



GIFF 21: SWISS SERIES LIGHT UP THE 27th FESTIVAL

The Geneva International Film Festival [GIFF] unveils three highlights of the upcoming event [November 5 to 14] with a trio of original Swiss series: the world premiere screenings of *SACHA* by Léa Fazer and Nicole Castioni, *TSCHUGGER* by David Constantin and an evening devoted to the complete series of *LA VIE DE J.C.* by ZEP. Each of these screenings, accompanied by their thrilling cast, will spotlight Switzerland's impressive diversity in terms of serial works and their power to unite the public.

For this 27th Festival, GIFF once again pays allegiance to the creative power of serial storytelling. With a rich program including an International Series Competition – unique in Switzerland – and the European Script Award, the Festival will shine the spotlight on the country's dynamism with three major productions. The already cult series *LA VIE DE J.C.*, created by ZEP and directed by Gary Grenier, will bring together its flamboyant cast during an exceptional evening, on the occasion of the presentation of the complete series, including the last six episodes which have never been screened before. A pair of world premieres will introduce two pilot episodes to the public before going to air in the presence of the teams and casts. Director Léa Fazer's adaptation of Nicole Castioni's text in *SACHA* will immerse the audience in an incredible story freely inspired by the former Geneva judge's life. Finally, David Constantin's hilarious thriller *TSCHUGGER*, in the Upper Valais dialect, will showcase Eastern Switzerland's dark sense of humor.

SACHA [series], created by Léa Fazer & Nicole Castioni, CH, FR, 2021

Production : Rita Productions, Radio Télévision Suisse [RTS], Arte G.E.I.E.

Cast : Sophie Broustal, Thibaut Evrard, Michel Voïta, Karine Guignard, Vanille Lehmann

World Premiere

In the presence of Léa Fazer, Nicole Castioni, Sophie Broustal, Thibaut Evrard, Michel Voïta, Karine Guignard, Vanille Lehmann, Pauline Gyax, Max Karli et Izabela Rieben

Synopsis : Anne Dupraz, a respected and feared prosecutor, is in custody for shooting a man who is now between life and death. She admits her guilt but seems unable to explain her act. Her interrogation and that of her relatives will enable Anne to finally free herself from her past. With this adaptation of Nicole Castioni's account, Léa Fazer has created a thriller that doubles as a quest for identity and femininity in a narrative with skillfully arranged temporal interlacing.

TSCHUGGER [series], created by David Constantin & Mats Frey, CH, 2021

Production : Shining Film in co-production with Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen [SRF], and in cooperation with Sky Switzerland

Cast : David Constantin, Dragan Vujic, Anna Rossinelli, Cédric Schild, Anna Lena Miano, Arsène Junior Page

World Premiere

In the presence of David Constantin, Mats Frey, Sophie Toth, Dragan Vujic, Lena Furrer, Anna Lena Miano, Arsène Junior Page, Anna Rossinelli, Rafael Kistler, Leo Russo, Johannes Bachmann, Lukas Graf and Benjamin Magnin

Synopsis : In a small police station in the Upper Valais, a couple of cops divide their time between the wine festival and “awareness workshops” given to kids who are wiser than them. When suddenly the real danger appears... There is some absurd humor in the visual inventiveness of this crazy series, and some hilarious dialogues too. The first Swiss co-production with a streaming channel, *TSCHUGGER* joyfully initiates the movement.

LA VIE DE J.C. [series], created by Philippe Chappuis [Zep] and Gary Grenier, CH, 2021

Production : Luna Films, Radio Télévision Suisse [RTS]

Cast : Vincent Veillon, Yann Marguet, Garance La Fata, Alexandre Kominek, Yoann Provenzano

Complete series (including 6 unreleased episodes)

In the presence of Philippe Chappuis [Zep], Vincent Veillon, Yann Marguet, Garance La Fata, Izabela Rieben

Synopsis : If Jesus Christ had had Vincent Veillon’s good looks, catechism classes would no doubt have been more successful. And if Alexandre Astier had met the Monty Python team, what would they have had to say? In a series that is as irreverent as it is hilarious, Zep carries out a project that is so close to his heart that he agreed to get behind the camera for the first time to tell the dream life of Jesus Christ in 20 three-minute episodes.

The three series will also be available on [Play Suisse](#), GIFF’s streaming partner, after the 27th Festival.

SAVE THE DATE

September 25 / 28 | GIFF UNLIMITED @ EPFL Pavilions + ArtTech Foundation

October 14, 10 AM | Press conference

November 5 – 14 | 27th Geneva International Film Festival

November 8 – 12 | 9th Geneva Digital Market

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