

‘Festival du Fantastique de Béziers’

2024 Edition

Contest rules for illustrations, short films and short stories.

The ‘Festival du Fantastique de Béziers’, what is it?

The “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers” is a cultural event about fantasy in Art, especially cinematic and literary fantasy. The project was born at the instigation of the Béziers IUT team, and more particularly the Multimedia and Internet Technologies Department.

- The first edition took place from May 3 to 5, 2019 and was called the Weekend of the Fantastic. Its theme was "Rêves et Cauchemars" ("Dreams and Nightmares in fantasy") and it was chaired by director Romain Basset.
- The second edition took place on October 10, 2020. The theme of that year's event was "En eau profonde" ("In Deep Water") and was chaired by writer Emmanuel Quentin.
- The third edition ran from Monday June 6, 2021 to Sunday June 13, 2021. The theme of that edition was "Créatures de la nuit" ("Creatures of the Night") and was chaired by cartoonist Enrico Marini.
- The fourth edition ran from Friday, October 7, 2022 to Sunday, October 9, 2022. The theme of that year's event was "Possession" and was chaired by special effects specialist Romain Houllès.
- The fifth edition took place from Friday, October 6 to Saturday, October 7, 2023. The theme of this year's event was "Legends" and was chaired by writer Ariane Gélinas.

The sixth edition will take place on Friday October 4 and Saturday October 5, 2024. The theme of this new edition is "**Metamorphoses**".

For the 2024 edition, the prize-giving ceremony for each category will take place on Friday, October 4, 2024.

The finalist illustrations will be printed and exhibited during the festival.

The finalist short stories will be published in a dedicated collection in paper format. Each short story in this collection will be illustrated by an original creation. The book will be available for sale at a single price of 5 euros

The semi-finalist and finalist short stories will be published in a digital collection, accessible on the Festival website. This digital collection will not be enhanced with the original illustrations.

ARTICLE 1 – Genre and Theme

The organizers require that all the works meet the definition of fantasy as defined by Jean-Claude Romer.

(<http://www.devildead.com/dossier/21-souvenirs-de-midi-minuit-fantastique/18-Introduction>).

The works presented must belong to the fantasy genre, excluding variants such as heroic fantasy or science fiction. Contest participants guarantee the organizer the originality of the script for the "Short Film" category, the story for the "Short Story" category and the artistic creation for the "Illustration" category.

For the 2024 edition, the fantasy genre will be linked to the "Metamorphoses" theme.

ARTICLE 2 – Competition

The competition concerns short films made in the years 2023 and 2024, as well as short stories and illustrations never before seen. For each category, selections will be made on productions made before the deadline of March 31, 2024. Short films may already have been shown.

ARTICLE 3 – Age limit

These contests are open to any natural person over the age of 16.

ARTICLE 4 – Submissions

The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2024, for all categories.

ARTICLE 4.1 – Submissions for the "short film" category

The submission of works for the category "short film" will be done exclusively on the website:

<https://filmfreeway.com/FestivalduFantastiquedeBeziers>

The entry form will include:

- a photo of the film,
- a photo of the director(s),
- a synopsis, the date of completion,
- a link to download the work,
- the date of birth of the director,
- an email,
- a postal address,
- and a phone number.

ARTICLE 4.2 – Submissions for the "illustration" and "short story" categories

The submission of works for the categories "illustration" and "short stories" will be done by email by sending the following information to:

festival.fantastique.beziers@gmail.com

- A photo of the designer,
- A postal address,

- The date of birth of the designer,
- A telephone number.

ARTICLE 5 – Notification to Authors

For all categories, authors will receive a selection notification no later than June 30, 2024

ARTICLE 6 – Composition of the Jury

The jury will be made up of representatives of the national education system and professionals from the audio-visual, publishing and computer graphics sectors: directors, actors, cinematographers, editors, authors, graphic designers...

Each category may, if necessary, be organised into sub-juries, all of which will be presided over by the president of the festival: **Christian Quesnel**.

