



Ever since the cinema was born, every technological advance ever has made cinematographic writing and grammar progress by creating both new opportunities and new constraints.

Immersive experiences and 360° filming devices are no exception to the rule.

What do we relate, how, and why tell it through immersive cinema rather than in a more traditional way?

What do immersion and interactivity bring to narration, to what we feel, to the viewer's experience?

We are convinced that once the astounding effect of the immersion gone, the content issue remains.

As many questions to which authors will bring their inventiveness, their talent, their open-mindedness, their sense of cinema and their ability to create a show, something that makes sense, and enchantment.

1st Paris Courts Devant VR Cinema Writing Competition

As part of its « New screens » competition, Paris Courts Devant organises a competition of screenplays of audio-visual works in interactive VR.

COMPETITION RULES

Screenplays of interactive fiction work in VR

Only screenplays of 30 interactive minutes maximum (maximum linear length) explaining in details both a tree view of the possible narratives and the details of each possible scenes are eligible in our « screenplay of interactive fiction work in immersive VR » category.

Interactivity must integrate the [Virtelio](#) technology. Virtelio is an award winning software for Mac & PC that enables anyone to create and experience interactive 360° movies of the future. No coding required.

Award

- Award of the best screenplay for an audio-visual work in immersive and interactive VR.
A 150 000€ prize financed by the Luxembourg Film Fund.
The production company carrying the winning project commits to make a coproduction agreement with a Luxembourgish production company, picked in collaboration with realab, as only companies from Luxembourg are entitled to receive financial aid from the Luxembourg Film Fund.

Conditions of entry

1. Only production companies, as legal entity, can enter the competition.
2. Applicant companies can enter a maximum of two projects, provided that they pay registration fees for both projects.
3. Production companies must be in order regarding copyrights and royalties for the submitted works.
4. Applicants must fill in the participation form and submit a completed project to the Competition Organiser via the Film Freeway platform, on September 15th at the latest.
5. This is an international competition. The submitted files must be written in English or in French.
6. In case of selection, applicants who had submitted a file in French will imperatively have to provide the competition with a file translated in English, a fortnight after the announcement of the selection.
7. In case of selection, each applicant must be able to be present or represented in Paris at several occasions for various meetings according to the relevant calendar, between November 14th and November 21st and at his own expense.
8. The project submitted to the competition will have to meet the following criteria:
 - Length: 30 minutes maximum
 - Format: Unit
 - Genre: fiction, docudrama, cinematographic documentary
 - Image: 360° live action, CGI or VR animation

Application file

The application file (A4 format, one PDF file only) must include the elements hereunder:

As a minimum

1. The concept (pitch, synopsis)
2. A complete screenplay, or conversational continuity of all scenes, including alternative interactive scenes (typed in Arial, Verdana or Courier, body 12, spacing 1,5).
3. An artistic briefing note (the narrative concept, the tone, the visual choices, a mood board, the characters, the cast, the postproduction, etc.)
4. The author's curriculum vitae
5. A presentation of the production company carrying the project.

If needs be

6. A note indicating the technical options considered
7. The foreseen director's curriculum vitae, if he is not the author.
8. A filmography with links towards the author and/or the director's former works.
9. A production note and a financing plan for the movie.
10. All the elements useful to understand the project's outlines.

Rights

- All participants guarantee that the works submitted to the Competition Organiser and the jury for this competition do not directly and indirectly infringe any third-party rights.
- All participants assure the Competition Organiser that they have at their disposal – without any restriction or reservation – the rights allowing the utilisation of the creation they present within the scope of the competition.
- Any incomplete or incorrect registration, or any registration made by a person who does

- not meet the competition's requirements will be considered null.
- Any registration that does not meet the aforementioned conditions (length, description of the project) will not be taken into account.
 - Neither the project nor the participant can have any professional link to any of the jury member, to any member of the Courts Devant association or to any partner of the operation.

Competition's dates

- May 18th Official announcement of the contest at the Cannes Film Festival
- July 4th Publication of the rules and regulations. Registrations are opened
- September 15th Registrations are closed
- September 30th Announcement of the 20 selected projects
- November 14th Official opening of the Paris Courts Devant festival
- November 19th New screens & VR's Day (with reservations)
- November 21st Announcement of the laureates during the festival's closing ceremony

The selection board

The selection board will be made up of cinema professionals, familiar with new ways of writing and/or virtual reality (screenwriters, directors, producers, comedian, technician, etc.).

