

# Wipe me away



CANNESERIES  
Compétition  
Séries Courtes  
Sélection Officielle  
2021

AN ERIC PICCOLI SERIES  
PRODUCED BY BABEL FILMS

PRESS KIT





## WIPE ME AWAY

Montreal, Quebec. Three rough childhoods collide. Melissa, Eddy and Karine live in the same apartment building and have to deal with an environment that crushes grown-ups. The hooker's corner, the violent neighbourhood, parent's debauchery parties, bad company, stealing to survive : for them, all this is quite normal, it's their life. Are their parents to blame? Or do they love the best they can? Are we all condemned to reproduce what we have known?

Produced by Babel Films, WIPE ME AWAY is a series adapted from the novel of the same name by Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette, in French and in 8 episodes of 20 minutes.

Directed by Eric Piccoli and written by Florence Lafond and Eric Piccoli, WIPE ME AWAY addresses the reality of one of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in Montreal and the most economically and socially disadvantaged. Poverty, violence and neglected childhood are among the themes in this hard-hitting series.

## SYNOPSIS







#### ÉPISODE 1 (19 minutes 24 seconds)

Saint-Michel district, Montreal. Melissa (Sarah-Maxine Racicot), Karine (Charlee-Ann Paul) and Eddy (Malik Gervais-Aubourg) live in the same block. Three young teenagers whose lives intersect, but do not resemble each other. They must nevertheless move forward, with or without the help of parental authority.

#### ÉPISODE 2 (15 minutes 18 seconds)

Concerned after he learns that he and his daughter Karine will be evicted from their apartment, Steve (Jean-Nicolas Verreault) is looking for solutions. He quickly realizes that he is powerless and that he will have to choose between a paycheck or an unattainable justice. As for Karine, new at school, she meets a new group of friends.

#### ÉPISODE 3 (19 minutes 37 seconds)

Eddy will have to raise his grades if he wants to stay in the music program where he plays trumpet. It's not that he doesn't want to, but between the beatings he gets from the bullying gang at school and the loud and smoky parties at home of his mother Louise (Schelby Jean-Baptiste) and her boyfriend Richardson (Anglesh Major), it's a little difficult to study in peace."



#### ÉPISODE 4 (20 minutes 11 seconds)

Abandoned by Luc, her mother's boyfriend, Melissa must put on the adult's shoes and take care of everything even if she is only a teenager. She knows that she can no longer count on her mother, but faced with the tasks that are piling up, she has no choice but to go see her mom on the job... outside on the street where she is a prostitute.

#### ÉPISODE 5 (20 minutes 45 seconds)

After losing his job on a construction site, Steve takes the first opportunity he stumbled upon, that of dishwasher in a local restaurant. To make ends meet, he has to do double shifts. He wanted so much better for his daughter. Karine, for her part, tries to please her new friends, especially Jeff, who can't take his eyes off of her

#### ÉPISODE 6 (17 minutes 31 seconds)

Melissa is doing her best to take care of the apartment, herself and her little brother. Meg, her mother, has promised her that she can convince Luc to come back home to them. But he won't listen. Meg doesn't know what to do, they're going to take her kids away from her for good. She can't keep up the lie that everything is okay at home.

#### ÉPISODE 7 (20 minutes 44 seconds)

Eddy wants to end the bullying he is subjected to at school. He fears that after his gold chain, his trumpet will be stolen. Louise, his mother, has to find a way out of her toxic relationship, but when she sees the eviction notice, she doesn't know what to do.

#### ÉPISODE 8 (24 minutes 43 seconds)

Eddy's music concert is coming soon, It will be a great moment for him. Now that Louise, his mother, has freed herself from her violent boyfriend, there's no reason for her to miss her son's on stage. Unless drugs gets in the way.... Karine can no longer tolerate the nastiness of the school gang and decides to use her fists to put an end to the situation. Tired, Steve is fed up with his daughter's behaviour. Meg knows for a fact that she can't do anything for her children. All she can do is accept the reality and love them as much as she can.



## MAIN CHARACTERS



### **MÉLISSA** (Sarah-Maxine Racicot)

Abandoned by Luc, mom's boyfriend, Melissa finds herself completely alone taking care of her little brother. For a while, she has to pretend that everything is fine at home. The last thing she wants is for the social services to find out, otherwise they will separate her and Ludo! This is what her mother, Meg, asks her to be: an adult. Being an adult, while being a teenager is already very complicated.



### **MÉGANE** (Julie Perreault)

Mégane, aka Meg, has just lost custody of her children : Melissa and Ludo. We find her in a world where drugs allow her to tolerate the freezing cold of winter and the harsh reality of prostitution. When she learns that her boyfriend, Luc, has abandoned his children while he had custody of them, she does everything she can to avoid losing them to the social services.



### **KARINE** (Charlee-Ann Paul)

Karine is a bright young girl, but with a hot temper. She doesn't let herself to be walked over, and if words are not enough, she doesn't hesitate to hit. That's why she was expelled from her last school. Now, in a new neighbourhood, she's trying to make new friends. But at what cost?