The complete composition of the jury will be available no later than March 1, 2024 on the website: <http://festival-fantastique.fr/>

ARTICLE 6.1 – Assessment

- The jury will judge the following criteria to determine the winners in all categories:
The quality of the content of the works and more particularly concerning the imposed genre and theme,
- The technical execution,
- The originality of the works.

The decisions of the jury are irrevocable. The jury is not required to justify its decisions to the candidates. No complaints or challenges to the results will be accepted.

ARTICLE 7 – Technical constraints for the diffusion of works

A festival, in its programming work, must strive to echo the richness and diversity of creation as a whole.

ARTICLE 7.1 – Short Film Category

You are free to create an original and unpublished short film based on fantasy and the theme of the 2024 edition: "Metamorphoses".

The duration of the short film is a minimum of 1 minute and a maximum of 12 minutes (credits included). The film can be presented in colour or black and white. The soundtrack must necessarily include original music or royalty-free music. The credits must include the names of the writers and directors. The film must comply with the technical specifications set out in the present regulations.

For submission, English subtitling is accepted but if the film is selected as a finalist, **it must be subtitled in French**. The concerned authors will be contacted to provide these subtitles.

The short film will be sent in a digital format such as MP4, AVI or MOV via <https://filmfreeway.com/FestivalduFantastiqueDeBeziers>

ARTICLE 7.2 – Illustration Category

Feel free to create an original and unpublished illustration focusing on fantasy and the theme of the 2024 edition: "Metamorphoses".

You are free to use the techniques and software of your choice. The illustration must be in A1 or A3 format and contain no written elements.

When submitting the work by email, you must provide a download link to access a file in JPEG format with a maximum size of 50 MB and the best possible quality.

In case of selection in the final by the jury, you will be invited (by email) to submit a PDF (A1, 300 DPI, CMJN) via a secure depository, for printing on paper.

ARTICLE 7.3 – Short story Category

Feel free to create an original and unpublished short story focusing on fantasy and the theme of the 2024 edition: "Metamorphoses".

Reminder of a definition of the short story: "The short story is a simple, short and intense piece of writing that presents a small number of characters, includes warning clues and false leads, promotes suspense and dramatization and ends with an original and confusing ending that nevertheless respects the coherence of the story."

A short story must be at least 6750 characters long and at most 15000 characters long (including punctuation signs). The format of the page is A4. The fonts must be 'sans serif', i.e. Arial, Times New Roman, with a size of 12.

The short story will be made available in digital PDF format and via e-mail

ARTICLE 8 – Awards

The prizes awarded to the first, second and third place winners in each category are:

- Embossed diplomas,
- A copy of the collection of short stories in paper form,
- Goodies from the festival.

ARTICLE 8.1 – Winner of each category

In addition to the prizes awarded Winners in each category will be awarded (or mailed):

- A trophy (best short film, best illustration, best short story)
- A prize of 500€ (cheque or bank transfer)

ARTICLE 8.2 - Prix Lycéens

A jury of high-school students from the Béziers-Méditerranée conurbation will also award one prize per category. The high school students will have to decide between the finalist works selected by the official jury in each category. The high school students' prizes will be awarded at the official awards ceremony on Friday, October 4, 2024.

ARTICLE 9 – Publications and rights

The authors of the short films, short stories and illustrations selected by the jury will authorise the organisers of the “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers” to use their first and last names in the list of winners which may be published in the official communication of the organisers and, if necessary, in the general public press. In return for their participation in the competition, the individual participants graciously assign to the organisers the rights of reproduction, non-exclusive and non-commercial representation (except for the short story category) on all present and future media for a period of five years. The participant in the short film is responsible for the image rights and will make sure that the actors and extras obtain the authorisations linked to the image rights and the authorisation to broadcast the film in a non-commercial way.

ARTICLE 9.1 – Copyrights

PARAGRAPH 1. Through his participation and for the exclusive needs of the “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers”, the author-director authorises the festival organising team to reproduce and represent his audiovisual work, free of charge.

