

TV BEATS Co-Financing Market

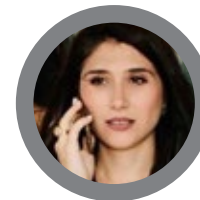
TV Beats Co-Financing Market, held at Industry@Tallinn & Baltic Event since 2021, is dedicated to presenting high-quality drama series projects in advanced stages of development. The eight projects, selected for their international distribution potential, are pitched to potential partners, financiers, and broadcasters, and will have an opportunity to hold one-on-one meetings following the public presentation.

The Most Promising Project will be awarded 3000 euros by Elisa Estonia.

Having started original programming three years ago, Elisa's productions have already been nominated and awarded at the Estonian Film and Television Awards. In 2022, the company brought out five original productions.

A Special Award, selection to the Hypewriter TV Series Pitch Forum, Budapest.

Paprika Studios, in collaboration with RTL Hungary, launched Hypewriter in 2018 and have a vivid collaboration with BNFF since 2019. Hypewriter is a popular meeting place for TV show business professionals ranging from showrunners, producers, and broadcasters in CEE. The winner of Hypewriter receives a prize of 10 000 euros and the concept will be developed into a professionally produced pilot episode that could eventually lead to a full television series.



Jury

Richard Pommérat, development, sales, and marketing, N9ne Studio, France

Morgane Bruna, international sales, Wild Bunch TV, France

Joachim Friedman, screenwriter, Germany

Hypewriter
paprika studios TV SERIES PITCH FORUM

COSMIC GIRL



ORIGINAL TITLE: COSMICA

Countries: Italy, France

Genre: climate-fiction, youth/teen, action, thriller

Screenwriters: Daniela De Francesco, Adama Grevoz

Producer: Claudio Esposito

Co-producer: Patrice Nezan

Production companies: The Piranesi Experience, Les Contes Modernes (support of MEDIA, CNC, MIC, Apulia FC)

Number of episodes: 6

Episode duration in minutes: 42

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 900 000 (below-the-line)

Looking for: co-producers, distributors

TAGLINE: THERE IS A PLAN(ET) B. BUT, SORRY,
IT'S NOT FOR EVERYONE.

Synopsis

Bianca's summer is disrupted when she discovers that her childhood love Ivan and his friends have developed astounding physical abilities, which they claim to only use to counter the violent behaviour of individuals altered by climate change. As a series of grisly murders is alarming the entire community, when her own life is put in jeopardy, Bianca begins to dig deeper into the information she receives from her friends. What if her involvement had never been accidental?

Screenwriter

Born and raised in an Italian-Venezuelan family, **Daniela De Francesco**

works as a director and scriptwriter. In 2018, she published her debut novel *Cosmica*, presented at Lucca Comics and Games. After writing a few fiction and architecture short films in 2021, she co-wrote her first feature film *Paula* (2022, dir. Florencia Wehbe, 90'), an Argentine-Italian co-production. The film was selected and awarded (First prize @ JUST Film WiP) in Tallinn and screened at in BAFICI, Giffoni, Sarajevo, and Moscow. Daniela is currently developing her first feature film *Dreamcatchers* (MFI Script2Film and Biennale Cinema College Italia), and *Cosmic Girl*, a fiction series based on her novel *Cosmica*.

Born in 1985 in Mali, Adama Grevoz is a screenwriter and editor. He is a member of the association L'Accroche-Scénaristes and consultant for the Valence Festival of screenplay since 2013.

Producer

Claudio Esposito is the founder of The Piranesi Experience, an independent Italian production company founded in 2014. Among his last productions are the feature documentary *Baikonur. Earth* (dir. Andrea Sorini, premiered at VIFF and released on Netflix in 2021) and *Paula* (dir. Florencia Wehbe, awarded at BAFICI 2022 and selected to Giffoni, Sarajevo, Moscow, La Huelva, and Tallinn). Claudio was selected for ACE Mentoring Programme EU 2022.

Company profile

The Piranesi Experience (IT) is an independent Italian production company founded in 2014 by former students of Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia. The Piranesi Experience has been working with key players in the film industry receiving support from international institutions for developing and producing their films and series.

The project will be presented by

Daniela De Francesco.

