

ENTRY RULES AND REGULATIONS

PREAMBLE

SERIES MANIA LILLE / HAUTS-DE-FRANCE (hereafter referred to as “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.

The Festival will take the form of eight festive and stimulating days which comprise around 60 titles including world premiere series, as well as master classes, conferences, panel discussions, exhibits and soirées.

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

Series Mania selects and invites the series that will be presented in **International Competition, French Competition, International Panorama Competition, Short Forms Competition, Comedy Competition, Special Screenings, New Season Premieres, Series Mania Cult and Fan Club.**

The next edition of Series Mania will be held in Lille from March 15th to 22nd, 2024.

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ELIGIBILITY

Series Mania only accepts **first seasons** for **new scripted series or mini-series** (dramas, comedies and short forms) **produced in 2023 and 2024**. Submitted works must be fictional.

The Festival will not accept the following submissions:

- Documentary series
- Animated series
- Children's series
- Series pilots
- Follow-up seasons
- Re-submissions (series which have been submitted and viewed by the Series Mania team for a previous edition of the Festival cannot be registered again)

To be eligible for consideration:

1. You must fully comply with these Entry Rules and 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 with a shorter duration.
3. All submitted episodes must be in their **original version with English subtitles** unless the original version of the episodes is in French or English. Dialogue lists will not be accepted.
4. Work in progress can be submitted as selection screeners, if completed episodes are available to screen during the Festival.
5. Submitted series must not have been exhibited in France at a different festival and/or broadcast in France on television (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on a platform or streaming service available in France **before March 22nd, 2024**. World premieres are preferred in all sections (*details about premiere status requirements per Festival section are found in p. 6 to 8*).
6. European premieres and French premieres can be considered for the following sections: **International Panorama Competition, Short Forms Competition and Comedy Competition**. French productions must be World premieres. **Only submissions for series released after September 1st, 2023 will be accepted.**

Note: The following sections do not receive submissions: **New Season Premieres, Special Screenings, Series Mania Cult and Fan Club**. The Festival will extend invitations to series selected in these sections.

HOW TO ENTER

Apply online at <https://film.series-mania.festicine.fr/en>

Click “submit” after fully completing the online entry form. Please note that 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 2nd, 2023 – Open call for submissions
- **December 15th, 2023 – Submissions close at 18:00 / 6:00PM (UTC+1)**
All entries must have been completed and received by Series Mania at this time.
No submissions will be accepted after this date.
- February 2024 – Official selection announced.
- March 15th to 22nd, 2024 – Series Mania Lille / Hauts-de-France Festival

The Festival Programming team will inform rights holders of the status of their submission in early February, ahead of the official announcement. Due to the increasing number of submissions received, the Festival Programming team is unable to provide individual feedback on selection decisions.

Series Mania will unveil the selection during a press conference in February 2024.

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 (*details about the number of required episodes are found in p. 5*).

Note: 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:

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

The episodes of your series must be submitted via a password-protected streaming URL link. Links must remain active and accessible until March 22nd, 2024. 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 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 upcoming Festival will be included in the section determined most appropriate by the Festival Programming team, in their sole discretion. In 2024, the Festival sections will include the following categories:

IN COMPETITION

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

World or International Premieres section: the series must not have been broadcast on any television channel (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on any platform or streaming service and/or exhibited in any international festival taking place before March 22nd, 2024. **World premieres are given priority**, exceptions may be considered for series exhibited at local previews or market screenings strictly in their country of origin.

An international jury will confer:

- the Grand Prix
- the award for Best Writing
- 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 any television channel (free-access, digital, cable or satellite) and/or released on any platform or streaming service and/or exhibited in any French or international festival taking place before March 22nd, 2024.

An international press jury will confer:

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

This section is also eligible for the Audience Award.

INTERNATIONAL PANORAMA

World or European or French Premieres section: **Only series released after September 1st,**

2023 outside of France will be accepted. 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 available in France and/or exhibited in any French festival taking place before March 22nd, 2024. **World premieres and European premieres are given priority**, provided all other criteria are met.

A professional jury will confer:

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

A student jury will confer the Student award for Best Series.

This section is also eligible for the Audience Award.

SHORT FORMS COMPETITION

World or European or French Premieres section: The series must not have been exhibited in any French festival and/or released on any platform, streaming service or mobile app available in France before March 22nd, 2024. **World premieres are given priority**, provided all other criteria are met. Series released after September 1st, 2023 exclusively in their home country and/or exhibited at a local festival may also submit. French productions must be World premieres.

A professional jury will confer the award for Best Series.

COMEDY COMPETITION

World or European or French 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 available in France and/or exhibited in any French festival taking place before March 22nd, 2024. **World premieres and European premieres are given priority**, provided all other criteria are met.

A high school students' jury will confer the award for Best Comedy

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

OUT OF COMPETITION

Special Screenings
New Season Premieres
Series Mania Cult
Fan Club

DEFINITION OF PREMIERE STATUSES

World Premiere: The first official screening of the series. The series has not been presented or released anywhere.

International Premiere: The first screening outside the country of origin. The series has only been presented and/or released in its country of origin.

European Premiere: The first screening in Europe. The series has only been presented and/or released in its country of origin and in additional territories outside of Europe.

French Premiere: The first screening in France. The series has yet to be presented or released in France.

No Premiere: the series has already been presented and/or released in France, it is therefore not eligible for submission and will not be considered by the Festival.

Note: World premieres are preferred in all sections.

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 March 15th to 22nd, 2024. Series Mania 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.

PREMIERE SCREENINGS SUPPORTS

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

PUBLIC ACCESS TO SERIES MANIA+

The public audience of the Festival will find the first two episodes of each series in the official selection on the Series Mania+ platform.

This service is based on the Cinando.com technology, using streaming with a secured watermark and individual access. The access to episodes will be limited to 48 hours after the start of the official premiere screening in Lille.

COMMUNICATION AND PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL

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

If your series is selected, the rights holders will be required to submit **three 60-second 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 March 2025), from the screened episodes (no promotional material) that the Festival may use for press purposes and the official program.

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 Series Mania logo, on all promotion materials (credits, poster, trailer, press kit, website).

**FOR ANY QUESTION REGARDING RULES AND REGULATIONS, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO:
PROGRAM@SERIESMANIA.COM**