

PRESS RELEASE  
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## **EUROPEAN ANIMATION NEW TALENT COMES OUT AT CARTOON SPRINGBOARD ONLINE**

Europe's young animation talent takes to the stage at Cartoon Springboard, the pitching event that this year will bring together 22 new series and feature film projects created by students or graduates of animation schools from all over Europe. The selected projects will be presented to leading experts from the sector with the aim of improving and facilitating their access to the audiovisual market. Organised by CARTOON, the event was originally scheduled to take place in the Spanish city of Valencia on 27-29 October, but it was moved to an online format due to the global health emergency.

In addition to pitching their projects, the young producers and directors participating in the event will have the opportunity to enhance their projects through a special online edition with a mix of interactive and informative sessions carried out by experienced professionals. The programme will be open to professionals and students from all over the world, who will have the chance to view pre-recorded pitches and keynotes sessions through the Cartoon Springboard digital platform. They will also be able to listen to experts' feedback on the projects, and interact with other participants. Participation fee is 50 € (excl.VAT), and registration must be done before 9 October [here](#).

Due to its successful formula, Cartoon Springboard has also become a key event for producers looking for promising projects or interested in discovering new talent. The event has been tagged as a first step before Cartoon Forum and Cartoon Movie co-production events for animated series and features films. Since 2015, 19 projects have been selected at those events after their participation in Cartoon Springboard, confirming the success of this initiative. The event is supported by the Creative Europe MEDIA programme of the European Union, and Generalitat Valenciana, Institut Valencià de Cultura and the Polytechnic University of Valencia.

### **PROJECTS TOWARDS MATURITY**

The [shortlist](#) for this Cartoon Springboard's sixth edition is defined by the originality of concepts, stories & themes, with projects about friendship, love, hope, identity quest, and environment. The projects hail from Austria, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy,

Netherlands, Serbia, Spain and UK, and more than half of them have been conceived for the Young Adults/Adults audience, a growing trend in European animation. The selection also includes projects for Children, Family, Pre-schoolers, and Teenagers. Format-wise, TV Series make up the overwhelming majority followed by Web Series and Feature Films (17, 3 and 2, respectively).

France, Spain and Italy are the best represented countries at the event, with projects by graduates from L'Atelier, ESAAT, Gobelins and La Poudrière (France); Barreira, U-Tad, ESUPT and ECAM (Spain); and Scuola Internazionale di Comics and C.S.C Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia (Italy).

There are also projects from Denmark's ASF VGIK and The National Film School of Denmark; Germany's Filmuniversität Babelsberg "Konrad Wolf" and Animationsinstitut Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg; Ireland's Dún Laoghaire IADT; Budapest Metropolitan University (Hungary); HKU (Netherlands); Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture (Serbia); and Royal College of Arts (UK).

The group of experts in charge of guiding the project leaders is made up of acquisition and development managers from streaming platforms and tv channels' such as Sony Pictures Television, Adult Swim, Ketnet/VRT, France Télévisions and BBC Children, as well as consultants, scriptwriters and animation producers from companies such as Peekaboo Animation, Lightning Sprite Media, Blue Spirit Productions, Haruworks, Cartoon Saloon, Storyegg, MIAM! Animation, Dandeloo and Laïdak Films.

The complete list of speakers and experts and the programme can be found on [Cartoon Springboard website](#).

### **ABOUT CARTOON**

CARTOON is an international non-profit association based in Brussels organizing Cartoon Master training seminars, Cartoon Forum, along with Cartoon Movie, a co-production forum for feature-length animation.

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