

SYNOPSIS

With troublingly realistic fake videos now being generated by AI, how do we tell truth from falsehood, reality from illusion? **Deepfake** explores the dawning phenomenon of undetectable deepfakes. The series confronts a crucial question: when you can't believe your eyes and ears, who – or what – can you trust?

Twenty-five-year-old Stéphanie's life is overturned when а compromising video of her mother goes viral. Stéphanie believes the video, which wrecked her mother's political career and hurt her influential family, is a fake – despite expert consensus that it's genuine. But who created the deepfake, and why? Though it goes against everything in her character, Stéphanie gets hired under a false identity by a start-up that she suspects of having the tech know-how to create undetectable deepfakes. Drawn into a dangerous conspiracy with international repercussions, Stéphanie discovers that the truth isn't what she thought, and that perfect lies come at a high price.

GENRES <u>Scripted</u> / <u>Drama</u>

DURATION 6 x 43-minutes

BROADCASTER Société Radio-Canada - ICI Télé et TOU.TV Extra

YEAR OF PRODUCTION 2025

PRODUCED BY Sphere Media Inc.

COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION Canada

WRITERS

Annie Piérard, Bernard Dansereau, Étienne Piérard-Dansereau DIRECTOR Stéphane Lapointe

ASSOCIATES PRODUCERS Annie Piérard, Bernard Dansereau

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Sylvie Gaudreault, Josée Vallée

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Bruno Dubé

CAST

Sophie Nélisse as Stéphanie Pierre Curzi as Jean-Gilles Lynda Johnson as Françoise Pierre-Paul Alain as Manu Kevin Houle as Dominique Younes Bouab as Daji Wiam Mokhtari as Safia Louis-David Morasse as Bruno Eve Lemieux as Elisabeth WITH THE COLLABORATION OF



WITH THE FINANCIAL PARTICPATION OF







Crédit d'impôt cinéma et télévision





Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

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EPISODIC SYNOPSES

Episode 1

Despite all the experts confirming the authenticity of the racist video that ruined the political career of her mother Françoise, Stéphanie is still convinced that it's a deepfake. To prove she's right, she sets out to infiltrate EFEK, a start-up that uses artificial intelligence to create special effects. Meanwhile, Daji Saeed, a renowned scientist living in Canada, faces mounting pressure from the government of his native country to return there. Daji tries to downplay the danger to his daughter Safia, a young activist.

Episode 2

Doubts persist on the subject of Françoise's health and the authenticity of the video. Now employed by EFEK, Stéphanie tries to convince Manu to use her to produce a hyper-realistic avatar... which could arouse suspicion. Jean-Gilles is unwilling to believe his granddaughter, who is more and more convinced that links exist between EFEK and parliament member Célestin. At the same time, the noose is tightening around Daji, who fears a forcible return to the Gulf Emirate, while his daughter Safia realizes that the threat is very real.

Episode 3

Stéphanie, with the help of her cousin Elisabeth, becomes more and more assured in her undercover work, even if her plan to get Manu to produce an undetectable deepfake risks exposing her. Dominique's past catches up with him, forcing him to make wrenching decisions. A foul-up during Daji's exfiltration lands Bernard in hot water when Jordan, an emissary hired by the government of the Gulf Emirate, compels him to take drastic measures to solve the problem. Patrice, mystified by Daji's fate, meets Safia.

Episode 4

Stéphanie believes she's on the verge of proving that EFEK is making undetectable deepfakes, when her infiltration is compromised. Pressure mounts to hide the truth about Daji Saeed.

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Episode 5

Stéphanie, who's having difficulty cutting ties with Manu, doesn't suspect that she's a target for elimination. The countdown accelerates for the EFEK team, which is failing in its mission.

Episode 6

Drawn despite herself into a dangerous conspiracy with international repercussions, Stéphanie discovers that the truth isn't what she thought, and that perfect lies come at a high price.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Stéphanie Parent Sirois (Sophie Nélisse)



Stéphanie, the heroine of the series, is a reserved young woman, deeply attached to her family. Born into a powerful clan under the commanding authority of her grandfather Jean-Gilles (founder of a major accountancy firm), Stéphanie has distinguished herself through her choice of career: with no interest in numbers, she's become an osteopath, healing others. She's in a relationship with Patrice, an investigative journalist.