Contact

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EMBASSY



ORIGINAL TITLE: AMBASÁDA

Countries: Czech Republic, Germany

Genre: drama

Screenwriter: Ondřej Gabriel

Producers: Kateřina Ondřejková, Gabriele M. Walther

Production companies: Česká televize (Czech TV), Caligari Films

Number of episodes: 4

Episode duration in minutes: 60

Estimated budget in EUR: 6 000 000

Partners attached: Česká televize (Czech TV)

Looking for: co-producers, sales agent, foreign broadcasters

TAGLINE: THE STORY OF SEVERAL REFUGEES HALFWAY BETWEEN THEIR OLD HOMES AND THEIR NEW ONE, STUCK IN A FOREIGN AND UNFRIENDLY LAND.

Synopsis

1989. The situation in East Germany is getting worse. The only gateway to freedom is the West German embassy in Prague since Czechoslovakia does not require visas. Our heroes set out on the journey. Kalle, a dark-skinned footballer with Bundesliga dreams; Kateřina, a wife of a domineering dissident; Lothar, a father with a young son on the run from the repercussions of his actions; Wolfgang and Emma, a middle-aged couple planning a new beginning. As the number of refugees grows, Czechoslovakia closes its borders. Refugees are trapped on the embassy's ground in a muddy tent camp. Hygienic conditions

deteriorate, the weather gets harsher, and there are rumours about secret agents among the refugees. Conflicts are frequent. The West German diplomat Annelore does her best to solve the situation, not knowing the Czechoslovak secret service has dragged her into a game, which cannot end well for her. A thrilling story of people in a hopeless situation trying to keep their dreams alive.

Screenwrite

Ondřej Gabriel (1979) studied political science at Charles University in Prague. As a playwright, he co-authored a number of successful plays, which garnered several awards and were also broadcast (Czech Television). He is the sole author of the original HBO spy miniseries *The Sleepers*, which received warm critical acclaim (Toronto International Film Festival Official Selection, Czech Lion Awards nominee etc.). He also co-wrote the upcoming family drama TV series *The Wagners* (Czech Television).

Producer

Kateřina is a creative producer responsible for multi-genre production in Czech Television. She has participated in television series in the genres of music, entertainment, fiction, documentary as well as in theatrical films. She is a member of the Czech Film and Television Academy. Since 2020, she has been leading a workshop at the Master's Degree in Production at FAMU. Her projects have won Czech Lion Awards, Prix CIRCUM Regional Award, Al Jazeera Balkans awards, etc., and were screened at festivals such as Karlovy Vary IFF, Cannes IFF, IDFA Amsterdam.

The project will be presented by

Kateřina Ondřejková
and **Ondřej Gabriel**.

Contact

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FINISTERRA



ORIGINAL TITLE: FINISTERRA

Country: Portugal

Genre: drama, history, fantasy

Screenwriters: Guilherme Branquinho, Leone Niel, Gabriela Giffoni

Producer: Frederico Serra

Production company: Take It Easy

Number of episodes: 7

Episode duration in minutes: 45

Estimated budget in EUR: 1 795 000

Partners attached: RTP

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters

Synopsis

Set against the backdrop of World War II, this coming-of-age tale follows Celeste – a young orphan accused of being a witch. While Portugal declares neutrality in the war, the isolated town of Aljezur bears witness to German air raids over British ships along the coast. The authorities do nothing to calm the peasantry, anxious with the likelihood of a war, and they turn to superstition blaming Celeste for cursing their land. Truth will triumph over myth as Celeste uncovers the man responsible for the growing Nazi presence in the south of Portugal, the real story behind her parents' deaths, and her true identity.

Screenwriters

Guilherme, director-screenwriter, studied Film Production at the University of Westminster and earned a Master's degree in Film Philoso-

phy at King's College London. He co-wrote three series and edited *Sara* that won Best Series at the Portuguese Academy Awards. His film *Vortex* won best Portuguese short film at MOTELX.

Leone, director-photographer, graduated from the Lisbon National Film Conservatory. He directs commercials and together with Guilherme won a Netflix national screenwriting competition.

Gabriela, a screenwriter with more than nine years of experience, graduated from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in Audiovisual, worked on more than five series, including Emmy-nominated *The Mean*.