The right of reproduction includes:

- The right to reproduce and/or to have reproduced by all technical processes known and unknown to date (in particular by recording, storage, etc.) on all media (in particular magnetic, digital, electronic, etc.) and in all formats the work defined above, and to have a number of originals, copies and duplicates made in such numbers as the assignee sees fit, on all media, in all formats and by all current or future fixing processes.
- The right to carry out any act of reproduction for the purposes of distribution of the work, such as downloading, storage or any act of temporary fixation involved in the digital transmission and dissemination of the work on the network, whatever its format and the technical process used.

The right of performance includes:

- The right of public performance of all or part of the work, in particular during public screening sessions and the closing ceremony.
- The right to list, classify and identify the work in a database.
- The right to authorise the representation on all communication media in the context of this Competition, of short excerpts or summaries of the audiovisual work, whether they be video or sound, subject to the moral rights of the author.
- The right to distribute and/or have distributed excerpts of the work (still images, on internet social networks).
- The right to keep a copy of the film(s) sent to compete with a view to archiving it/them for possible broadcasting at the request of the partners of the 2023 event.
- The right to make a copy of the winning films of the 2023 edition on DVD, and to distribute it to the partners having participated in the financing of the 2023 “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers”, for private use.

PARAGRAPH 2. These rights shall be assigned for the sole purpose of the initiative and for a period of five years from the date of application. The festival organising team retains the right to contact former participants in order to extend this authorisation. No other use of these rights, of any nature whatsoever, will be made by “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers” without the prior authorisation of the authors-directors.

PARAGRAPH 3. The author-director guarantees that his work is original and that he holds the copyright pertaining thereto. In the case of the adaptation of literary works that have not fallen into the public domain or the use of images from audio-visual archives, the author shall provide all the necessary indications as to whether or not authorizations have been obtained. The author guarantees that his work does not contain anything that could fall under the laws and in particular the regulations relating to counterfeiting. The authors-directors must indicate, on the one hand, whether the original music is royalty-free or whether the rights have been acquired under licence and, on the other hand, whether they have obtained prior authorization for the commercial music incorporated in the work. In the event of a negative answer concerning the authorizations, the author engages his entire responsibility concerning all the authorizations and guarantees the “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers” a peaceful use of the assigned rights against any recourse brought by a rights collecting organization in case of broadcasting of the work on the occasion and for the needs of the “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers”.

PARAGRAPH 4. For the short story category, the authors submitting their works to the “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers” undertake to assign their rights if their works are selected in the final. The short stories selected by the jury as finalists in the competition will be published in a collection of short, illustrated stories, and sold at a single price of 5 euros. This rate does not allow for any profit on the production of the collection (illustrations and printing). The organisers of the “Festival du Fantastique de Béziers” therefore sell the collection at cost price and therefore cannot pay any royalties to the authors. An author refusing to assign these rights will then not appear in the printed collection. All the short stories selected in the semifinals will be published in a digital collection available free of charge on the festival site. The author remains free to exploit his story for other commercial use. The transfer of rights concerns only the commercial exploitation linked to the Festival du Fantastique de Béziers.

ARTICLE 9.2 - Image rights

Authors attending the 6th edition of the Béziers Fantastic Festival (Friday 4th and Saturday 5th October 2024) agree to give up their image rights if their image is captured and broadcast for the purposes of festival communication. This applies in particular to competition winners who will be filmed and/or photographed. These videos and photos may then be published on the festival website, the Béziers IUT website or other partners, as well as on social networks.

ARTICLE 10 – Liability

The organisers accept no responsibility for theft, loss or damage to the given recording. Furthermore, they reserve the right to modify, broadcast or cancel this competition without notice and without having to justify the reasons.

ARTICLE 11 – Compliance with the Rules

Participation in this competition implies knowledge and full acceptance of these rules. Failure to comply with the rules will result in the cancellation of the application.

