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## FISE MONTPELLIER 2022

### Last but definitely not least day for BMX at FISE

#### AIRPLANE MODE

Where were you Saturday night? We've all heard this jealous question before, when our phone is left on airplane mode in the pocket. There are times at a festival where you let it go, where you no longer try to find your lost friends, where you forget to eat but not necessarily to drink, where you simply enjoy the present moment. At FISE we know that it takes place once a year on the town hall plaza, in this mysterious place where batman is probably hanging around, where we only go for administrative matters, at worst for a French tacos, best for a dip in the pool at the Marriott. But most of all it's this place where Thomas Debatisse and Catfish pump up a crowd of festival-goers who are only waiting for one thing: to hallucinate, in all legality. You will not be surprised to learn that the magic has once again worked with crazy actions on the famous spine ramp. We share this with you as it came into the world:

8th - Luis Rincon has recovered well from his best trick the day before and continues to impress us.

7th - Gustavo Oliveira continues to shine in all his chrome, he will be easy to follow in the future.

6th - Very good idea to rip Ashley Finlay's tshirt freeing a huge tattooed face on the back and also freeing his typical British madness.

5th - Daniel Dhers finishes his best run with lovely downside toothbunk that shows he still has so much fun on his bike. We like it.

4th - Kevin Peraza does the best 180 flip over spine in the world. Again, again, again!

3rd - An application is being developed to count the number of barspin in Jacob Thiem's 3.6... 4 according to the Darryl Nau patrol.

2nd - After a crazy energetic run, Kieran Reilly offers a double flair out of time and just for fun.

1st - The coordination required to perform a twix is insane (whip and bar in the same movement), congratulations Justin Dowell for mastering it perfectly. And a well deserved win.

All - The intensity of a spine ramp run is unthinkable, thanks to all the riders for this renewable energy every year. Now it's up to the festival-goer to continue getting lost in the night. We will meet again tomorrow for the last day.

## SNIPES UCI BMX FLATLAND WORLD CUP - FINAL

There are not a thousand solutions to beat the heat wave which still blushes the shoulders of FISE today. You can use water; it was done to clean the flat surface that serves as a stage for the extraordinary BMX flat riders. We can also look for this little wind coming from the sea. The air conditioning was started beforehand by the women final won by Julia Preuss.

Then it was a real squall from Japan that froze all local hopes of seeing Matthias Dandois (6th) achieve the miracle of winning a new FISE despite a sore foot. The Frenchman is not having a great day and a few errors penalize some of his best sequences. Same disappointment for Viki Gomez (8th) and his titanium bike of only 7 kilos. Too bad also for the Thailand rider "Toon" who is a treat to see riding but who does not land the very end of a sequence of more than one minute.

This lack of finish is obviously detrimental in a final of a very very high level. Not even a fiery Terry Adams can thwart the Japanese surge. He puts down his famous pedaling time machine to Katrina (in tribute to the inhabitants of his city of New Orleans) and gives the most intense look at the end to show to the crowd that he is in the zone. Once the 3 minutes have elapsed from this perfect run, he can resume his European family adventure, he finishes 5th behind Masato Ito and his famous rear brake. This rarity nowadays contributes to his unique style. His Decade are certainly easier, but he apologizes for this

by making them with amplitude. In addition, he offers us a very complicated last sequence that he lands perfectly on the pedals. Before him Yu Shoji had landed a fabulous run. He takes two minutes to warm up, taking his time to properly complete sequences that are less risky but which he masters wonderfully, switching between the front wheel and the rear wheel. And then, it was the blow of the mistral, the local wind, the will smith slap, a minute where he lands banger after banger in a flowing and modern style which had already seduced during qualifications. First with 91.83 pts at this stage, he sees his mentor Moto Sasaki accompany him in this whirlwind. The bronze medalist of the last Xgames in Tokyo has some combo that score a lot of points for their originality and their risk-taking. His pause with one foot on the pedal and one foot on the handlebar is just unlikely, a gift for The Agency photographers covering this FISE. Despite four lines landed without fail, he could not do better than 90 pts and finished third. So only Kio Hayakawa is left to win the title...

The young rider freshly welcomed in the big Redbull team, winner of the Nora Cup for Flat rider of the year, winner of all the major recent competitions continues to grab everything that comes his way. The announced tornado therefore does not shake and takes us back in time with ultra-creative entries and exits around an almost forgotten trick, the Time Machine. It concludes 3 minutes of total domination with a 360 bike flip landed just at the buzzer, enough to blow your hair off the thousands of spectators delighted to discover new faces, and to enjoy this fresh wind coming from Japan.



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## COURAGE ADAMS WINS THE BMX STREET!