Producers

Frederico Serra was born in Lisbon, 1964, and is one of the founders of Take It Easy. He was also the president of the Portuguese Producers' Association from 2019 to 2021.

Andreia Nunes works in development, financing, executive production and post-production coordination at Take It Easy since 2010. Currently, she is also an academic film production professor at Universidade Lusófona.

Company Profile

Based in Lisbon, **Take It Easy** is a Portuguese independent production company working since 2001. We are passionate about stories with a multi-layered spectrum, in either film, television, commercials or animation. For us the world has no barriers and we're always open for new partnerships to develop innovative and challenging projects.

The project will be presented by **Guilherme Branquinho, Leone Niel, Andreia Nunes, Frederico Serra**.

Contact

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MINDS OF THE MANY



ORIGINAL TITLE: MINDS OF THE MANY

Country: Germany

Genre: sci-fi, thriller, action

Screenwriter: Adrian Daniel Botnariu

Number of episodes: 10

Episode duration in minutes: 60

Looking for: co-producers, sales agent, distributors, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), private funds/banks, technical in-kind participation

TAGLINE: A FIERCE DRUG DIVER STRUGGLES TO KEEP HER TWIN BROTHER ON THE RIGHT PATH, WHEN A NEURO-ENHANCER DRILLS INTO HIS BRAIN AND DRAWS THE ATTENTION OF BOTH, THE CHECHEN MOB AND THE CHIP'S VISIONARY CREATOR.

Synopsis

Joe must rescue her chaotic brother Sam after the prototype of a Neuro-Enhancer drills into his brain during a failed drug dive, which sparks the interests of the Chechen mob as well as the unscrupulous Asura Corporation. In dramatic twists and turns, she must play the two sides against each other and is forced to insert a second Neuro-Enhancer into her own brain, to synchronize with Sam's mind and finally accept him for who he is. If Joe cannot free Sam from his physical pain, the chip will take his life and thus destroy the only family she still has. Minds of the Many closely follows its characters and with its science fiction element poses the question – Can our species evolve into something better and still remain human?

Screenwriter

Adrian Daniel Botnariu was born and raised in Germany by political refugees. His love for cinema was first ignited by his father, who used to work as a stunt coordinator on international film productions back in Romania. After having experimented with the medium in his youth, Adrian was soon invited to study film at the renowned ENS Louis Lumière in Paris. In that time, his DP work gained him a lot of success in the short film festival circuit, followed by many awards for his directing work as well. After participating as a director in the atelier portion of the Clermont Ferrand short film festival, he decided to move to Berlin, where he would focus more on his writing. As an alumni of the 2021 writers' lab at Kitzbühel film festival in Austria, Adrian is now in preparation for his feature debut as a director. What sets him apart from his peers is a clear vision and the ability for transparent communication, due to his strong technical and artistic training.

The project will be presented by **Adrian Daniel Botnariu**.

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MINERVAS



ORIGINAL TITLE: MINERVE

Country: Slovenia

Genre: drama, comedy

Screenwriter: Suzana Kokalj

Number of episodes: 8

Episode duration in minutes: 45

Looking for: co-producers, sales agent, distributors, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), private funds/banks

TAGLINE: ARE SPECIAL FORCE POLICE SKILLS ENOUGH TO LIVE IN A SMALL TOWN?

Synopsis

Živa and Voranc are in their mid-thirties. They used to work as special police force officers, but after they got married, they decided to retire from the dangerous work. They move to a small town and open a self-defence school for women called Minerva. Živa and Voranc soon learn that being a stranger in a small town is not an easy life to lead, but eventually they manage to establish a small group of trainees. They are unique individuals who bring their own challenges to the group, but nevertheless, they become inseparable.

Screenwriter

Suzana Kokalj was born in 1987. She studied art history and video production. She worked as a film production assistant and manager on various projects, and as an art gallery curator. The stepping stone of her screenwriting journey was a 2018 screenwriters' workshop Scenarnica. Since 2022 she is a part of a writers' room on the Slovenian television POP TV.

The project will be presented by **Suzana Kokalj**.

