

Serial Killer: Season 6 International Festival of TV and Web Series September 19 – 24, 2023 www.serialkiller.tv

Serial Killer Festival 2023 knows its winners

The sixth edition of the **Serial Killer** TV Festival, which focuses on quality European series production, once again presented the award to the **Best TV series of Central and Eastern Europe**. The **Best Web Series** was also awarded.

<u>The international jury</u> selected from six titles. This year's winner was director Pavel Soukup's **The Markovič Method:** Hojer, a Czech true crime series reconstructing the investigations of elite police officers of the time, which introduces viewers to the topic of psychological profiling of serial killers and offers an unusual insight into Czechoslovakia in the 1980s.

"It's fantastic! I wish it from the bottom of my heart to the entire team behind the series. They have captured the story of the legend of Czechoslovak forensic science, Mr. Jiří Markovič, with respect for his person, his work, and the facts. Ethically and in a talented way. I am extremely excited for the audience to see this story. It will bring them the knowledge they are used to getting only with the best crime dramas based on real events," says Michal Reitler, Director of Development at TV Nova and Voyo. "To win in the international competition of such giants as HBO or SkyShowtime with a Czech project is a joyful confirmation that we are doing well and that we are bringing the best from the best to our audience," adds last year's Progressive Killer award winner.

This award for an outstanding television personality with his or her own vision and a pan-European reach was presented this year by the award partner, the Audiovisual Producers' Association (APA), to Slovak producer Peter Badač, who became Progressive Killer 2023.

The award for **Best Web Series**, presented by Joël Bassaget, a world expert in this category, went to **Lowbudget** this year, a web series directed by Jan Musil and looking for an answer to the question of whether a failed filmmaker can make his dream film thanks to artificial intelligence. Vladimír Škultéty, starring in this Czech web series, tells the story with inimitable humour that when you have an infinite amount of enthusiasm, nothing is impossible. Like making a film without a lead actor using artificial intelligence.

This year, the Serial Killer Festival presented over 40 series from 19 countries and welcomed nearly 60 local and international speakers as part of its expert programme. Speakers included the former HBO executive president for European production **Antony Root**, the development director of



Sweden's largest commercial broadcaster TV4 and juror **Piodor Gustafsson**, or the first speaker from USA, screenwriter **Molly Nussbaum**.

This year's festival focus on Finnish series production also brought representatives of Finnish broadcasters to the Czech Republic, such as **Jarmo Lamepla**, head of fiction production at the Finnish public broadcaster YLE, with his eight colleagues, or also the actress, director and screenwriter Tina Lymi. However, the TV Days professional conference also featured guests from the UK's K7 Media, Germany's Serien Camp festival, Estonia's TV Beats event, Ukraine Content Club organization or Sweden's Dark Riviera.

What Finnish and Czech public television have in common and what is different was the subject of a discussion with Petri Jauhiainen, head of the media department of Finnish YLE, and Jan Souček, the newly elected director general of Czech Television.

Also, thanks to the cooperation with Czech Television, TV Nova and Voyo, Radio Wave and Chytrý kvíz quiz organizer, the sixth edition of the festival brought a rich accompanying programme. The visitors could attend several concerts or DJ sets, compete in knowledge quizzes or watch the best of the satirical TV show Česká soda.

The seventh edition of the international Serial Killer festival will take place next year in Brno from September 24 – 29, 2024.

In light of the events of the past days, the organisers of the Serial Killer festival would also like to express their great concern about what is happening in Poland, and at the same time express their support for Agnieszka Holland, the amazing creator of titles such as Burning Bush and Charlatan.

Stills: https://mab.to/xIQmiGFTRxBD0/eu1

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