

MAGNETIC SERIES 2020: bios and headshots

TOM GRATER (UK) – EDITOR, DEADPOOL



Tom joined Deadline in 2019 as part of its expanding international team, covering the film (and TV) business from his base in London. He is a regular at film markets and festivals around the world including Cannes, Berlin, AFM, Toronto and Venice. Tom was previously at Screen International, spending five years there rising to Senior Reporter across the UK trade's print and online operations. He has also worked in events and as a freelance journalist for UK national newspapers, and regularly appears on radio as a pundit on a variety of film topics.

VALERIA RICHTER (DENMARK) – SHOWRUNNER



Valeria Richter works internationally and writes, develops, coaches and consults in the areas of feature film, TV series, workshop/lab ideation and innovation, pitch and script development since 1997; she consults for various funds, festivals and film institutes in the areas of project/talent selection, tailored labs and development processes. She is head writer/creator of an Elisa Viihde original 8x45 min. fiction TV series, *Next of Kin* (shooting Fall 2020). Since 2004 she works in her own companies, Pebble & Nordic Factory Copenhagen, and has co-produced features and documentaries. She created and financed a talent programme for Directors' Fortnight, Cannes FF in 2014, premiering four short films at a special event. One of the films, *Listen*, won Best Narrative Short 2015 at Tribeca FF, and won 50+ awards at over 150 festivals. Valeria developed several new concepts such as the 3-year Nordic Genre Boost programme for Nordisk Film & TV Fond, POWR for Baltic Event and she works for TorinoFilmLab since 2008, creating the Audience Design concept and describing the approach in a book published in 2018. Valeria holds an MA in Film & Media Science; has a background in development, funding, festivals, distribution and production, is a member of EFA since 2009, and of the Danish Writers' Guild since 2019. She is currently developing new feature and series projects as a scriptwriter and creating new networking formats with her partner, Helene Granqvist, under their joint Nordic Factory label.

ANI KORPELA (FINLAND) - HEAD OF CONTENT, ELIS



Anni Korpele is leading content and streaming services business at Elis, one of the largest producers of Finnish drama. Hit titles include the internationally distributed, award winning original series *All the Sins*, *Arctic Circle*, *Bullets*, *Room 301* and *Shadow Lines*. She has overseen development, production and successful launch of more than 20 Original Series, including premium dramas, drama comedies and comedies. She and her team work closely with a wide network of local and international producers, studios, distributors, broadcasters and streaming services. Her team is responsible for commissioning Elisa Viihde Original Series, acquiring content locally and internationally, managing partnerships and commercializing streaming services.

ALEXANDER RÖNNBERG (SWEDEN) - PRODUCER



Alexander is a founding partner of Northern Fable. He is currently in post-production with the second season of a horror TV-series for SVT entitled “12:13”. The first season just premiered. Northern Fable is also in the production of the feature “The Schoolmaster Games”, produced by Sofia Ferguson. Alexander has made several award-winning shorts, such as the horrors First Like and Filippa, as well as the viral success Bloody Mary, to mention a few.

Alexander is educated at National Film & Television School, London, and is a member of the producers network ACE and Young Nordic Producers Club.

ARTEM VASILYEV (RUSSIA) - PRODUCER



Artem Vasilyev is the founder and CEO of METRAFILMS film company (founded in 1993) and one of the most influential independent filmmakers in Russia. Artem is a member of the European Film Academy, Russian Film Academy and The European Producers Club. Films produced by Artem Vasilyev and METRAFILMS, such as Alexey German Jr.’s DOVLATOV and PAPER SOLDIER, Alexey Fedorchenko’s ANNA’S WAR, Michael Idov’s THE HUMORIST have received numerous awards at the most prestigious international film festivals.

CHRISTIAN VESPER (UK) - PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL DRAMA, FREMANTLE



As the EVP and Creative Director for the Global Drama division at Fremantle, Christian has creative oversight across Fremantle’s network of global drama producers – advising and assisting producers to develop and produce projects that succeed globally. He manages the slate of projects and leads efforts to set up group projects as co-productions with US and UK networks and at global platforms. Joining Fremantle in 2016, Christian has worked across critically acclaimed shows including *My Brilliant Friend*, Luca Guadagnino’s *We Are Who We Are*, *La Jauria*, *No Man’s Land* and *Baghdad Central* to name a few.

JULIA FIDEL (GERMANY) - HEAD OF BERLINALE SERIES



Julia Fidel is head of *Berlinale Series*. She is a film and festival professional and has been working with the Berlinale since 2006. Born in Darmstadt, Hessen, she studied Film and Journalism at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz and Cultural Theory and History at Humboldt-Universität Berlin. At HFF Potsdam-Babelsberg, she graduated in Audiovisual Media Studies and was part of the student film festival *sehsuechte*, which she directed in 2005.

