

NIFFF



NEUCHÂTEL
INTERNATIONAL
FANTASTIC FILM FESTIVAL

NIFFF - Press release, November 12th 2020

BÂTARDS - THE WEB SERIES ARRIVES ONLINE ON NOVEMBER 22ND

Winner of the third FANTASTIC WEB CONTEST call to projects back in 2019, the fantasy web series entitled **BÂTARDS (BASTARDS)** will be available online from Sunday, November 22nd, so forget what you think you know about reality TV! This explosive story, coproduced by [Box Productions](#) and Radio Télévision Suisse ([RTS](#)), gives the spotlight to a group of young actors playing alongside Vincent Veillon.

In 2015, the Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival ([NIFFF](#)) and Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS) worked together to create the **FANTASTIC WEB CONTEST**, in order to support emerging Swiss talents in the realms of new digital creation. **BÂTARDS**, from Malou Briand and Raphaël Meyer, convinced the jury of the 2019 edition thanks to a unique concept combined with a hefty dose of satire. Within one year, the young filmmakers rose to the challenge: they wrote and directed their ambitious project in the midst of a global pandemic.

For its 20th edition, the NIFFF should have, in collaboration with Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS), screened the world premiere of **BÂTARDS**. Unfortunately, the health crisis forced the festival's management to cancel this big screen premiere. Today, the NIFFF is proud to announce the project's digital debut on Sunday, November 22nd, at 8 a.m. on the various RTS platforms (namely [Play RTS](#), [Play Suisse](#), and [YouTube](#)).

Equally influenced by the teen movie, the dystopian tale, and the adventure film, **BÂTARDS** immerses the audience in a sick world - a society where unbridled show business rules supreme, where fame has become the ultimate goal, and love degenerated into currency. Offering to explore a new dimension of the fantasy genre, this exciting web series leverages the codes of genre cinema to shine a critical light on our society and its flaws in a radical way.

What's more, the series puts a group of young actors front and centre, notably its five leads: **Sasha Gravat Harsch** (14 years old), **Maoro Maquart** (11), **Mila Jubelin de Meyer** (14), **Esteban Sicilia** (15), and **Maïmouna Kone** (12). The cast also includes Swiss comedian **Vincent Veillon**, who was nice enough to accept a pivotal role in the story, that of the manipulative, controlling antagonist. A great opportunity for the audience to see him flex some of these particular acting muscles for the first time.

BÂTARDS

6 episodes, FR

EN / IT / DE subtitles available on Play Suisse

From Malou Briand and Raphaël Meyer

Produced by RTS and Box Productions

Thousands of children are abandoned and left to die at the outskirts of the cities... Every year, about twenty of them are chosen to partake in a reality TV show. Determined to escape misery, they compete fiercely to win the prize and be adopted by a famous couple. But this time, the rules are not going to be the same.

BÂTARDS, a fantasy web series in 6 episodes, streaming from November 22nd on [Play RTS](#), [Play](#)

[Suisse](#) and [YouTube](#).

Note from the directors

We were born in the early 90s and grew up with the rise of reality TV. We know its codes inside and out, and have followed the genre's evolution from its first steps to its ubiquity on the screens. Thence came our goal: to retool, subvert, and intensify the codes of reality TV to help serve a narrative that would speak to our generation.

To request interviews, contact:

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