**STEVE** (Jean-Nicolas Verreault)

Steve and his daughter Karine have just moved into the building when they receive the eviction notice. Anxious and illiterate, he urgently took up the job of diver at the neighborhood restaurant. To get there, he doubles shifts. He wants the best for his daughter, but he feels that he's not going to do it well.



**EDDY** (Malik Gervais-Aubourg)

Eddy, obliterated and silent, has trouble at school. At home, when there's not a party, it's a fight or worse. Hard for him to study. Passionate about trumpet, he is part of the music program. The problem? He must increase his notes if he wants to stay there. Victim of bullying at school, he understands at some point, he will have to defend himself for good.



**LOUISE** (Schelby Jean-Baptiste)

Louise is doing the best she can to raise her son, Eddy. Addicted to the drugs provided by her boyfriend, Richardson, and financially dependent on him, she's caught in a trap. Through this toxic relationship, the extremes touch each other every day; partys, violence, love, friendship, laugh and fear. If she stays with him, its good that her son doesn't need anything.





## OUTSTANDING REVIEWS !

« Beautifully directed by Eric Piccoli. The best tv show of the year for me. »

Guy A. Lepage, Tout Le Monde En Parle, ICI Radio-Canada

« Cette chronique crue, un peu systématique dans sa peinture de la misère sociale et de la violence, émeut par la tendresse avec laquelle elle enveloppe du regard ses jeunes personnages. » Pierre Langlais, Marianne Levy, Télérama

« Without erasing archetypes, the series is credible and realistic, upsetting and touching. Well written, well acted, well directed, it draws with respect and humanity the reality of one of the most disadvantaged neighborhoods of the metropolis. A reality generally hidden by our television. »

Marc Cassivi, La Presse

« An amazing series »

Pénélope McQuade, Pénélope, ICI Première

« Julie Perreault steals the show. It's touching, i don't sleep that night because I just would saw one episode, and one more, and one more... I couldn't stop! »

Julie Snyder, La semaine des 4 Julie, Noovo

« An amazing series. »

Jean-Philippe Wauthier, Bonsoir bonsoir!, ICI Radio-Canada

« Story and acting feels so right that we really believe in. »  
Sylvia Galipeau, La Presse

« A powerful, brut, and authentic series. »  
Emmanuelle plante, Le Journal de Montréal

« When your life has no horizon at home and no window at school, it's hard to get light in the eye. Excellent actors, good rhythm, a reality that hurts. We can just imagine the sequel in confinement... »  
Josée Blanchette, Le Devoir

« A wonderful series who devastated us. Julie is amazing. »  
José Gaudet et Julie Bélanger, Ça finit bien la semaine, TVA

« The script, the directing and the acting of the young cast are amazing. Even if some scenes are not easy to watch, the series feel necessary, produced with realism and sensibility. »  
C'est juste de la TV, ICI ARTV

« An uppercut who speaks about truly social inequality. »  
Stéphane Leclair, ICI RDI MATIN WEEK-END

« If you want to watch the best of the best of the Quebec series since the last 20 years, I suggest you to watch WIPE ME AWAY. »  
Nathan Meilleur, Les Retours, WNKD

« It's official: WIPE ME AWAY is my favorite Quebec series of the year. »  
Steve Proulx, Les Écrans

« A very touching series. »  
Eugénie Lépine-Blondeau, Tout un matin, ICI Première



## AWARDS & SELECTIONS

Launched online in Quebec on March 10th 2021, the series was presented for the first time in festival at the Rendez-Vous Québec Cinéma where she won the Best Web Series award.

In September 2021, she won no less than eight nominations to the Gemini Awards, the prestigious television awards presented by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television.

The series was awarded by four Prix Géméaux in the digital media category.



- ★ Best Script (Florence Lafond, Eric Piccoli)
- ★ Best Directing (Eric Piccoli)
- ★ Best Series (Babel films)
- ★ Best Actor (Jean-Nicolas Verreault)

The international carrier of the series started with an international premier in CanneSeries, in Cannes, October 12th ,2021. Since then, a lot of selections around the world are expected.