She has worked for Berlinale *Generation* as moderator, author, project manager and member of the selection committee. At Berlinale *Panorama* she was responsible for press and editorial work.

Her passion for film and television have led to various stations in the exploitation chain in Berlin, London and New York, with experience ranging from primary research, casting to assistant directing, distribution and publicity, where she has worked for various projects and talents, lastly exclusively for all Netflix projects in

German-speaking countries.

As a film choreographer, Julia Fidel has created dance scenes with a wide range of styles for different directors, among them Gore Verbinski (for *A Cure for Wellness*), Lana Wachowski (for *Sense8*) and Tom Tykwer, Achim von Borries and Henk Handloegten for the various dance performances in their 1920s series *Babylon Berlin*. She advises film and television productions on dance scenes and is an advocate for a better recognition of dancers as performers on films.

XAVIER RASHID (UK / ESTONIA) - SALES AGENT, FILM REPUBLIC



Xavier started his career as a photographer and freelance journalist, publishing in *Screen*, *Variety*, *Esquire*, *Academy (BAFTA)*, and as a contributor to the original BBC Films, Film247 and Yahoo Movies websites.

He later headed the Raindance Film Festival as Executive Director until 2011, making it an Academy Awards qualifying festival and continued in sponsorship for Sundance London, as a previewer for Sheffield Doc/Fest and as a consultant for the East End Film Festival, London's largest independent film festival.

He additionally worked in acquisitions for Taskovski Films and is an alumnus of the Berlinale Talent Campus (2013) and the Media and Locarno funded Step In initiatives. Since 2015 Xavier additionally works as an assessor for projects (scripts/finance plans) submitted to the Mannheim Meeting Place, and teaches occasionally film producing courses at Met Film School, Royal Holloway, University of London and Goldsmiths College.

He programmes, since its inception, for the Victoria TX Independent Film Festival, and has been involved with several charities including Cancer Research UK, the Matema Educational Trust, and created a training programme for disadvantaged children on behalf of the Independent Film Trust.

Since 2012 he runs Film Republic, a film sales company based in London handling arthouse features by auteurs and the next generation of master filmmakers, including titles by Pirjo Honkasalo (*Concrete Night*), Adrian Saba (*El Limpiador*), Marcel Gisler (*Rosie*) and Rolando Colla (*Seven Days*). In this time the company has had 3 Academy Award entries.

GABRIELLE ROZING (THE NETHERLANDS) - GENERAL MANAGER, FORTISSIMO



Fortissimo Films General Manager Gabrielle Rozing grew up in Germany where she went to International School. After graduation she moved back to Amsterdam to study Film and Television Sciences and Arts Policy and Management. She worked at the Netherlands Film Festival – Holland Film Meeting before joining Fortissimo Films in 2006. First as assistant to the MD, later in several functions in sales and finance and as producer liaison. She also worked at innovative VOD platform Ximon and as film programmer for Filmtheater 't Hoogt in Utrecht before becoming Fortissimo Films General Manager Amsterdam in 2017. She works closely with Fortissimo's Beijing office and next to company management handles sales to Europe and Latin America as well as acquisitions.

CASE STUDIES

MODERATOR - SCOTT ROXBOROUGH (GERMANY)



Scott Roxborough, European Bureau Chief for leading U.S. entertainment industry magazine The Hollywood Reporter, is a media journalist with more than 20 years' experience covering the international film and television business. He also works as a producer and on-air presenter for German international broadcaster Deutsche Welle and as a pundit and commentator for radio and television, in Germany and the English-speaking world. Proudly Canadian, Scott lives in Cologne, Germany with his wife and two children.

Case study 2

CHRISTIAN DITTER (GERMANY) SHOWRUNNER OF NETFLIX SERIES BIOHACKERS



Christian Ditter studied directing at the University of Television and Film in Munich. His short films won numerous awards at international film festivals and his debut feature FRENCH FOR BEGINNERS was a hit at the German box office in 2006. In 2008 he adapted one of Germany's most beloved children's books for the big screen, THE CROCODILES. The film won over fifty audience and jury awards at international film festivals and was followed up by two sequels, THE CROCODILES STRIKE BACK (2009) and THE CROCODILES: ALL FOR ONE (2010), which he directed and produced respectively. He moved on to writing and directing Germany's first major adventure film shot entirely in 3D, WICKIE AND THE TREASURE OF THE GODS, which debuted at #1 in the German box office.

In 2014 he directed his first English-language feature LOVE, ROSIE and in 2016 he followed it up with his U.S. debut HOW TO BE SINGLE which grossed over 100 million dollars worldwide. He then served as both director and executive producer alongside Charlize Theron on the Netflix series GIRLBOSS, and currently is working as showrunner, executive producer and director on the 2nd season of his Netflix series BIOHACKERS.