The composition of the committee will not be public. However it will include one member of each of the competition's partners.

The selection board's verdict is final. Its decision will not be explained, nor subjected to appeal.

The official selection

The selection board will choose 10 projects among all the projects submitted to the competition.

They will especially be interested by:

1. The interest, inventiveness and originality of the project.
2. Its adaptation to the specificities of VR, and its ability to respect the constraints of immersive VR and to exploits the possibilities of such a technology
3. Its cinematographic aspect
4. Its feasibility
5. Interactivity input (conscious or subconscious) in the narration and the viewer's experience

These 10 projects will constitute the official selection of the competition, which will then be submitted to the JURY.

The jury

The jury, which the Paris Courts Devant festival puts together, is still being decided upon.

It will consist of, for instance:

- Jan Kounen, director, President
- Clément Cogitore, director
- Amira Casar, actress (with reservations)
- Dounia Sichov, actress
- Elisha Karmitz, CEO of mk2
- Myriam Achard, Film Fund Luxembourg
- Etc.

The jury's verdict is final. Its decisions will not be interested, nor subjected to appeal.

Awards

The official announcement of prize-winner(s) will be made by the jury and the Competition Organiser, on November 21st, during Paris Courts Devant's closing ceremony at the mk2 Bibliothèque.

The Competition Organiser will inform the laureate of the results in person via a phone call or an email 3 days before the ceremony.

Rules and regulations

- Applications via FilmFreeway's platform only will be accepted
- Registrations are subjected to a financial participation
 - 90\$ for an early bird ticket
 - 120\$ for a regular ticket
 - 150\$ for a late submission
- Registration fees are non-refundable
- To register for the competition the work does not have to be new and unreleased (it can have been presented in other festivals, writing competition, etc.)
- The project's manager must have completely filled in the online registration form. Careful! The details given during the registration will be those used in the festival's various documents and programmes, in case of an official selection in competition. The festival will not be held accountable of any mistake caused by incorrect information in the registration form.
- The Paris Courts Devant festival expressly commits to keep confidential the links and passwords the team sends them, and to use them only within the framework of the selection process.
- In case of selection, the work's manager will be contacted via phone and/or via email by our team, in September.
- In case of non-selection, the work's manager will be informed via email in September.
- Once selected, no project can be withdrawn from the programme.
- The work's manager guarantees that he holds the broadcasting rights for the images, music, sounds, concepts, texts, etc. that are in the suggested work.
- The beneficiaries give the broadcasting rights of future works for all the public screenings of the festival up to Paris Courts Devant.
- The beneficiaries of works that feature on the festival's list of prize-winners authorise Paris Courts Devant to broadcast their movies free of charge within the scope of three free rerun screenings, designed to promote the prize-winners.
- The Festival reserves the right to use short extracts and/or pictures of the work in printed communication tools or any other medium, only as part of the promotion of the festival.
- All decisions made by Paris Courts Devant within the scope of this competition are final and not interested.

Video library

- The applicant agrees to the work being broadcast on our viewing stations for all the duration of the festival and/or in our private online video library up to 6 months after the festival, for professional purposes only. Access to the video library is strictly private and reserved to accredited professionals.

- In case of selection, the beneficiary agrees to the Paris Courts Devant downloading the work's resources (via the viewing link) to integrate it in the festival's video library.

Agreement

To submit a project or a work to the Paris Courts Devant international short films festival imply a full acceptance of the hereinabove rules and regulations.

Other competitions

In addition to the VR screenplays competition, Paris Courts Devant New Screens counts three other competitions, for finished works:

- Web series
- Web series trailers
- VR movies

ABOUT PARIS COURTS DEVANT

13th edition

From November 14th to November 21st 2017

At the mk2 Bibliothèque and the BnF (Bibliothèque nationale de France)

The international short films festival of Paris and the Ile-de-France area has been highlighting the regional, national and international new creation scene, both cinematographic and audio-visual, for 12 years. The festival is constantly reinventing itself, and its various competitions celebrate the strength and diversity of all short formats while staying up-to-date. Eight days of festival that are as many opportunities for upcoming filmmakers to create or broaden their network. High quality, eclecticism, meetings, parties...

All shorts are allowed!