

## Transcript - Lex & Wasiu

### **1. Please introduce yourself and give us a brief description of Lex & Wasiu.**

Lex and Wasiu, authors and hosts of La Base, are back for a second season of episodes with a tinge of humour. Their experience of a modern Quebec reflects the image of the majority of young people who grew up in an urban, multicultural and multilingual environment: they are completely and authentically Québécois, but they assume their discrepancy with "mainstream" Quebec culture.

La base: Lex and Wasiu is not an "opinion" webseries as you can abundantly find already on the web. Rather, the co-hosts enjoy sharing their sociological observations from a new angle and with a lot of self-mockery. Their parallel perspective on our society allows them to hook a large number of young people who watch little or no Québec media. Their candid and refreshingly fragmented vision of the world allows them to tackle varied and eclectic subjects. In the company of emerging artists, but also of our favourite stars: we talk about gentrification by questioning our place in the societal spheres, we talk about love encounters, flirting, secrets to assume one's celibacy, we meet a superhero of the music scene and we draw the prototype of the superhero of diversity, we talk about small talk, science, social pressure, money, wealth, and we question the future to find out how we're going to get by... as a society.

### **2. Tell us where the idea behind the show originated from and about the process of developing it from an idea into reality.**

The idea for the series came from Lex, Wasiu, as well as former VICE member, who were the producers of season 1. From the ideation process to the production process, it's through a multitude of phases of conception, budget, pitch - etc that we can get there. You have to turn an idea into a concept and find an audience and broadcaster who will see the potential. The important thing is to always keep in mind the uniqueness of the content and to make sure that we will reach the largest audience possible with it.

### **3. How do you decide who to feature on the show and what topics/issues you talk about?**

First the themes of the episodes are chosen according to Lex and Wasiu personal experiences, points of view or referents. Then, we find the best guest with whom we think the theme could be developed in an original and surprising way.

**4. Lex and Wasiu are best friends in real life who host the show together. How does this dynamic contribute to the way the show is written, the approach and presentation of the show, etc?**

They have been friends for a very long time and their connection shows a lot on the screen. Beyond their working method, it is really when they host together that they are most capable of naturally demonstrating their complicity. Sometimes, it can lead to great surprises!

**5. The team behind Lex & Wasiu has a great deal of diversity. Why is it important to include a variety of voices and perspectives on a show like yours?**

It is essential to include team members from all walks of life in any production. Having a diversity of perspectives, experience and cultural backgrounds allows us to innovate and see beyond what we only know, because of our background. In the case of this series, it is in itself designed to draw the general public into the universe of Lex and Wasiu, so it is essential to be able to surround yourself with people who have the experience and credibility to help build their universe.

**6. Why do you think a show like yours is so relevant and necessary in 2021?**

For many reasons! First of all, because it entertains in a completely different way. The episode's topics, the clash between the guests and the questions, the stand-ups; each section of the show is entertaining, but educational at the same time. Second, because it is essential to give a voice to cultures other than the one that dominates our screens. And you don't just have to "make room for them", you have to give them all the room they need, i.e., to be at the head of a show and not just a guest, to decide on the topics, etc.