

# Brain Power duo are pitch perfect

THIS year's prestigious Co-production Pitch Competition was won by Fabrice Papillon of Scientifilms (France) and Alec Herrmann of ARTE France for their documentary *Brain Power* (2 x 52 mins). Chosen from six finalists, the series examines the science behind human consciousness and intelligence.

For the first time, a second award was made for the pitch that attracted the most votes from the audience as calculated by a real-time online voting platform. This was won by Alexandra Bohm of Germany's Autentic for *Children Of Dictators*, which looks at four of the biggest monsters in human history — Hermann Goring, Idi Amin, Augusto Pinochet and Fidel Castro — from the unique and personal perspective of their now adult children.

But Ralf Rueckauer, vice-president of factual at ZDF Enterprises, which sponsored the award for the first time this year, acknowledged that the day's best

pitch was by Bertrand Loyer for his documentary about the perils of space debris. Loyer pitched *Space Smash* dressed in an orange space suit and reflective shades, and wielding his own piece of space junk — a piece of a Soyuz space rocket that fell to earth in Guadalupe.

The other finalists were *Pioneers*

And *Heroes* (Espresso TV, UK) about the technological innovations of wartime; *On The Edge Of The Mind* (Intuitive Productions and Somadrome, Spain), about neuroscience; and *Lenguru The Lost World* (Mona Lisa Production, France), about the unique ecosystem of a remote island in Papua New Guinea.



**MIPDoc Co-production Pitch winners: Scientifilms Fabrice Papillon (left), Autentic's Alexandra Bohm and ARTE France's Alec Herrmann**