

Press Release



All serial formats at the Berlinale to be presented at Zoo Palast in 2018

The *Berlinale Special Series* programme, highly successful since its introduction three years ago, will run under the new name *Berlinale Series* and move to the new venue Zoo Palast for the 2018 festival.

In 2015 the Berlinale was the first A-festival worldwide to create an individual special programme for series within the official programme. In doing so, the Berlin International Film Festival started a new trend and gave the high-quality serial narrative format a prominent platform for presentation.

The premieres of exceptional series such as *Top of the Lake* (D: Jane Campion) and *In the Face of Crime* (D: Dominik Graf) were celebrated at the festival as early as 2010, and in 2015, the section *Berlinale Special* began including selected national and international series. Since then, acclaimed titles such as *Better Call Saul*, *The Night Manager*, *False Flag* and *4 Blocks* have celebrated their world or international premieres in Berlin.

The new venue Zoo Palast gives *Berlinale Series* the opportunity to bring the international world of series closer to Berlinale audiences. Programme manager Solmaz Azizi is the point-of-contact for *Berlinale Series* and assigned to the *European Film Market (EFM)*.

Trade visitors to “Drama Series Days”, in addition to engaging in the *EFM* activities taking place at Zoo Palast, will now be able to view series as well as experience the premieres live on the Red Carpet.

Festival Director Dieter Kosslick sees a good connection between the audience programme and *EFM* in the new venue Zoo Palast and says: “From the start, the inclusion of series was an enrichment of the festival. Audiences enjoy high-quality series as much as they do film.”

EFM director Matthijs Wouter Knol comments: “The ‘Drama Series Days’ have proven an interesting expansion of the market, and the close collaboration with the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* and *Berlinale Talents* has given many projects and talents new opportunities.

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Being able to further develop the series platform together with *Berlinale Series* at Zoo Palast is a great opportunity for us to strengthen the programme.”

The selection for *Berlinale Series* and the “Drama Series Days” market screenings will be released in January. Interested parties may contact series@berlinale.de.

New series projects in the development and financing stage may be submitted by October 23 to the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* for the “CoPro Series Pitching” event. For more information, please go to: www.efm-berlinale.de/en/copro-market.

The 68th Berlin International Film Festival will take place from February 15 - 25, 2018. “Drama Series Days” – a cooperative trade initiative of the *European Film Market*, *Berlinale Co-Production Market* and *Berlinale Talents* – and *Berlinale Series* will take place from February 19 - 21, 2018. Official partner for “Drama Series Days” 2018 at the *European Film Market* is the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW; the platform is supported by Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg.

Press Office
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