



PRESS RELEASE

New-York, Monday October 3rd, 2022

IT'S A WRAP !

Gotham Week, the most selective American cinema market on the East Coast selects four French projects via the 7th Edition of the US & French Connection program

Since 2016, non-profit film industry matchmaker French in Motion (“FIM”) has partnered with Gotham Film & Media Institute (formerly IFP) to invite French film and television projects to participate in the ultra-selective Gotham Week, which just completed its 44th successful market festival at the Brooklyn Navy Yard from September 17 to 23, 2022.

Gotham Week has become the essential networking and sales event for independent film and television projects in development, seeking co-production or finishing funds, and is lauded for hosting the only co-production marketplace for unfinished projects in the United States. The 150 projects that qualify for Gotham Week have access to a congregation of elite producers, distributors and financiers (such as HBO, Amazon Studios, Netflix, Spotify, Audible, Warner Bros., Sony, etc.) who convene for 5 days to meet the rising stars of American and international film and television (alums include Barry Jenkins, Denis Villeneuve, Debra Granik).

French in Motion’s banner initiative, US & French Connection, is co-directed by Gabriele Capolino (Gotham Week’s Director of International Programming), [Esther Bensadon](#) (Program Director) and [Laetitia Giansily-Doyle](#) (President of French in Motion). US&FC provides a pipeline to international projects and talent, and each year it selects American and French projects whose teams meet at Séries Mania in Lille, France and at Gotham Week in New York City. Last March, four American teams met with French industry executives at the Séries Mania Forum, and just last week French in Motion welcomed four teams (selected from over fifty submissions) to New York where they had a debrief on the climate and customs of the American film market before diving into the whirlwind of meetings at Gotham Week. Throughout the week the teams

participated in pitch sessions, workshops and one-on-one meetings organized by Gotham, in addition to multiple networking and informal meetings made easy by the daily mixer hosted by Gotham for all attendees. The projects selected to participate in the US & French Connection program, and selected for the 2022 edition of Gotham Week are:

Let's Make Love- Feature Film

Written by Mathilde Arnaud and Jean-Yves Arnaud Directed by Cyril Gelblat (*Selfie, Everything to be happy, Bearing walls*), and produced by Clément Miserez of RADAR FILMS (*Belle et Sébastien (1,2 &3), L'école Buissonnière*) and Epithête.

Synopsis: It all started with a photo... Bruce Davidson's famous photo of a dinner between two legendary couples: Marilyn Monroe and Arthur Miller sitting with Simone Signoret and Yves Montand. From this one captivating image the writers imagine what happened the night before and after this dinner.

Terra - Feature Film

Written and directed by Gabrielle Demeestère (*Yosemite, The Color of Time, Boys Don't Cry*) and produced by Clémentine Mourão-Ferreira so-cle production and Luca Borghese.

Synopsis: A radical environmental activist moves to Vermont for her first teaching job and meets a charismatic student who brings her back to her old antics.

Gangs of Paris – Series

Written by Anne & Marine Rambach (*Ben, Spiral*), produced by Sébastien Charbit 3e Œil/Mediawan and Frédéric Malègue at Goyaves.

Synopsis: The charismatic leader of a gang of mobsters caught up in a gang war. A young aristocrat prosecuted for killing her rapist husband. A freed ex-slave seeking to save his sisters and the slaves still trapped in the colonies. Together they attempt to steal the French Crown's treasury. *Gangs of Paris* is a historical series in the heist film genre.

Dancing on the Volcano – Series

Produced and written by Jessica Mecklenburg (*Stranger Things, Dopesick*), Franck Philippon (*No Limit, Mirage*) et Emmanuel Paintendre (*Black Butterfly, Good Kids*)

Synopsis: Three young women from radically different backgrounds fight to defend their freedom and that of a festive youth, in particular by the creation of underground parties, in a revisited heroic fantasy style Pompeii at the dawn of disaster where puritanism prevails within the ruling elite in reaction to the so-called moral decadence of youth denounced by growing pagan fanatics.

US & French Connection is a non-profit program supported by Unifrance, the CNC and the Villa Albertine in the United States. Sponsors of the French in Motion/US & French Connection Gotham Week include Maison d'Occitanie, Lactalis and Michel et Augustin.



ABOUT US & FRENCH CONNECTION PROGRAM

US & FRENCH CONNECTION is an annual program created by French In Motion and The Gotham (formerly IFP). US & FRENCH CONNECTION is aimed at producers developing international projects (feature films, series, documentaries) for which they are looking for partners on either side of the Atlantic. In 2021, *THE MAN WHO SOLD HIS SKIN*, a feature film previously selected as part of the program, was nominated for an Oscar. *LITTLE PALESTINE*, a documentary from the 2020 edition, was selected to ACID at the Cannes Film Festival. US & French Connection is directed by Esther Bensadon with Laetitia Giansily-Doyle (French in Motion) and Gabriele Capolino (The Gotham).

ABOUT FRENCH IN MOTION: French In Motion is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization headquartered in NY with chapters in Washington DC and Los Angeles. It brings together a growing community of film & tv talents and professionals. Led by an executive board of seasoned industry executives and producers, French In Motion champions award-winning international co-productions in film and TV, including an Oscar nominated feature.

Website: <https://www.frenchinmotion.org/>

Press Contact: laetitia.doyle@gmail.com

