

Press Release

"Co-Pro Series" 2020: Ten Selected Series Projects Seek International Partners

On February 25 and 26, the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* will invite producers, programming directors, distributors and series financiers to the exclusive pitch event "Co-Pro Series", which is part of the "Berlinale Series Market" (February 24 to 26) at the Zoo Palast. Successes like *Babylon Berlin* or *Freud* (Austria / Germany, *Berlinale Series* 2020) are among the former "Co-Pro Series" pitch participants.

This time, ten selected international series projects are on the lookout for like-minded co-producers and financiers among the industry representatives. After the pitch, the makers of the drama series will meet with interested partners. The guest list for the entire event, including seats at the pitches, Networking Get-Together and meetings, is already fully booked.

Attending will be the SciFi project *Dome 16* by *ZombieLars* creator Thomas Seeberg Torjussen from Norway, whose producers already started with the successful series *Valkyrien* in the first edition of "Co-Pro Series". Goalpost Television from Australia will also be present for the second time with a series at the Berlinale, after showing *Cleverman* in the programme in 2016. *Transitniki* is a German drama series about illegal travel by young people from the GDR who were looking for their freedom further east; written by Heide Schwochow (*Die Unsichtbare*) and Constantin Lieb (*Eden*), among others. Barbara Albert and Sandra Wollner are to direct the mystery drama *Snow* developed by Witcraft from Austria.

The King's Wives, the first series by Berlinale and Golden Globe winner Hany Abu-Assad is also eagerly awaited. Michael and Lily Idov, who have made a name for themselves as authors of Kirill Serebrennikov's feature film Leto (Summer) and who have already worked on series like Deutschland '89 will be present with the humorous agent series Pawns. The Belgian-British series Capturing Big Mouth will be presented in cooperation with the Series Mania Forum in Lille, where it was first pitched in 2019. The producers hope to find additional partners at "Co-Pro Series". One of the new projects presented for the first time at "Co-Pro Series" will then have the opportunity to pitch again at Series Mania at the end of March.

The main partners of the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* (February 22 to 26, 2020) are the MDM - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung and the Creative Europe - MEDIA Programme of the European Union.

The Networking Get-Together following the "Co-Pro Series" pitches takes place in cooperation with the Norwegian Film Institute (NFI).

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"Berlinale Series Market & Conference" is the joint initiative for series content from the industry platforms *European Film Market*, *Berlinale Co-Production Market* and *Berlinale Talents* and are organised in close cooperation with *Berlinale Series*.

Projects selected for "Co-Pro Series" 2020 (in alphabetical order of the presenting production companies):

- The King's Wives (writers: Hany Abu-Assad, Amira Diab; director: Hany Abu-Assad), Abbout Productions, Lebanon
- Babyland (writers: Simona Nobile, Dianne Jones, Martichka Bozhilova; director: tba), Agitprop, Bulgaria
- Precious (writers: J. David Guerra, Joost van Gelder; director: tba), Atlantic Films & Lemming Film, The Netherlands
- Dark Victory (writer/director: Matthew Saville), Goalpost Television, Australia
- Pawns (writers: Michael Idov, Lily Idov; director: tba), Metrafilms, Russia
- Transitniki (writers: Heide Schwochow, Constantin Lieb, Christian Mackrodt; director: tba), Rohfilm Factory, Germany
- Signals (writers: Óskar Jónasson, Margrét Örnólfsdóttir, Sjón, Jóhann Ævar Grímsson; director: Óskar Jónasson), Sagafilm, Iceland
- Dome 16 (writer: Thomas Seeberg Torjussen; director: tba),
 Tordenfilm, Norway
- Snow (writer: Michaela Taschek; directors: Barbara Albert, Sandra Wollner), Witcraft Filmproduktion, Austria

Project in cooperation with Series Mania:

Capturing Big Mouth (Authors: Ahsan Naeem & Hans Van Nuffel; Director: tba), De Mensen, Belgium & Reel One Entertainment, United Kingdom

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