Though she isn't particularly adventurous, Stéphanie will become embroiled in a mystery that combines technology, politics and finance. Determined to learn the truth about the compromising video that ruined her mother's career, she will infiltrate a start-up working at the cutting edge of advances in artificial intelligence.

Jean-Gilles Sirois (Pierre Curzi)



Jean-Gilles, head of the family and founder of a major accountancy firm, has built his empire from nothing. Married for over fifty years to his wife Jeanne, he's the embodiment of an old-style patriarch: influential, respected... and feared.

His firm employs numerous accountants and includes several partners, including his son Bruno. There is increasing tension between father and son. While Bruno, currently serving as managing partner, prepares to take over leadership of the firm, Jean-Gilles finds it hard to relinquish control as his retirement draws near.

Jean-Gilles is also passionate about politics. He's heavily involved in the Option Québec Party, which is led by his daughter-in-law, Françoise Parent.

Françoise Parent (Lynda Johnson)



Françoise is Stéphanie's mother and Bruno's wife. As leader of the Option Quebec Party, Françoise is in the midst of an election campaign against the sitting premier. Momentum is on her side, and if present trends continue, she could well become the next premier. She owes her rise, in part, to a valuable ally: her father-in-law Jean-Gilles, who has believed in her potential since their first meeting over thirty years ago. In the intervening years, Jean-Gilles has supported her steadfastly, standing by her at each stage of her political career.

Françoise's close relationship with her daughter Stéphanie will be sorely tested when a video emerges in which Françoise makes racist remarks, causing a scandal and straining their bond of trust.

Bruno Sirois (Louis-David Morasse)



Bruno is married to Françoise Parent, with whom he has one daughter: Stéphanie. Destined since his youth to take over from his father at the head of the accountancy firm, he has followed the path that was laid out for him: studies in accountancy, and then a methodical rise from simple accountant to managing partner. In his managerial role, Bruno tries to assert his authority, but the founder is still imposing his will. Jean-Gilles has retained the chairmanship of the executive committee, and he has a veto. He refuses to step aside. Their relationship is tense, marked by a constant power struggle between a son who wants to take over and a father who won't let go.

Jeanne Sirois (Carmen Ferlan)



Jeanne has been sharing Jean-Gilles' life for over fifty years: a half-century of marriage marked by loyalty and devotion. Remaining in the shadows, Jeanne has always let her husband occupy the limelight as uncontested patriarch of the Sirois clan, while she kept watch over her loved ones with discreet but unwavering benevolence. Jeanne is happiest when she's in the midst of her family. Her love for her granddaughter Stéphanie is deep and sincere. It's a close, cherished relationship that brings her pleasure and reassurance.

Patrice Archambault (Xavier Malo)



Patrice, an investigative journalist and Stéphanie's romantic partner, must walk a fine line when reconciling his personal life with his work. Though he's close to the Sirois family, his relationship with them is still coloured by his critical approach to politics. With his mother-in-law Françoise in the midst of a political campaign, Patrice must keep a scrupulous distance to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest – which is a challenge for a journalist accustomed to scrutinizing the corridors of power. Patrice will investigate the disappearance of a renowned Gulf Emirate-born scientist, Daji Saeed.

Dominique Arcand (Kevin Houle)



Dominique Arcand is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of EFEK, a Montreal start-up working in artificial intelligence that has attracted the interest of venture capital investors. Passionate and combative, he knows how to sell the unlimited growth potential of his company.

But behind the glossy exterior, the challenge is colossal. EFEK must train its AI model, Melios 3.0, using vast quantities of data – a very expensive process. For Dominique, keeping the company afloat is no easy task.

Manuel (Manu) Hertier (Pierre-Paul Alain)



Manu, co-founder and chief technical officer of EFEK, is a true tech prodigy. With a reduced team, he has designed Melios 3.0, an AI model that is at the cutting edge of global innovation.

