

# B A T E S I A N

BATESIAN is a collaborative feature film project. The film plays in a fictional “World of BATESIAN” in which people can exchange skills. Everybody can participate by helping to write the World of BATESIAN, partaking in the phases of production or applying for one of the positions on the film set.

## “World of BATESIAN”

The film plays in the fictional “World of BATESIAN”: it is Vienna in 2012, but with a major difference: some time ago, a new technology was developed that enables people to exchange certain skills (eg. playing the piano, martial arts, writing poetry, etc.). A person must donate (and thus temporarily lose) his/her skill in order for someone else to use it. Skills are consumed through inhalation of so-called “skill shots”. This development has led to significant changes in society: changes that are reflected and shape the stories told in the film.

## The Project

BATESIAN is an innovative feature film project that employs new methods of scriptwriting and film production. The selected authors will collaborate with Austrian co-writers. Via the internet, everybody can help build the “World of BATESIAN” by participating in discussions and calls. Shooting and post-production will be similarly collaborative and international.

## The Method

88 script authors from 29 countries submitted their stories and ideas in an international Call for Treatments. The best submissions were then chosen by the BATESIAN team, an international jury and the online community. Thus, five authors and directors and three “architects” from Australia, GB, Germany, Hungary, Romania Sweden, and USA were selected.

All participants will meet at the writers’ summit in Vienna in February 2012 to discuss collaborative workflow and

decision-making and to start writing the script for the feature film.

Over the next few months, the selected authors will communicate online with Austrian co-writers and the BATESIAN team for scriptwriting and pre-production. They will return to Vienna for the shoot which is scheduled to take place at the end of Summer 2012.

Right now, the online community supporting and spreading the word about BATESIAN is growing. While still in the scriptwriting phase, they provide us with input and feedback that traditional film productions only receive once the finished film is screened.

## Our Vision

It is our goal to create a feature film that entices and engages the audiences. A film that uses skills transfer as a dramaturgical tool and focuses on the consequences for the individual and society, thereby also questioning aspects of the world we now live in. The collaborative approach is what we’re best at and we are convinced that it is the best approach for producing this film.

## The BATESIAN team

The BATESIAN team includes independent Austrian filmmakers linked to the NGO “kino5” and is still growing. We have gained extensive experience in working collaboratively and internationally by organising the annual film production festival “KinoDynamique” in Vienna since 2005. Now, with BATESIAN, we are taking the next step.