



Women in the spotlight

As more and more women joined the Parks, an increasing number of them progressed to every stage of FWS 2018. Their committed runs went over and above to offer the crowds some exceptional performances. With each edition, their development has continued, and the public is ever more aware of their participation. This year, women are in the spotlight as their sports expand across the world. Let's zoom in on some of the leading female athletes at FISE Montpellier!

Laurine LEMIEUX – age 20 – FRANCE – SKATEBOARD

Laurine collects titles! This young woman from Le Havre is already multiple French champion in Street and Bowl. Her raw style and stance – overhead lines and committed jumps – is an instantly recognised style of riding. She is among the leading French hopes for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, but even this pressure doesn't seem to disturb her.

Laury PEREZ – age 15 – FRANCE – BMX FREESTYLE PARK

Just after starting Scooter, this young Sérignaise discovered BMX. Adept at 360s, she loves big spines and trains every night after school to perfect new tricks. Thanks to strong family support, she hasn't missed a single stage of the FISE Xperience Series tour and has even been found on the ramps of the last stages of FWS.

Céline VAES – age 32 – FRANCE – BMX FLATLAND

If being in their thirties might deter some from starting a new discipline, it's certainly not been the case for this rider from Montpellier. Céline has been training at the city's BMX Flatland School since it opened. With world champions Alex Jumelin as coach and Raphaël Chiquet as husband, it's no surprise that she won the 2018 French Cup.

Nikita DUCARROZ – age 22 – SWITZERLAND – BMX FREESTYLE PARK

Half Swiss, half American, this dynamic 22-year-old now lives in California, an ideal place because of its many Parks. For the past 8 years, Nikita has been madly keen on pedalling her 20-inch bike – as intense on a funbox as when promoting her discipline. She's extremely active on social media and works hard to increase the visibility of women in the world of BMX Freestyle.



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Nina BUITRAGO – age 37 – USA – BMX FREESTYLE PARK

Nina is an iconic rider on the world BMX scene. Representative of female riders for UCI, she has recently been nominated by ESPN as one of the 20 toughest women in action sport. She demonstrates a passion for her role in women's BMX through her performances. Although Colorado might be her favourite place to ride, she has no problem leaving it for competitions around the world where she can showcase her skills.

Aleksandra SHEVCHENKO – age 32 – RUSSIA – PARKOUR

Aleksandra had to give up a high-level career in gymnastics following injuries in 2003, but she soon discovered a new passion – Parkour. This proved a perfect choice since both gymnastics and Parkour rely on the contestant's ability to perform high leaps. She began the year with a victory and a 2nd place – in two disciplines – and is a favourite coming to Montpellier.