- Rendez-Vous Québec Cinéma (2021, Montréal, Canada)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Webserie
- Festival Courts d'un soir (2021, Montréal, Canada)
- CanneSeries (2021, Cannes, France)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Revelation to Malik Gervais-Aubourg
- Bilbao Seriesland Web Fest Festival (2021, Bilbao, Espagne)
- Festival du Cinéma International en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (2021, Rouyn-Noranda, Canada)
  - ★ **Winner** : "Coup de cœur" of the Jury
- Baltimore Next Media Web Fest (2021, Baltimore, États-Unis)
- Festival international du film francophone de Tübingen Stuttgart (2021, Stuttgart, Allemagne)
- NYC Web Series Festival (2021, New York, États-Unis)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Script pour Eric Piccoli et Florence Lafond
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Actress to Sarah-Maxine Racicot
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Supporting Actress to Julie Perrault
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Supporting Actor to Anglesh Major
- Marseille Series Stories (2021, Marseille, France)
  - ★ **Winner** : Jury Prize
  - ★ **Winner** : Public Prize
- Rio WebFest (2021, Rio de Janeiro, Brésil)
- Rome International Movie Award (2021, Rome, Italie)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Webserie
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Director to Eric Piccoli
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Support Actress to Sarah-Maxine Racicot
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Actress Revelation to Charlee-Ann Paul
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Actor Revelation to Malik Gervais-Aubourg
- Slamdance Film Festival (2022, Park City, États-Unis)
- Festival TV de Luchon (2022, Luchon, France)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Short Program
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Screenwriting to Florence Lafond & Eric Piccoli
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Foreign Francophone Fiction
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Program without Drone
- Festival Internacional De Cine De Medellín (2022, Medellín, Colombie)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Webserie
- Florida Film Festival (2022, Floride, États-Unis)
- Die Serieale (2022, Giessen, Allemagne)
- Minnesota WebFest (2022, Minnesota, États-Unis)
- Numix (2022, Montréal, Québec)
  - ★ **Nomination** : Best Webserie
- BUEIFF Web Series (2022, Buenos Aires, Argentine)
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Webserie
  - ★ **Winner** : Best Director to Eric Piccoli
- Cinema Jove (2022, Valence, Espagne)



## ERIC PICCOLI — SCREENWRITER AND DIRECTOR

Eric Piccoli is a director, screenwriter and producer known for the fiction series TIME OUT, PUBLIC WRITER and WIPE ME AWAY.

Eric offers a social, sensitive and naturalistic cinema. In his works, he tells our need for empathy to live together in a better way, he questions the prison that can become an environment for living and he offers his voice to amplify those already existing of the left-behind.

## FILMOGRAPHIE

- Wipe Me Away (série, fiction, 2021)
- Le Dernier Felquiste (documentary series, 2020)
- Public Writer — Seasons 2 et 3 (série, fiction, 2019-2020)
- Mon père, Elvis (documentary, 2020)
- Cannabis illégal (documentary, 2018)
- Into the Creed: A Documentary on Community (documentary, 2017)
- Yes (documentary, 2016)
- The Miracle (2016)
- Projet-M (série, fiction, 2014)
- Temps Mort — Seasons 1, 2 et 3 (série, fiction, 2009, 2010, 2012)



## SPECIFICATIONS

Original title	Je voudrais qu'on m'efface
English title	Wipe me away
Genre	Fiction
Duration	8 x 20 minutes
Completion dATE	Mars 2021
Production Budget	430 845\$ CAD
Country of Origin	Canada
Country of Filming	Canada
Film Language	Français
Subtitles Availables	Anglais, français
Shooting Format	Alexa Mini 4K
Aspect Ratio	2:1 (letterbox, 16:9, 1080)
Size	1920x1080

Trailer (2 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q2CptqzbzM>



## CAST AND CREW

Director [Eric Piccoli](#)  
Screenwriters [Florence Lafond](#), [Eric Piccoli](#)  
Producers [Marco Frascarelli](#), [Eric Piccoli](#)  
Executif producers [Philippe-A. Allard](#), [Mathieu Paiement](#)  
Based on the book « [Je voudrais qu'on m'efface](#) »  
Based on the book written by [Anaïs Barbeau-Lavalette](#)  
An original series of [Babel films](#)  
First Asssistant Director [Benoit Marquette](#)  
Cinematographer [Philippe St-Gelais](#)  
Art Direction [Fanny Gauthier](#)  
Makeup Department [Marianne Pelletier](#)  
Costume Design [Perle Lefebvre](#)  
Sound [Thierry Bourgault D'Amico](#)  
Sound Mixers [Thierry Bourgault D'Amico](#)  
[Michael Binette](#)  
Editors [Justin Richard Dostie](#), [Eric Piccoli](#)  
Colorist [Vickie-Lynn Roy](#)  
Composer [Joseph Marchand](#)  
Childs Coach [Félix Ross](#)  
Casting [Marie-Charlotte Aubin](#)  
Behind the Scenes, Photographer [Priscillia Piccoli](#)

### Series Cast

[Charlee-Ann Paul](#), [Malik Gervais-Aubourg](#), [Sarah-Maxine Racicot](#), [Julie Perreault](#), [Jean-Nicolas Verreault](#), [Schelby Jean-Baptiste](#), [Anglesh Major](#), [Shawn Edmé](#), [Roberto Mei](#), [Marie-Evelyne Lessard](#), [Tracy Marcelin](#), [Jean Drolet](#), [Jade Barshee](#), [Isabel Dos Santos](#), [Jocelyn Bruno](#) alias [Dramatik](#), [Frédéric Pierre](#), [Marianne White](#), [Stuart Meyers](#), [Hubert Tremblay](#)

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[Crédit d'impôt fédéral](#)





Our team is behind Public Writer, The Rose Family, Le dernier felquiste and Wipe Me Away, winner of several Prix Gémmeaux and nominated twice at the International Emmy Awards. The company was born out of an ambition to create a flexible and lively production box.

In a world where the democratization of production, distribution and distribution methods is changing every day, we want to be able to adapt quickly to new realities.

Our goal is to achieve the perfect balance between substance and form in order to develop fiction and documentary narratives that are part of history.

## CONTACT

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