



Press Release

Seriesly Berlin Festival reveals latest program highlights

- Yolanda Rother and Ukrainian comedian Pavlo Voytovych are Masters of Ceremony
- Tik Tok influencer Theo Carow about reaching Gen Z audiences
- First teaser of Prime Video's *German Cocaine Cowboy* and of Port au Prince's long awaited, star-studded series *Black Sheep*
- Workshop about Mental Health with Berlin based comedian Lena Stolpy
- Selection of 10 international pitch projects revealed

Berlin, 5 September 2024 – Ten days ahead of its starts, Berlins new festival for series culture reveals their latest program updates and highlights for the **Seriesly Berlin Conference**, a two-day industry gathering (16-17 September, Fotografiska Berlin) with panels, talks and interactive formats including a pitching session of 10 international series projects. The public program of the **Seriesly Berlin Screenings** (16-18 September, Hackesche Höfe Kino) is open for all series enthusiasts and [already set](#). Six top-class international series will be shown before their German TV or streaming premiere. [Tickets for the conference and the screenings are available here](#).

A fireside chat with **Christoph Schneider** (Country Director of Prime Video in Germany and Austria), will offer insights into Prime Video's content strategy while **Christian Beetz** (beetz brothers film production) will tease *German Cocaine Cowboy*, an upcoming four-part documentary series on Prime Video that tells the story of a German who became involved with the infamous Cali Cartel in the 1990s.

Mel Eslyn, producer, director, and President of Duplass Brothers Productions (*Wild Wild Country*), will join the conference to discuss the indie filmmaking spirit in serial content. At the Seriesly Berlin Screenings she will also present the European premiere of *Penelope*, an independently produced young adult (YA) series that premiered at Sundance, with Netflix acquiring U.S. rights. Eslyn co-created the series with Mark Duplass, who recently picked up an Emmy nomination for *The Morning Show*.

Aiming at a fun atmosphere, the event's Master of Ceremony duo will consist of **Yolanda Rother** (The Impact Company), and **Pavlo Voytovych**, an established Ukrainian stand-up comedian, who will do crowd work between sessions. Comedian, **Lena Stolby**, teams up with **Christine Günther** and **Louise Højgaard Johansen** from Sane Cinema for a comedic mental health workshop.

Moderators include **Julia Fidel**, producer and former head of Berlinale Series, and **Dana Stern**, a global content executive, who will lead the "Created by Berlin" panel featuring maverick series writer **Bob Konrad** (*Kleo, 4 Blocks*), discussing the narrative and co-production potential of the city. Port au Prince's **Roshanak "Rosh" Khodabakhsh** will present the first teaser of the company's long awaited, star-studded series *Black Sheep*. The wild and satirical Berlin series promises to leave no eye dry and no topic untouched... The A-list cast includes Jella Haase, Frederick Lau, Yasin El Harouk, Narges Rashidi, Martin Brambach, Jule Böwe, Milan Peschel, Marc Hosemann, Jobel Mokonzi and many others.



On the Gen Z panel, **Theo Carow**, one of Germany's most popular TikTok creators, joins the talk to explore reaching YA audiences and bridging the gap between new creators and traditional TV. French creator **Eric Benzekri** (*Baron Noir*) will also join to present his latest STUDIOCANAL show, *La Fièvre* (The Trigger), alongside **Joachim Landau** and **Benjamin Hoffman**, creators of *Spinners*, winner of Best Foreign TV Series at the Shanghai International TV Festival.

As part of **Seriesly Pitches**, 10 international series projects seeking partners and development support will be presented at the fest, with a focus on stories related to Berlin. The participating producers can present their projects in front of potential co-production partners, financing partners or other collaboration partners. All projects will compete for a 2,500 EUR monetary prize which will be awarded by an international jury of experts.

The lineup includes *Terminal Tales*, from Daniel Grove and Erdi Gulac, developed via German Netflix's Writer's Academy, with Pat Charles (*Sons of Anarchy*, *Bones*) on board as executive producer. Another highlight is *Journeyman*, a 'contemporary fairytale' limited series developed by writer Nicki Bloom and Primetime Emmy Award and Sundance Grand Jury Prize-winning directing duo Jesse Moss and Amanda McBaine, with Fireglory Pictures and Mile End Films. Also featured is *The Magic Wrap* (Cinelink Sarajevo 2024), from Ipek Ural Demirel and Ali Demirel, produced by Karma Films, which tells the story of a Turkish-German couple whose hopeful move to Berlin takes a bizarre turn after biting into a magic döner kebab.

Here is the full list of projects taking part in the Seriesly Pitches:

ANTI-ROMANTIC

Dramedy, LGBTQ+ / 8x22'
Writer/Director: Popo Fan
Countries: China, Germany

MEDIUM

Social Drama, Thriller / 7x44'
Creator/Writer: Emre Mirza
Producers: Claudine Avetyan, Darja Pilz
Story Editor, Executive Producer: Ben Hopkins
Production Company: Imirzive
Country: Germany

THE MAGIC WRAP

Comedy / 9x30'
Creators/Writers/Directors: Ipek Ural Demirel, Ali Demirel
Producers: Diloy Gulun, Beste Yamalioglu
Production Company: Karma Films
Countries: Turkey, Germany

JOURNEYMAN

Drama, Adventure / 6x52'
Creators: Jesse Moss, Amanda McBaine
Writer: Nicki Bloom
Producers: Christine Guenther, Chevy Chen, Jesse Moss, Amanda McBaine
Production Company: Fireglory Pictures, Mile End Films
Country: Germany, USA



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ZOO ZAJAC

Drama / 6x45'

Creators/Producers: Aenn-Sophie Siebert, Jordan Louis Ivey

Production Company: Hinterhof Film & TV Productions

Country: Germany

TERMINAL TALES

Suspense, Thriller, Dark Comedy / 6x45'

Creators: Daniel Y-Li Grove, Erdi Gülac

Producer: Pat Charles

Production Company: Eat the Rich

Country: Germany, USA

WE'RE NOT ALONE

Dramedy / 8x45'

Creator/Writer: Pasha Petrovic

Countries: Serbia, Germany

2.000 KALT

Satire / 6 x30'

Creators: Sofia Ayala, Sorina Gajewski, Livia Valensise, Ina Lene Dinse, Teresa Provin, Freya de L'Isle

Country: Germany

EXISTENCE

Sci-fi, Mystery / 8x52'

Creator: Michael Griessler

Countries: Austria, Germany

FRENCH-ISH

Mystery, Drama / 10x52'

Creator/Writer/Producer: Prudence Kolong

Writer/Co-Producer: Ines Ben Zoubir

Associate Producer: Aminata Diop-Johnson

Countries: France, Germany



SERIESLY BERLIN



Christoph Schneider © Prime Video



Mel Eslyn © Nathan Miller



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More info:

Seriesly Berlin [conference program](#)

Seriesly Berlin [screening schedule](#)

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