

## THE DETECT CRIME SERIES CONTEST Call for Projects

### DETECT and Serial Eyes are looking for the next great European crime series!

We are looking for proposals for TV series in the crime genre for either broadcast or streaming services. The proposed show should push the genre in unexpected ways, using crime narratives to explore the richness and complexity of European society. An international jury of top industry professionals will review the final five submissions. The winning author(s) will be invited to attend the DETECT final project conference in Rome in June 2021.

#### The DETECT project and European crime narratives

*DETECT: Detecting Transcultural Identity in European Popular Crime Narratives* is a European-funded research project involving 18 academic and industrial partners from 10 countries across the continent. DETECT investigates the representation of European social, cultural and political identities in one of the most popular genres in contemporary fiction, film and television, analysing how different kinds of crime narratives have been used to represent the tensions that shape European society.

#### What we are looking for

In the DETECT CRIME SERIES CONTEST we welcome proposals for any kind of crime fiction. We proceed from the assumption that good crime narratives are able to capture international audiences and offer engaging transcultural representations, revealing the profound diversity that characterizes all of European countries and informs the everyday experience of their citizens.

#### Contest Submission Requirements

Proposals must be the original creation of a writer or a writing team. We are looking for project proposals (not scripts!) that outline the major elements of the television series. The proposal must be written in English and no longer than 5 pages (A4, standard formatting). Proposals may be for procedural or serialized returning series or for limited series (mini-series). Series length should be 6 to 10 episodes at 25-30 or 45-60 minutes per episode.

Submissions must be made no later than **15 February 2021** via our **submissions portal**:

<https://serial-eyes.com/detect-contest>.

#### Prize

The winner will be invited to attend the DETECT final conference in Rome, Italy (21-23 June 2021) and have the opportunity to meet the members of the jury (travel and accommodation expenses covered by the organisers). In addition, the winner will be awarded an annual subscription to an online marketplace for films and series in development, including a script analysis and evaluation.

#### General conditions of participation

1. Eligibility: Only writers who are legal residents of the European Union may submit.
2. The copyright and rights of use of the submitted materials remain with the submitter(s).

3. The submitted works may not be based on works protected by third-party copyright unless permission is granted and documented.
4. The submitter(s) confirms that the project has not been optioned or purchased by a third party at the time of submission.
5. DETECT or its partners are not obligated to option or produce any of the submitted projects.
6. DETECT guarantees that the submissions will only be made available to people involved in the selection process.

### The Serial Eyes Crime Series Webinar

In conjunction with the contest, Serial Eyes offers a webinar on writing crime series. In regular weekly instalments Serial Eyes faculty discuss the fascination of writing crime and explain the dramaturgical elements that make up a good crime series. You can follow this webinar series on the DETECT YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/detect-youtube-channel>.

### About

DETECT investigates the topics of identity and popular culture and aims to show how, from 1989 to the present, the transnational circulation of crime narratives from various European countries has fostered the formation of a plural transcultural European identity. The project involves 13 universities and 5 players from the creative sector in 10 countries. Its research activities have been planned to address the interest of numerous stakeholders, including professionals, scholars, teachers, students and policymakers. It aims to promote transcultural exchange and support research on the topic of European identity through public events, digital resources, and innovative learning tools.

**Serial Eyes** is Europe's premier postgraduate training programme for television writers and producers, preparing the next generation of European TV writers to bring first-class serialized storytelling to television screens. Running from September to May, this full-time, eight-month course provides intensive training in both writing and creative producing with a specific focus on European markets.

### Contact

For inquiries, please visit:

<http://www.detect-project.eu/contest/>

<https://serial-eyes.com/detect-contest>

or contact Hannah Bethe at [h.bethe@dffb.de](mailto:h.bethe@dffb.de).