Contact

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RENT



ORIGINAL TITLE: RENT

Country: Estonia

Genre: drama

Screenwriters: Rein Pakk, Leana Jalukse

Producer: Karl Kermes

Production company: POINT Productions

Number of episodes: 6

Episode duration in minutes: 45

Partners attached: Elisa Estonia

Estimated budget in EUR: 600 000

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters

TAGLINE: HAPPINESS FOR HIRE.

Synopsis

Madeline, a desperate but resourceful single mother solves her teenage daughter Cheryl's daddy issues by hiring an actor to play one and is inspired to build a profitable but risky relationship rental business as a result. This enterprise will eventually crumble the carefully constructed universe of her matriarch mother Margit, have her best friend Jürgen, a blue-eyed banker, embarking on a real relationship while still paying rent, open her own eyes to the potential benefits of having a partner, and test the nerves of Olaf, the psychologist who tries to reign in the sheer lunacy of it all.

Screenwriters

Actor, director, playwright and writer **Rein Pakk** has been active in the Estonian drama landscape since obtaining a bachelor's degree as a film director with the first class of the national film school. All 10 of his plays have reached the stage with some gathering more than 16,000 viewers. He has also written successful dramatisations and is known as a novelist (*AjaTeenistus* 2018, *AbiElu* 2019). As an actor, Rein has appeared on big theatre stages and feature films, including the Venice Film Festival success *Autumn Ball* (2007). His work in television includes acting and directing for various drama and comedy series as well as hosting shows. Rein is also known as a cartoonist, an interior designer, a marketing and branding consultant.

Leana Jalukse's debut film *Mother* premiered in competition at Tribeca, USA, won Best Feature in Kitzbühel, Austria, Best Estonian Feature at Tallinn Black Nights, Estonia, was selected Estonia's national entry for the Oscars, and nominated for Best Screenplay at Estonian Film and TV awards. *Fire Lily* was released in 2018, and *Deserted* (as co-writer) premiered in Busan in 2021. At the moment, she is co-directing a feature documentary and working on a number of drama series.

Production company and producer

Producer and author **Karl Kermes** has been active in the Estonian theatre and television landscape since 2009. In cooperation with top Estonian actors, he has staged more than 25 mono and stand-up productions during the last 12 years, resulting in numerous box office hits. He is the creator and producer of the comedy series *Alo*, and the author of the idea and producer of the short film *ULF or Do I Exist?*, and the author of the idea, creator, producer, director of TV show *Pöördes* with Elisa Estonia in fall 2022.

The project will be presented by **Karl Kermes, Rein Pakk,** and **Leana Jalukse.**

Contact

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REVOLUTION SCHOOL



ORIGINAL TITLE: REVOLUTION SCHOOL

Country: United Kingdom

Genre: adventure, fantasy, youth/teen

Screenwriters: Paula Alvarez Vaccaro, Aaron Brookner

Producer: Sophie Venner

Co-producer: Philipp Kreuzer

Production company: Taletime Pictures

Number of episodes: 8

Episode duration in minutes: 50

Estimated budget in EUR: 16 981 000

Looking for: co-producers, distributors, foreign broadcasters, public funds (national, regional, international), private funds/banks

TAGLINE: AN 11-YEAR-OLD BURSARY STUDENT AT AN EXCLUSIVE PREP SCHOOL ENLISTS THE HELP OF HIS IMAGINARY FRIEND, JOSEPH STALIN, TO STAGE A SUCCESSFUL REVOLUTION AGAINST HIS RICH AND POWERFUL BULLIES.

Synopsis

William Conroy is an 11-year-old bursary student who wants to succeed at Coverdale, an exclusive prep school. Bullied by the upper class kids, he enlists the help of an imaginary Joseph Stalin. Mirroring the Russian revolution, Conroy and his outcast dorm-mates set out to dismantle the centuries-old power structure to rid themselves of their bullies. But Stalin has no intention of stopping his climb to power and Conroy must choose between his mentor or his friends and teachers, if they can still trust each other.

Screenwriters

Paula Alvarez-Vaccaro and **Aaron Brookner** are a team of award winning writers/producers with over three decades of combined experience in film and TV. They have produced and/or written award-winning features, series, and shorts with 70+ awards to date including three Lions at Venice Film Festival for *Listen* (2020) and *On the Milky Road* (2016). Previous series include: *The life and times of Tina Modotti* (starring Monica Bellucci for AG Studios/Braven Films); *Singles* (Best webseries Marseille Fest), and *Na mlečnom putu*, directed by Emir Kusturica.