It was an intense day on the Street Course for the BMX riders today as they had qualifications and finals to contend with.

Over 70 riders entered the qualification contest to compete for one of the 12 places in the afternoon final. The format for the finals was 2 heats of 6 riders, each rider had 2 runs of 50 seconds and it was the best run that counted. The performance of each rider was judged on overall impression including, but not limited to, variety of tricks and lines, execution, difficulty, versatility, originality, flow, style, bike control and landing.

All the riders were so impressive and the standard was really high as they all cheered each other on. In the end it was the man from Madrid Mr Courage Adams who was awarded the top prize scoring a huge 95 points. He rode with this characteristic control and style, linking tricks together with ease. He landed a flair, a trick we don't see much from him and managed to pull one of his insane nose manuals round the whole top of the park, on his second attempt. Jakub Pruzinec, from Slovakia continued his hot streak from quails and ended

up in second place once again. His 180 backward axel grind hard way out was a crowd favourite. In 3rd place on the podium it was French rider and FISE favourite Anthony Perrin who has just joined the Kink BMX Team. He pulled a nose manual on a really thin rail that was incredible.



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### NAKAMURA ABOVE THE RIM

After five days of festival, running through the village, excitement on all floors, the sound system stops almost as suddenly as a fly falling in the soup; the voice of the last living MC has just invited us to come back next year. So that's it, is it over? It's going to be hard to get back to normal given what just happened. Anthony Jeanjean was 15 seconds from a historical victory. After years of work, risk, focus on every aspect, incredible progress and here is the fan favorite to compete with the best. Who would've believed that? Himself obviously, and his trainer Guimez also to whom we must recognize the influence in the management of the young man competition. So this report of the UCI BMX Freestyle Park final begins with the ultimate spoiler to look back quicker to an historic finaly.

With 9 riders within less than 6 points at the top of the ranking, we were in the very definition of suspense. With 6 riders above 90 points we can speak of excellence. So let's resume the thread of this anthology moment. Brian Fox (6th) is the first to shine with his very impressive sequence of double flips transfer and 1080. With 90.8 pts he takes the lead in the first heat where Nick Bruce (4th) misses his first run, where José Torres (10th) does not show enough variety in his 360 combos. The Argentinian does not catch up on his second run unlike Nick Bruce who kills it when he puts down his bangers: triple whip flip, transfer in 36 triple whip. With 93.3 pts he takes the lead. About variety, Kevin Peraza (9th) is perhaps the best example in bmx. He has landed today undeniably the best run of his FISE career. Each ramp is touched with grace, but also with complicated tricks like this 360 downside whip to double cancan. This minute was a gift for all BMX lovers, the perfect fusion between all types of riding. With 89 pts, he cannot claim the podium but once again he added to his myth. Another BMX Freestyle shaman, Rim Nakamura



transported us to another dimension with his combos to watch in slow motion to fully understand the degree of difficulty: 360 windshield wiper, 360 whip catch to whip and a mind-blowing 720 double bar. Add amplitude and a sense of serenity, and you have your new leader. 95.30 points is now the score to beat.

Marcus Christopher is the first to give it two tries. Since the beginning of the week he has proven that he can join the fight for the podium, his pedaling power and his control do not leave room for chance. Despite two flawless runs, he just lacks an extra banger or two to tickle the top of the board. He finishes 5th. Justin Dowell (7th) does not find sufficient resources in his luggage of tricks to join the madness. His 36 twix, however, remains the greatest mystery of the 21st century. We then all imagine that Logan Martin has what it takes to get back in front of the Japanese. The usual fluidity that accompanies each tricks from the Australian is there, as usual, shall we say. We enjoy the incredibly hard and risquy 720 with a barspin in each rotation but would it be the slightly hung up triple whip that prevents it from scoring higher ? With 94.50 he positioned himself 2nd before his last run of the week end which unfortunately came to an end the fault of a missed landing on the forward bike flip.

It only remains for Anthony Jeanjean to rewrite the story ! Just that. His first run had confirmed that he had it in him; triple whip flip, chained double flip after the tuck no hander transfer; there was a minute of the highest level there. With 94.20 points he knew he had to add a few degrees of difficulty to his already well-set run. It starts very well in the second run with a whip placed in the crazy transfer. If he makes no mistakes, victory is possible. The public won over to his cause crosses his fingers, his legs too... Unfortunately, you know the end. The specific cause? A triple whip just missed fifteen seconds from the end. It's hard to regret anything when you get your best result at the FISE (3rd) and when it feels he has climbed another step towards the ultimate goal: the 2024 Paris Olympics. **An idea, a dream that seems more and more realistic.**



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