



CARTOON MOVIE 2020 ANNOUNCES LINE-UP

The French city of Bordeaux will be the meeting place of the animation industry for the fourth consecutive year with the celebration of CARTOON MOVIE, the European co-production forum for animation feature films. From March 3 to 5, nearly 900 professionals from the sector will have the opportunity to get to know 66 new animation films in different stages of development: from in concept projects to films ready for their release this year. With France at the forefront, the event's roster adds up to 93 hours of animation and an overall investment of 458 million euros, with an average cost of 6.9 million euros per film.

FILMS READY TO CAPTIVATE AUDIENCES

The 5 films selected in the sneak preview category and the 6 ones in production had been previously presented as in concept or in development projects in this event organized by CARTOON - European Association of Animation Film.

We can mention the following:

- **CALAMITY, A CHILDHOOD OF MARTHA JANE CANNARY:** Rémi Chayé's second film after his debut ("Long Way North"). Based on the American historical figure of Calamity Jane, the film is a co-production between France and Denmark.
- **RAGGIE:** Aimed at pre-school children, this film based on an Estonian children's book by Eno Raud is directed by Meelis Arulepp and Karsten Kiilerich.
- **THE CROSSING** by French director Florence Mialhe is an oil painting animation story of immigration co-produced by France, Czech Republic and Germany.
- **THE ISLAND,** an "animated musical" directed by Romanian acclaimed director Anca Damian ("Marona's Fantastic Tale).

- **OOOPS! THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...:** A sequel to Sean McCormack & Toby Genkel successful adventure comedy co-produced by Germany, Luxembourg and Ireland.
- **THE NEIGHBOURS OF MY NEIGHBOURS ARE NEIGHBOURS OF MINE** by Léo Marchand & Anne-Laure Daffis, an atypical comedy for all audiences produced by French studios Lardux Films and Marmitafilms.
- **THE WALKING LIBERTY:** Set in an apocalyptic world, it's the third feature film by Italian director Alessandro Rak ("The Art of Happiness" and "Cinderella the Cat").

Animation for family audiences continues to prevail on the European production map, surpassing the 55% of the selected projects. The films aimed at Young Adults/Adults remain strong with a 20%, while animation for Children represents the 15% (10 projects). This wide scope of targets is reflected in the diversity of themes and genres addressed by the projects, which range from friendship stories, adventures, musical and romantic comedies, to historical dramas, film noire, suspense, animated documentaries and films about the relationship between man and nature.

FRANCE UNDISPUTED LEADERSHIP

With 23 selected projects, French animation has once again confirmed its leadership at European level. The country also participates as co-producer in 6 projects, leading the list of the most active co-producers in Europe, followed by Belgium, Denmark and Poland.

Renowned directors such as Benoît Chieux ("Aunt Hilda!"), Julien Fournet ("The Jungle Bunch 2"), Guillaume Ivernel ("Dragon Hunter") and Rémi Chayé ("Long Way North"), among others, are at the forefront of the French projects.

The Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, second pole of animation production in France after Paris – will be represented by 4 projects:

- **"ADAM AND THE MAGIC CLOUD"** (2d3D Animations) - company based in Angoulême. In development.
- **"DIOTIME AND THE LIONS"** (Les Productions Balthazar) - company based in Paris and Bordeaux. In concept.
- **"THE NEIGHBOURS OF MY NEIGHBOURS ARE NEIGHBOURS OF MINE"** (Lardux Films) - in co-production with Marmitafilms, company based in Bordeaux. In production.
- **"CALAMITY, A CHILDHOOD OF MARTHA JANE CANNARY"** (Maybe Movies) - Support from the Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine. Sneak preview.

ANIMATION FROM 20 COUNTRIES

Spain has doubled its last edition presence with 9 projects. **THEY SHOT THE PIANO PLAYER** and **TAD THE LOST EXPLORER AND THE CURSE OF THE MUMMY** are two of the most

eagerly awaited productions from this country. The first one is a new collaboration between the director Fernando Trueba and the designer Mariscal, after working together in the Oscar nominated “Chico & Rita”, while the second one is the new chapter in the Spanish blockbuster saga “Tad Jones”, directed by Enrique Gato.