Producer

BAFTA-winning, ACE alumna **Sophie Venner** has been an independent producer for over 20 years working across a range of genres incl. high-end television, films, and commercials filming extensively with international co-producers around the globe. Prior to producing, Sophie was at Avalon Management, assisting in the management of high-profile clients such as Frank Skinner and the Mighty Boosh. Her films have earned nominations and prizes at 60+ festivals including Cannes, Berlinale, Telluride, TIFF, and London.

Company profiles

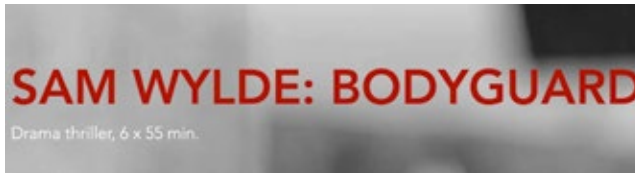
Taletime Pictures is an independent British company focusing on developing and producing brave and authentic cross-platform films and series for global audiences with exciting talent, both established and new.

The project will be presented by **Sophie Venner** and **Paula Alvarez-Vaccaro**.

Contact

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SAM WYLDE: BODYGUARD



ORIGINAL TITLE: SAM WYLDE: BODYGUARD

Country: Finland

Genre: thriller

Screenwriter: Matti Laine

Producer: Mikko Tenhunen

Production company: MJÖLK Movies

Number of episodes: 6

Episode duration in minutes: 55

Estimated budget in EUR: 16 000 000

Looking for: co-producers, sales agent, distributors, foreign broadcasters

TAGLINE: BODYGUARD SAMANTHA "SAM" WYLDE IS HIRED TO PROTECT A BILLIONAIRE WHO HAS HAD SAM'S HUSBAND KILLED ONE YEAR EARLIER.

Synopsis

London-based bodyguard Samantha "Sam" Wylde wants to find out who murdered her husband. She is shocked to learn that the murderer is her current client, a wealthy businessman Omar Serikov, who wants to defect from Russia's bloc under the protection of the West's security services. Sam Wylde finds herself in a dangerous crossfire when the Russians, MI6, and the CIA are clashing to get her client, dead or alive. And Sam has to choose her side in this deadly spy game. Based on the Sam Wylde novel *Safe from Harm* by RJ Bailey, published by Simon & Schuster.

Screenwriter

Matti Laine is a prolific screenwriter, author, and actor, who lives in Helsinki, Finland. He is one of the writers of the Netflix series *Border-*

town, and the head writer on the YLE/MediaPro co-production *Kosta/The Paradise*. Matti is also a successful author and has nine well-received crime novels under his belt, including the Elias Vitikka Series.

Producer

Mikko Tenhunen's feature films include *Unknown Soldier*, *Helene*, *FC Venus*, *Body of Water*, *2 Nights till Morning*, and *The Violin Player*. The feature films produced have premiered at the festivals in Karlovy Vary, Shanghai, Beijing, Moscow, Tallinn, Montreal, and Göteborg and have sold over 2 million tickets in cinemas. The action TV series *Omerta 6/12* was sold worldwide as well as the TV series version of *The Unknown Soldier*. Tenhunen was selected for the Producers on the Move 2015 and he is an EAVE graduate 2008.

Company profile

MJÖLK Movies started in 2015 by producing award-winning feature films and short films. *Distractions* by director Aleksi Salmenperä premiered at Tallinn International Film Festival, *2 Nights till Morning* by Mikko Kuparinen won the best director award at the Montreal International Film Festival. *The Violin Player* (2018) by Paavo Westerberg premiered in main competition at the Göteborg International Film Festival. Several other feature length films and television series are in development including *The Best Mothers and Daughters* by Lenka Hellstedt, and feature films *Year of The Hare* and *Someday Jennifer* in development. *Sam Wylde: Bodyguard* is a six-episode thriller series based on the explosive novel series by RJ Bailey.

The project will be presented by **Mikko Tenhunen**.

Contact

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