

PRESS RELEASE For immediate distribution

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: FIRST PITCH



Montreal, August 12, 2020 – Forum RIDM is proud to announce the 10th edition of its First Pitch event. The event brings together Quebec's emerging filmmakers with well-established documentary film producers from the industry to network and build relationships. Two days of intensive training and pitching will take place on September 23, 29 and 30, 2020.

Summary of the event:

- Ten Quebec-based emerging filmmakers
- Ten established documentary film producers
- Pitch training with Mila Aung-Thwin of EyeSteelFilm on September 23, 2020
- Two days of pitches and meetings on September 29 and 30, 2020
 *Dates may change slightly depending on the health situation in September 2020.

The event is presented in collaboration with the ARRQ (<u>Association des réalisateurs et réalisatrices du Québec</u>).

We encourage all Quebec-based emerging filmmakers to send their applications by September 2, 2020. All types of projects, genres, formats and platforms are admissible at any stage of production. To find out more about admissibility and the application process, please consult the event's webpage.

The producers confirmed for the 2020 First Pitch edition are:

Bunbury Films | Frederic Bohbot & Andréane Laurin MC2 | Jean-Simon Chartier
Couture Productions | Isabelle Couture
Colonelle films | Fanny Drew
Picbois Productions | Karine Dubois
Argus Films | Carmen Garcia
Intuitive Pictures | Ina Fichman
EyeSteelFilm | Bob Moore
Tortuga Films | Adam Pajot-Gendron
Catbird Productions | Katarina Soukup

The **First Pitch** aims to foster the creation of new collaborations and give fresh life to the documentary industry. In 2019, the projects presented were a great success. Director Mathieu Quintal was able to meet with the production company MC2 and partner with producer Charles Menher for his project **Ferme Familiale**. The projects **Circo** by Lamia Chraibi and **William's Will** by Pascal Huynh also found their producer Adam Pajot-Gendron of Tortuga Films during the pitching activity. Director Kinga Michalska's film **Energialand** charmed producer Katarina Soukup of Catbird Productions. This alliance allowed the project to be selected at the Hot Docs Forum among nearly 500 projects from 18 different countries. Finally, Sara Ben-Saud's project **À toi Jeddi,** as well as **Circo** and **Ferme Familiale** are supported by SODEC through the Emerging Creation Assistance Program.

The Forum RIDM is made possible with the support of our partners which include the <u>Ministère de la Culture et des Communications</u>, <u>Telefilm Canada</u>, <u>Netflix</u>, <u>Canada Media Fund</u>, <u>Rogers Documentary Fund</u>, <u>Bell Fund</u>, <u>Canal D</u>, <u>DOC Québec</u> and <u>FACTOR</u>.

About Forum RIDM

Each year, Forum RIDM organizes an intensive schedule of business meetings and professional development workshops as RIDM's professional market. The 16th edition of Forum RIDM will take place from November 12 to 19, 2020.

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For more information, please contact:

Caroline Rompré | pixelleX communications | 514-778-9294 | caroline@pixellex.ca