Unlike Dominique, Manu couldn't care less about his appearance: he throws on his jeans, t-shirt and sweater, and he's good to go. His mind is entirely dedicated to programming... at least, until the arrival of Juliette, the new accounting clerk, in whom he takes a definite interest.

Daji Saeed (Younes Bouab)



Daji Saeed is a renowned scientist, an expert on medical isotopes and, for many years now, a university physics professor. Originally from the Gulf Emirate, he obtained permission to leave his country and has lived in Montreal with his daughter Safia ever since.

Daji is comfortable and happy in his adoptive country, but he's preserved the reflex that he acquired during his former life in a land governed by an autocratic regime: he takes care never to make waves. Indeed, he often reproaches his daughter Safia for being an activist. Daji hasn't revealed the whole truth about his past, and a contrived chance encounter with one of his former countrymen will leave him shaken.

Safia Saeed (Wiam Mokhtari)



Safia is the daughter of Daji Saeed. She's a committed feminist and militant activist who devotes herself to environmental causes. Safia is as Canadian and Quebecois as any native-born citizen. She doesn't hesitate to assert her rights, including her right to oppose the established order.

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Bernard Tremblay (Stéphane Jacques)



Bernard Tremblay is a former director of national intelligence. Since his retirement, Bernard has offered his expertise along with his vast network of contacts to various powerful figures. Bernard is a man of influence who works in the shadows. He has a friendly relationship with Jean-Gilles, for whom he often does favours when discretion and delicacy are required.

Célestin Michel (Dave Dimak)



Célestin Michel is a parliament member and the number two figure in the Option Quebec Party. He's a charismatic and ambitious politician in his early forties who projects a well-groomed image, elegant but not ostentatious. He'll be angered by his party's collapse after the emergence of the racist video of Françoise Parent. Lucid and ruthless, he won't mince words on the subject of his leader as he positions himself for the future.

Elisabeth Sirois (Eve Lemieux)



Elisabeth is more than a cousin for Stéphanie: she's a lifelong best friend. Unlike Stéphanie, who's allergic to numbers, Elisabeth is progressing smoothly in the family business as an accountant at the Sirois firm. The difference in their skills – one heals bodies, the other balances books – makes them a complementary duo. They regularly exchange services: tax returns for osteopathic treatments. Treatments that Élisabeth appreciates as the birth of her child draws near. Their complicity will deepen when Élisabeth provides an alibi to her cousin, covering for Stéphanie when she sets out to discover the truth and clear her mother's name.

BIOGRAPHIES

WRITERS Annie Piérard, Bernard Dansereau and Étienne Piérard-Dansereau:

A Unique Writing Team That Is Also a Family

For more than 25 years, Annie Piérard and Bernard Dansereau have been writing TV series that are loved by audiences and critics alike. In 2016, their son Étienne joined them to create a singular and closely-knit intergenerational writing trio.

Their medical thriller *Outbreak (Epidémie)*, which aired during the early days of the global pandemic, was an international sensation, hailed for its realism and relevance. The series was sold in over a dozen countries. The trio then wrote *No return (Aller simple)*, a hit psychological thriller that set an audience record on Noovo and spawned a reality-TV spinoff that has been licensed internationally.

In 2025, the trio is back with *Deepfake (L'Indétectable)*, a technopolitical thriller rooted in the digital age, mixing social issues with family drama, and confirming the writers' talent for telling human stories that are powerful and timely.

