

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED FRENCH SERIES *BARDOT* TO MAKE ITS NORTH AMERICAN DEBUT AT THE AMERICAN FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL IN LOS ANGELES ON OCTOBER 22**

**Newcomer Julia de Nunez Brings the Iconic 50's Star Brigitte Bardot to Life in the Six-Part Biopic Series Set to Screen in its Entirety at TAFFF**

***Academy Award-Nominated Writer/Director Danièle Thompson to Attend *BARDOT* Premiere at TAFFF***

**LOS ANGELES: August 3, 2023** – [The American French Film Festival](#) (“TAFFF”), which is produced by [The Franco-American Cultural Fund](#), is announcing that the new French series ***BARDOT*** will have its North American Premiere at the Festival being held at the DGA Theater Complex October 18-22. From co-creators, co-writers and co-directors Danièle and Christopher Thompson, the six-part series will be included in the Festival's competition for the Best Series Award and will be presented in its entirety closing night, October 22. Daniele Thompson will attend the premiere.

“This is the very first time that a film or series has been dedicated to the iconic French star Brigitte Bardot. There has been a tremendous amount of buzz about *BARDOT* in France and we are delighted to be the first to present the it on the big screen and in North America with the film's accomplished co-writer/co-director Danièle Thompson,” commented Francois Truffart, executive producer and programmer, TAFFF. “Newcomer Julia de Nunez is stunning as Brigitte Bardot and this will definitely be remembered as her breakout role.”

***BARDOT*** is a Post-WWII Pygmalion story in which a sheltered bourgeois teen-age girl ignites a sexual revolution in France, only to struggle with her own role in that revolution as well as the cult of celebrity surrounding her. Julia de Nunez as Brigitte Bardot leads an ensemble cast that includes Vincent Belmondo (grandson of French New Wave actor Jean-Paul Belmondo) as Bardot's first husband writer/director Roger Vadim, Hippolyte Girardot as her father, and Géraldine Pailhas as her mother. The six-episode biopic series traces the life of the '50s "French bombshell" from her first audition at 15 through her explosive international breakout film, Vadim's risqué *And God Created Woman* in 1957 to her powerful performance in Henri-Georges Cluzot's *Truth* in 1960.

The series was co-written and co-directed by Academy Award nominated writer/director Danièle Thompson and her son writer/director Christopher Thompson. Danièle, herself, began her career as the successful co-writer of a string of monumental French comedy hits co-written and directed by her father, Gérard Oury, including *La Grande Vadrouille*

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(1966) and *The Mad Adventures of Rabbi Jacob* (1973). Her other writing credits include Jean-Charles Tachella's *Cousin Cousine* (1975), Claude Pinoteau's *The Party* (1980), and Patrice Chéreau's *Queen Margot* (1994) and *Those Who Love Me Can Take the Train* (1998). In 1999, Danièle moved into the director's chair, now co-writing her scripts with her son Christopher, whose acting credits stretch back to 1989. Their joint credits include *The Log* (1999), *Jet Lag* (2002), *Orchestra Seats* (2006), and *Cezanne et Moi* (2016). **BARDOT** has its world premiere at the Series Mania Festival in Lille in March 2023. The series is produced and distributed by Federation Studios.

More exclusive programs will be announced regularly until the complete announcement of the 2023 TAFFF line up on September 27. Box office and Reservations will open three weeks before the festival starts on October 18.

Being a unique collaboration between the DGA, WGA, MPA, and Sacem, The Franco American Cultural Fund will continue to be supportive and sensitive to the needs of guild members currently in negotiations. The American French Film Festival will be held in accordance with those organizations' collective sentiments this Fall.

#### **The American French Film Festival**

The American French Film Festival (formerly known as COLCOA French Film Festival) was created and is produced by the Franco-American Cultural Fund, a unique collaboration between the Directors Guild of America (DGA), the Motion Picture Association (MPA), France's Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers of Music (SACEM) and the Writers Guild of America West (WGAW). The American French Film Festival is also supported by Unifrance; the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs; France's Society of Authors, Directors and Producers (l'ARP); TVFI; Air Tahiti Nui; ELMA; Fleur de Miraval Champagne; L'Oréal; TV5 Monde/Sling; and *Variety*. The American French Film Festival Education Program is supported by ELMA.

**For additional information visit :** [www.theamericanfrenchfilmfestival.org](http://www.theamericanfrenchfilmfestival.org)

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