

## SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL

SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL, Germany's largest festival for series and TV culture, celebrates its 10th anniversary and will take place from June 5th to 8th in Cologne-Ehrenfeld. Supported by its main sponsors, the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW and the Staatskanzlei NRW, the festival showcases around 30 series from all over the world - many of which are world and Germany premieres - all with free admission. The major event for series fans kicks off with the world premiere of the RTL+ series "Ich bin Dagobert," produced by Zeitsprung Pictures, in the presence of Arno Funke, actor Friedrich Mücke, and actress Sonja Gerhardt.

Germany's biggest series festival returns to the cinemas of Cinenova from June 5th to 8th, offering a colorful program that attracts not only series creators but also a broad audience. The festival's grand opening on June 5th features the world premiere of the RTL+ production "Ich bin Dagobert," supported by the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW, focusing on the longest and most thrilling extortion case in German history. Friedrich Mücke shines as Arno Funke, who kept the German justice system and the public on edge for years as the "department store extortionist Dagobert." The production team, including producers Dominik Frankowski, Michael Souvignier, and Till Derenbach, writer Ronny Schalk, and director Hannu Salonen, was exclusively advised by Arno Funke. The result is a gripping fictional series about perhaps the most flamboyant character in West Germany's rogue scene.

Walid Nakschbandi from the NRW Film and Media Foundation states, "NRW is the number one TV production region and also a top location for series. This makes Seriencamp the perfect fit here! The Film- und Medienstiftung NRW in full conviction supports this important international festival in Cologne, now and in the future. Our goal is to significantly expand NRW's reputation as a national and international hub for series."

As partners of the festival, which is popular and significant beyond Germany's borders, Disney+, Netflix, ARTE, and ZDFneo support the festival with new series highlights. On June 6th, the exclusive premiere of the first episode of "Kleo" Season 2 takes place at the Seriencamp Festival. In the second season of the German Netflix action-thriller series, the hunt for the red suitcase continues, with former East German spy Kleo (Jella Haase) determined to get it back and destroy it. Meanwhile, West German police officer Sven (Dimitrij Schaad) is hot on the trail of both the suitcase and Kleo. Disney+ offers a real fan highlight with the first episodes of "Star Wars: The Acolyte," followed by a fan discussion to celebrate the event. ARTE's award-winning "Rematch" pits chess world champion Kasparov against the artificial intelligence Deep Blue, while ZDFneo's "Jugend" demonstrates that sitcoms have found a second home here.

"This year, as in many of the series we've screened, we've observed remarkable meta-trends, notably the focus on themes like sexuality, relationships, and intimacy in many of the newer series. Our festival program features a fantastic selection of these themes, offering a mix of impressive high-end series and small, innovative short-form projects that showcase the creative diversity of the medium," says Gerhard Maier, founder and program director of SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL and SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE.

In addition to nearly 30 screenings, panels, podcasts, and fan events, many international series from over 15 countries compete for awards in four categories: The Official Competition honors the best international series of the year, and the Digital Short Form Competition recognizes the most exciting short format—both awarded by a professional jury. As every year, the Critics' Choice Award is presented live at the festival by renowned German series critics. The Audience Choice Award invites all festival attendees to vote during the event, with the winner will be announced afterward.

SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL 2024 promises an unparalleled experience for all series enthusiasts. The full program will be available on [seriencamp.tv](https://seriencamp.tv) from May 7th. The festival is free of charge, but if you value the comfort of a reservation, you can book tickets online for a small fee from May 7th.

"After the fantastic premiere of SERIENCAMP in Cologne last year, I can't wait for Episode 2. The organizers have once again put together an excellent mix of a compelling conference and outstanding series. SERIENCAMP showcases the full range of serial storytelling, from international streaming productions to smaller serial projects. I'm especially looking forward to the world premiere of 'Ich bin Dagobert'—developed and funded in North Rhine-Westphalia," said Nathanael Liminski, Media Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia.

At the same time, SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE, with its extensive professional program, attracts the national and international TV and series industry to Cologne. Its events have become a must-attend for professionals and creatives from home and abroad. Highlights such as a case study on the highly successful German Apple TV+ production "Constellation," together with its multiple award-winning director Oliver Hirschbiegel, have already been announced.

## About the SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL

SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL is Germany's first and largest series festival, and its 10th anniversary season will take place from June 5th to 8th in Cologne-Ehrenfeld for the second time. Around 30 series from around the world will be showcased with free admission, including several German and world premieres. The screenings are accompanied by an extensive supporting program with numerous panels, podcasts, lectures, and audience events. The related event for professionals, the SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE, runs concurrently from June 5th to 7th at the Cinenova cinema and the adjacent Herbrand's. Accreditations for the SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE can be obtained at <https://www.seriencamp.tv/conference/akkreditierung/>.

SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL and its accompanying conference are supported by the Minister for Federal and European Affairs, International Affairs, and Staatskanzlei NRW, as well as Film- und Medienstiftung NRW.

For more information please visit [www.seriencamp.tv](http://www.seriencamp.tv).