DIRECTOR Stéphane Lapointe

Stéphane Lapointe is a Quebec director and screenwriter known for his successes in film and television. In 2023, he won the Prix Gémeaux in the Best Dramatic Series category with *Avant le Crash*, and distinguished himself with *Faits Divers* and two comedies, *Lâcher Prise* and *Tout sur moi*. His style blends narrative grace with originality. Stéphane loves to tell a good story, and to make talents shine on the screen. In 2024, he directed the police mystery *Corbeaux*, followed in 2025 by *Deepfake* (*L'Indétectable*), a hard-hitting techno-political thriller in which family relationships are front and centre. Produced by Sphere Media, the series is currently available (in French) on ICI Tou.TV EXTRA and will air on Radio-Canada in 2025-2026.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Sylvie Gaudreault – Senior Producer, Scripted Content

Sylvie Gaudreault has extensive experience in Quebec's cultural and television sector. She joined the TVA network in July 2003, successively occupying the positions of assistant head of programming and head of in-house production and magazine programs. In 2005, she was named head of scripted content and documentaries. Since arriving at Sphere Media in 2011, Sylvie has produced several significant television series, including the third season of *Mauvais karma, Toute la vérité, Mémoires vives, Trop* – a critically-acclaimed comedy that was twice nominated for Rockie Awards – as well as *Aller Simple* and the espionnage series *IXE-13*. She's also responsible for *CEREBRUM* and *L'Indétectable*, a hard-hitting techno-political thriller. A passionate and curious producer, always on the lookout for strong, original stories, Sylvie devotes a significant proportion of her efforts to developing new series in close collaboration with writers.

Josée Vallée – Executive VP, Scripted and Feature Films

An experienced producer with a remarkable career history, Josée Vallée is a key figure in Quebec television, known for her valuable contribution to the growth of the sector. For nearly fifteen years, she led Cirrus Communications before assuming the presidency of Attraction Images. In 2014, she joined the team at Sphere Media, where she was in charge of production on numerous acclaimed television series, including *Hubert & Fanny, This Life, CEREBRUM, L'Imposteur, Bad Blood, Une autre histoire, Les Honorables, Trop, Épidémie –* a nominee at the 2021 Rockie Awards – *Aller simple, IXE-13, Transplant* and *L'indétectable*, a hard-hitting techno-political thriller. Always on the lookout for innovative projects, she's currently leading production on the northern thriller *Anticosti*, as well as the second season of the comedy series *Le retour d'Anna Brodeur*, the first season of which was a nominee at the 2025 Rockie Awards. She was also an executive producer on *The Sticky*, a series co-produced with Blumhouse Television, Megamix and Comet Pictures, starring Jamie Lee Curtis and streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

Since November 2021, Josée Vallée has held the position of Executive Vice-President, Scripted and Feature Films at Sphere Media, where she continues to produce bold, powerful and resolutely timely projects.

SERIES LEAD Sophie Nélisse

A Canadian actress of Franco-Ontarian origin, Sophie Nélisse made her mark at a very young age with acclaimed performances in **Monsieur Lazhar** and **The Book Thief**, receiving several international distinctions. Versatile and committed, she alternates effortlessly between Quebec and international productions, in film and in television.

Since 2021, she's played Shauna in the hit Showtime series *Yellowjackets*, earning praise for her intense, nuanced performance. In 2025, she's the series lead in *L'Indétectable (Deepfake)*, a technopolitical thriller created by the Piérard-Dansereau writing trio. She also stars in *Deux femmes en or*, directed by Chloé Robichaud.

Sophie Nélisse ranks among the most promising and captivating talents of her generation.

ABOUT SPHERE MEDIA

Sphere Media captivates viewers with its films and television programs, which reach diverse audiences through major broadcasters in Canada and around the world. With a catalogue of hundreds of projects in all genres—scripted, documentaries, reality, game shows, magazines and variety programs—it has garnered many successes and honours, including several Canadian Screen Awards, including Best Drama Series and Best Comedy, 15 Gémeaux awards for best series, Iris and international awards. Sphere Media is behind several major hits including *Transplant*, *The Porter*, *Trop*, *Épidémie*, *Sort Of*, *Aller simple* and many more. With Sort Of, Sphere Media received many honours such as an Emmy Awards nomination, a Rose d'Or Awards nomination,

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a Peabody Award In 2023 and the MIPCOM Cannes Diversity Award, to name a few. Sphere Media won the Innovative Producer Award at the Rockie Awards during the Banff World Media Festival. Sphere Media is a Canadian film and television industry leader with offices in Montréal, Toronto and London.