

Cottonwood and ZDF partner up for big-budget teen ballet drama

COTTONWOOD Media, ZDF and ZDF Enterprises are to co-produce live-action, teen drama series *Paris Opera*. The show features Lena Grisky, a time-traveling ballet dancer from early 20th century Russia trying to navigate her way through the perils of adolescence in modern-day Paris. The high-budget show will be produced at the world-renowned Paris Opera, where the international cast will work with the establishment's choreographers to make the dance element of the production as authentic as possible.

The production team so far includes showrunners Jill Girling and Lori Matter Welch (creator of Nickelodeon series *Ride*), producers Pascal Breton (founder of Cottonwood parent company, Federation Entertainment, and the producer of Netflix's first



Arne Lohmann (left) of ZDF Enterprises, ZDF's Nicole Keeb with Zoe Carrera and David Michel of Cottonwood Media

French drama series, *Marseille*); and Cottonwood founders Zoe Carrera, Cecile Lauritano and David Michel.

"It's an honour for us to work with ZDF and ZDF Enterprises on our first international live-action co-production," said David

Michel, president of Cottonwood Media and head of Federation Kids and Family.

"ZDF has a fantastic history in commissioning the best teen drama series in the last decade, and we look forward to creating yet another quality show."