

SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES ITS WINNERS AND REVEALS THE FULL PROGRAMME & GUESTS FOR A STAR-STUDDED EDITION

The star-studded jury around Jannik Schümann has decided: following its success in France, **DAS MANKO (THE FLAWS)** will be awarded the **OFFICIAL COMPETITION AWARD** at **SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL**. The ZDFneo/Quantum production will be premiered on the big screen between June 9 and 11, alongside nearly 20 world and German premieres and in the presence of numerous cast members and creators. In addition to the series in the **SPOTLIGHT: FEMALE VOICES** section, premiere highlights include the relationship dramedies **GAME OF KEYS (AT)** (Prime Video) and **ALICE AND STEVE** (Disney+), the highly anticipated continuation of David Schalko's cult satire **BRAUNSCHLAG 1986** (HBO Max), as well as the **SHORT FORM AWARD** winners: **BURIED** and **SHEEP** (ORF/ZDF).

- Full programme for **SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL** announced
- Numerous world premieres (**WESTEND GIRL**, **CLUB DER ROTEN BÄNDER – DIE NÄCHSTE GENERATION**, **BACK FOR MORE**, **ALL HEROES ARE BASTARDS**) with stars and creators in attendance
- **OFFICIAL COMPETITION** winner: **DAS MANKO (THE FLAWS)**
- **SHORT FORM COMPETITION** winner: **SHEEP / BURIED**
- **CRITICS' CHOICE AWARD** – presented as a live event on site
- **SPOTLIGHT: FEMALE VOICES** featuring eight female-led series

Cologne, May 6 2026 – **SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL** is rolling out the red carpet once again: with nearly 20 world and German premieres, the organisers have now announced their full, star-studded screening programme. In addition to the previously announced world premieres of **WESTEND GIRL** (WDR/ARTE), **CLUB DER ROTEN BÄNDER – DIE NÄCHSTE GENERATION** (RTL+/VOX), **BACK FOR MORE** (ZDFneo) and **ALL HEROES ARE BASTARDS** (ARD) – all of which will be presented on site by cast and crew – **SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL** will show sensational new series from the UK, Austria and Australia, amongst others. These include the comedy-drama **ALICE AND STEVE** (Disney+), which has just won three awards at Cannes and in which a long-standing friendship is put to the test by an ill-advised choice of partner, the German relationship dramedy **GAME OF KEYS (AT)** (Prime Video), in which a group of friends dares to undertake a daring experiment, the Austrian cult satire **BRAUNSCHLAG 1986** (HBO Max) by David Schalko, and the Australian 'mom noir' comedy **BURIED**, which shares the title of best **SHORT FORM** series with the acclaimed German-Austrian co-production **SHEEP**.



ZDFneo also presents DAS MANKO (The Flaws), a standout series that has already received accolades at the Lille International Series Festival and now wins the OFFICIAL COMPETITION at SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL. The series is directed by Arne Feldhusen, known for “Stromberg” and “Der Tatortreiniger”.

A third winner, who will receive the CRITICS’ CHOICE AWARD, will be selected on site by a high-calibre jury comprising Arabella Wintermayr, Patrick Heidmann and Dominik Porschen.

The programme for the SPOTLIGHT: FEMALE VOICES is now also complete. The section highlights series centred on women who write their own rules and without whom these stories simply would not exist. WESTEND GIRL (WDR) starring Helena Zegel will be premiering, as is SERIAL CLEANER (ZDFneo) starring Aylin Tezel, a young backpacker in the gripping survival thriller ESCAPING BOLIVIA (ARD/NDR/SWR/WDR), or the mother-daughter pairs from HOUSE OF YANG (ARD) and TRESPASSES, who find themselves confronted with ghostly horrors and the horrors of the Northern Ireland conflict respectively. They are joined by female voices from Palestine, Bangladesh and Iran, where one young woman narrowly survives an attempted femicide (FADIA), another is confronted with toxic masculinity on a pandemic scale (ANNIE), and a third hopes to find a new life in Paris as an Iranian exile (HAPPINESS, ARTE).

“Whether from Bangladesh or the United Kingdom, Germany or Austria, Palestine or Norway, the stories captivating us in this year’s series lineup speak many languages. And sometimes, as in DAS MANKO, physical expression almost entirely replaces dialogue – or, as in SHEEP, sheep are given a voice to hilariously express their ignorance, brought to life by stars such as Jella Haase, Birgit Minichmayr, and Merlin Sandmeyer,” says Program Director Gerhard Maier, summarizing the curatorial approach.

As in previous years, SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL, aimed at a wide audience, serves as an extension of the internationally renowned SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE – an industry event requiring accreditation – which attracts around a thousand decision-makers from the TV industry to Cologne every year and which, for the first time this year, is accompanied by the cross-industry storytelling event PLOT NEXT.

Details of the programme can now be found online at www.seriencamp.tv. Tickets can be pre-ordered at www.rausgegangen.de for a small booking fee.



About SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL and CONFERENCE

SERIENCAMP FESTIVAL is the first and largest festival for TV series in Germany. Its 12th edition will take place from June 9 to 11, 2026, marking the fourth time the event has been held in Cologne's Ehrenfeld district. The festival, with free admission, will feature TV series from around the world, including numerous German and world premieres. The accompanying event for industry professionals, the SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE, will take place concurrently at the Cinenova Cinema and the adjacent Herbrand's. Accreditations for SERIENCAMP CONFERENCE can be purchased at www.seriencamp.tv/conference/akkreditierung.

Since 2023, the main funding partners for the events have been the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Film- und Medienstiftung NRW.

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