

**63RD MONTE-CARLO TELEVISION FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
MORGAN FREEMAN AS CRYSTAL NYMPH AWARD RECIPIENT
AND
OLIVIER MARCHAL AS HONORARY NYMPH RECIPIENT**

Paris, Monday, May 6, 2024 - **Laurent Puons, CEO**, and **Cécile Menoni, Executive Director of the Monte-Carlo Television Festival**, today announced, at the leading Brach Paris, program details of the prestigious event taking place **June 14-18, 2024 in Monaco**.

A WORLD PREMIERE SCREENING

The opening of the Festival will be marked by the world premiere screening of ***The Gray House***, a limited series produced by Republic Pictures in collaboration with Territory Pictures, Revelations Entertainment and Big Dreams Entertainment.

The first episode will be broadcast following the Opening Ceremony at Grimaldi Forum Monaco on **Friday June 14 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the presence of executive producers **Morgan Freeman** (The Shawshank Redemption, Million Dollar Baby, Invictus...), **Leslie Greif** (Hatfields & McCoys) and **Lori McCreary** (Madam Secretary), as well as actors **Mary-Louise Parker** (Weeds, The West Wing), **Daisy Head** (Harlots), **Amethyst Davis** (Kindred) and **Ben Vereen** (Roots).

Based on the novel of the same name by Mariam Petrosyan, ***The Gray House*** focuses on the true story of the unsung women who turned the tide of the American Civil War in favor of the North. A Virginia Socialite, her mother, a formerly enslaved Sister-in-Arms, and the city's most notorious courtesan operate deep inside the corridors of Confederate power. They transform their Underground Railroad into an effective and even more dangerous Underground Spy Network, risking life and liberty to help win the war and preserve American Democracy.

Kevin Costner, Morgan Freeman, Leslie Greif and **Lori McCreary** are executive producers. Roland Joffé is executive director of the series, while **Darrell Fetty, Leslie Greif** and **John Sayles** write the scripts and screenplays.

SIMONE ASHLEY WINS THE INTERNATIONAL GOLDEN NYMPH FOR MOST PROMISING TALENT

After **Théo Christine** in 2022 and **Julia de Nunez** last year, British actress **Simone Ashley** will receive the **Golden Nymph for Most Promising Talent**, an award that

honors the exceptional talent of an emerging and promising actor and the international recognition of their work.

THE CRYSTAL NYMPH AWARDED TO MORGAN FREEMAN

Following the **Opening Ceremony**, H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco will present actor and producer **Morgan Freeman** with the prestigious **Crystal Nymph**, in recognition of the outstanding television career of a world-renowned actor.

GOLDEN NYMPH CEREMONY AND OFFICIAL SELECTION

The **Closing Ceremony** will be held at the Grimaldi Forum on **Tuesday June 18**, and will be presented by **Laury Thilleman**, former Miss France and now TV presenter, in the company of French singer and actor **Vincent Niclo**. A host of talented actors and leading industry professionals, as well as members of the fiction and current affairs-documentary juries, will be in attendance.

The **2024 Official Selection** of the **Golden Nymph Competition**, which rewards the best in international television production, was also announced. This remarkable selection includes **18 programs** from **12 countries** in the Fiction and News & Documentaries categories, including **four world premieres, seven international premieres, one European premiere** and **four French premieres**.

[Official Selection](#)

A GREAT SCREENWRITER AND PRODUCER HONORED

The **Honorary Golden Nymph**, the Festival's highest distinction, awarded to a renowned professional for his or her extraordinary **contribution to the entertainment industry**, will be presented to the French actor and director **Olivier Marchal** (*36 quai des Orfèvres, Ne le dis à personne, Braquo, Bronx...*) at the **Closing Ceremony** on **Tuesday June 18**.

BUSINESS CONTENT

The Business Content program was announced in detail. Once again, this year, the Monte-Carlo Television Festival will offer professionals a unique series of conferences, bringing together experts from different areas of the global audiovisual production sector to present and exchange solutions to the challenges facing international programming today.

Topics focusing on the TV industry at the heart of discussions from **June 15 to 17**

include: *Repercussions from the 2023 Strike: Paucity in Content Creation & Production; Bringing the World to Light Through TV Drama; New Formats, Genres & Focus on Local TV “Platformization”; How AI Tools Can Help with Creation & Distribution; New Narratives for Documentaries: The Blur Between Reality & Fiction; The Value of Marketing in Television; Being a Producer: How do They Manage Ever Increasing Responsibilities ; What’s New in International Co-Pro’s? .*

[Business Content Program](#)

PUBLIC EVENTS

Once again, this year the Festival will host a series of public events for the many fans in attendance.

Each program nominated in the Fiction Category and the winner of the **Prince Rainier III Special Prize** will be shown at **public screenings** at the Grimaldi Forum.

Out-of-competition screenings are also planned for **Escort Boys**, and the exclusive M6 daily primetime show, **En Famille**.

A selfie session with the talent from **Un Si Grand Soleil**, autograph sessions with the casts from many **Wolf Entertainment** (*Chicago Med, Law & Order, FBI*), as well as stars from the soaps **The Bold and the Beautiful** and **The Young and the Restless** who will also take part in public *Behind The Scenes* events.

The long-awaited **50th Anniversary** of the primetime drama **Little House on the Prairie** will be the subject of a unique gathering with fans and a special Anniversary Tea Party.

NCIS, which is celebrating its 1000th episode, will see cast members cross the Atlantic to take part in a **Behind The Scenes** event on Saturday June 15.

Finally, the Festival's official partner, **SLA Paris**, will once again be organizing a fabulous make-up experience for the public.

[Programme complet du Festival](#)
[Liste complète des VIPS](#)

Cécile Menoni concluded the press conference: *"The Monte-Carlo Television Festival, a pioneer in Europe, sets itself apart by merging the major genres of fiction, documentary and news. Thanks to the 12 countries represented by the 18 programs selected for the Golden Nymph Awards competition, the Festival is yet again a truly international event, with another eclectic edition packed with previews."*

Laurent Puons added : *"Once again this year, the Monte-Carlo Television Festival proves its ineluctability by honoring two great professionals, Morgan Freeman and Olivier Marchal. The Principality is where the talent of international TV production converge."*

[PRESS KIT 2024](#)

[PRESS ACCREDITATION](#)

Please apply for your press accreditation before Friday 10 May 2024*

*Kindly note that requests are subject to validation.

About Monte-Carlo Television Festival

Originally created by Prince Rainier III of Monaco, and now under the Honorary Presidency of H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco, the Monte-Carlo Television Festival has, for more than sixty years, presented the very best of television from around the world. The Festival has also been at the forefront in showcasing the highly talented professionals associated with many of the most successful programs in the history of the medium. Celebrities, producers, directors, writers and heads of studios, networks and digital platforms gather in June every year to attend series launches, premiere screenings, conferences, press activities, public events, VIP meetings and signing sessions. Culminating with a unique competition, which celebrates and honors fiction, news and current affairs programming with the prestigious Golden Nymph Awards, the Monte-Carlo Television Festival is recognized as one of the finest Festivals in the world, enhanced even further by its location in the magical Principality of Monaco. www.tvfestival.com

[Check out the the Monte-Carlo Television Festival press kit.](#)

In collaboration with:

