**

**INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
LILLE / HAUTS-DE-FRANCE**

MARCH 22>24 2022

RULES & REGULATION – THE SERIES MANIA FORUM CO PRO PITCHING SESSIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Co-Pro Pitching Sessions take place at the Series Mania Forum in the form of a presentation of 15 TV series in development by their producer(s) and/or writer(s).

Series Mania Forum runs from March 22-24 in Lille, France, and online on the Series Mania Digital Forum.

On March 22, the selected projects will be presented by their producers before an audience of audiovisual industry execs. After the pitching session, the project representative will also meet interested partners during a day dedicated to individual meetings.

The projects must be submitted in accordance with the rules below, and within the specified dates.

The registration for the presentation of a project implies the unconditional acceptance of the present regulations and, in case of selection of the project, the commitment of the presence of a representative at the event from March 21-24, 2022.

ELIGIBILITY

Selection criteria

- **Projects can only be submitted by companies** (production, distribution). Applications from individuals, such as writers, will not be accepted.
- **Companies can submit up to two projects.**
- **Projects selected for another market or festival, cannot be accepted.**
- The project must be for a **fiction series** (drama, comedy ...). Documentary or animation series projects will not be considered.
- The format of the series must be a **minimum of three episodes.**
- The length of each episode must be a **minimum of 26 minutes.**
- Adaptations of previous TV shows will not be considered. Season 2 of existing series will not be considered.

While not compulsory, we will take into consideration:

- The support of a TV channel in the country of origin, or the support of an international distributor, with proof provided in the form of an official document such as a letter of interest or development contract
- The experience of the company in the production of TV series or the financing of international co-productions.

We are also keen to ensure a selection that represents a wide diversity of geographical locations and genres.

The selection committee

Projects will be selected by a committee from Series Mania, made up of Laurence Herszberg, Frédéric Lavigne, and Francesco Capurro and a team of qualified readers that is revised every year.

Projects will be selected after obtaining a majority vote from the selection committee, and no discussion will be entered into.

PROJECT REGISTRATION

Project submissions must respond to the selection criteria and the application must include the documents specified below.

Submission of projects is free.

To qualify for submission for pre-selection, TV series projects must be submitted online on our website: www.seriesmania.com. **No submission by email, post, or any other means will be accepted.**

The following document is required for any submissions, and must be supplied before the closing date:

- **A mini-bible or pitch document** (recommended length: 5 pages; maximum allowed: 10 pages): this document should include any information useful to get a presentation of the project (series synopsis, world, tone, character descriptions, author's note, etc...)
 - **a financing plan** following the model provided by the Series Mania Forum team.

And if available:

- A few photos/moodboard/visuals/illustrations of the project
- Pilot or episode script(s)
- A provisional production timetable

Submissions will only be accepted in French or English. Incomplete dossiers will not be considered.

Series Mania Forum will not be responsible for any costs (translation, postage, graphic design, etc.) incurred for submission.

The closing date for submissions is **Thursday, 6th, 2022**.

The official selection will be announced via email to candidates in **February 2022**.

Representatives of projects that are not selected may request to attend the Series Mania Forum. Submission of a project does not automatically grant the applicant with the right to participate in the event. A selected company who has already purchased their accreditation may have it refunded or transferred to a member of their team.

THE BEST PROJECT PRIZE AWARD

A development grant of **€50,000 (fifty thousand euros)** will be awarded to what is judged to be the best project, as chosen by an independent jury made up of TV industry executives.

The jury will watch all the project presentations and will meet at the end of the session to decide upon the winner, which will be chosen by majority vote. The jury's decision is final, and no discussion will be entered.

The grant will be given to the production company whose project is selected in two steps:

- 50% or €25,000 (twenty-five thousand euros) at the end of the Series Mania Forum
- 50% or €25,000 (twenty-five thousand euros) upon presentation of receipts for expenditure linked to the development of the project undertaken between March 22 and December 31, 2023, up to the sum of €25,000.

The amount of the prize money may be modified between now and the prize-giving, without notice.

The Best Project Prize winner must mention the prize from the 2022 Series Mania Forum, as well as the festival logo in its credits (generic, promotional material...). The representatives of the awarded project will also be interviewed about their experience at FORUM SERIES MANIA 2022 and will participate in a photo session.

PARTICIPATION

For each selected project, at least one representative (producer, writer - maximum 3 people per presentation on stage) must be in Lille from March 21-24 to take part in rehearsals, to present the project during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions and participate in individual meetings.

In addition to the presentation (pitch lasting a maximum of 8 minutes) of its project at Lille Grand Palais, each production company will have to produce a video presentation of its project (video pitch - maximum duration 5 minutes). To support the creation of this video pitch, the Series Mania Forum will grant each company with a selected project a grant of 1,000 euros (one thousand euros), subject to strict compliance with technical specifications (including the delivery date) and editorial specifications provided by the Series Mania teams. It must also mention the festival logo in its credits. The financial aid of €1000 will be paid at the end of the Series Mania Forum.

The production companies graciously authorize Series Mania to reproduce and represent these video pitches on the Forum's paid access platform, which is reserved for accredited professionals.

Preparatory coaching

The selected projects must prepare their presentation of Lille and their video pitch with the "pitch coach" of the Series Mania Forum. A minimum of two remote coaching sessions will be scheduled, and project representatives must make themselves available on the dates agreed with the coach. On 21 March, a rehearsal and technical tests will take place at Lille Grand Palais, which the project representatives must attend.

Delivery date

The project representatives must provide the Series Mania Forum teams with all the material that could be used during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions (photo and video files grouped in a PowerPoint file, etc.) by **Wednesday, March 16, 2022** at the latest, and must strictly respect the technical specifications provided by the Series Mania Forum teams. The Series Mania Forum reserves the right to refuse any element submitted after the deadline or that does not comply with the technical specifications provided.

Credits

Completed projects from the Series Mania 2022 Co-Pro Pitching Sessions must mention their selection at Series Mania Forum 2022 in their closing credits and promotional material.

Fees

The festival will cover:

- accommodation costs in Lille for three nights from 21st March to 24th March for one representative of each selected project.
- Accreditation for two representatives
- Two other members of the team will be eligible for an "early bird" rate.

The festival will not cover travel costs.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND MARKETING

Documents supplied with project submissions are strictly confidential and are not for publication.

The production companies graciously authorize Series Mania to reproduce and represent, for marketing purposes, excerpts from the presentation videos created during the Co-Pro Pitching Sessions through social networks or its website.

The representatives of selected projects must supply information for Series Mania Forum marketing purposes, such as the website, catalogs, and flyers.

A list of selected projects, which will include the title of the project, country of origin, production company, and associated TV channel or distributor, may be used for marketing purposes and published in the press.

The project catalog, including the above information, as well as provisional financial elements, will be distributed to all accredited participants of the Series Mania Forum and to journalists from the professional press.

Between the time of their selection and their official pitch at the Series Mania Forum, the selected projects undertake not to publicly reveal any new information concerning their financing (coproduction deal, deal with a broadcaster, etc...).