Germany remains in the top 3 with six projects and titles such as **THE AMAZING MAURICE** – a 3D family film directed by Toby Genkel & Florian Westermann and produced by Ulysses Filmproduktion (“Oops! The Adventure Continues”, “Bayala” and “Luis and the Aliens”, among others) – and **THE LAST WHALE SINGER**, the new film by director Reza Memari (“Richard the Stork”).

Confirming its position of strength within the industry, **Denmark** will be represented by 5 projects, including **I AM HELENA** by Karla von Bengtson and produced by Copenhagen Bombay, and **PANDA BEAR IN AFRICA** by Karsten Kiilerich & Richard Claus. **Finland** and **Norway**, with one project each, complete the Nordic animation presence.

Italy and the **Netherlands** (with three projects each), **Belgium**, **Hungary** and the **UK** (two projects each), and **Austria**, **Croatia**, **Czech Republic**, **Estonia**, **Georgia**, **Poland**, **Romania**, **Serbia**, and **Ukraine** – all of them with one project each – round out a selection in which one third of the projects are co-productions.

NEW SYNERGIES

Cooperation between the publishing and the animation industry continues to grow: this Cartoon Movie edition will feature 21 book and comic book adaptations.

The line-up includes successful children’s book adaptations such as **THE HERMIT AND THE BEAR** by John Yeoman, **TAFITI** by Julia Boehme, **MOLESWORTH** written by Geoffrey Willans and Ronald Searle, **VERTE** by Marie Desplechin et Magali Huche, **THE CHARACTER OF RAIN** adaptation from the book of Belgian novelist Amelie Nothomb or **PLANET OF KIDS** film adaptation from the book “The Story of the Blue Planet” by Iceland’s Andri Snær Magnaso.

Comic books have also served as a starting point for several projects:

- **THE LEGENDARIES**: A High-fantasy story by Patrick Sobral. This 3D film will be directed by Guillaume Ivernel and Co-produced between France and Belgium.
- **GIRL AND WOLF**: An animated feature film for a young adult public based on the Roc Espinet's namesake graphic novel.
- **MELVILLE**: Belgian author and artist Romain Renard graphic novel adaptation.
- **THE SHREW OF DESTINY** A Polish 2D-animated feature based on the graphic novels by Tomasz Samojlik.

A delegation of publishers including Arcana (Canada); Mondadori Libri (Italy); Nobrow & SelfMadeHero (UK); WSOY (Finland); Steinkis, Editions Milan (France) and Salamandra

Graphic (Spain) will be present at the Cartoon Movie. They will discuss partnerships and promote their catalogues among European animation producers.

GAMES AND OTHER SCREENS

Some projects born from TV series, shorts and web series will also be presented at Bordeaux, such as **THE ANOOKI, OUR AMAZING ODYSSEY**, starring the popular characters of the web, **THE HORN QUARTET**, a France-Belgium co-production directed by Arnaud Demuyne & Benjamin Botella inspired on the TV special, and **TALENT SCOUT**, a feature film whose starting point is the Spanish Goya winning short film in 2019.

On Tuesday 3 March, before Cartoon Movie opening, a new CARTOON GAMES edition will be celebrated, an activity in which “animation meets transmedia”. Aimed at animation, gaming and transmedia professionals participating in Cartoon Movie, this professional meeting includes one-to-one meetings, and two keynotes to analyse the relationship between the animation, video games & transmedia industries.

***Cartoon Movie:** Since 1999, 364 films have been financially supported by CARTOON MOVIE with a total budget of 2.4 billion euros. Cartoon Movie is an annual forum aimed at strengthening the production and distribution of animated feature films in Europe organised by CARTOON with the support of Creative Europe - MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée), Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bordeaux Metropole, Invest Nouvelle-Aquitaine, the City of Bordeaux and le Pôle Image Magelis.*

***CARTOON – European Association of Animation Film** is an international non-profit association based in Brussels that organises Cartoon Movie, together with Cartoon Forum, a co-production forum for animated TV series, and Cartoon Master training seminars.*

Press materials: Poster of the event and high-resolution stills of the projects available for downloading in the Press Area: <http://www.cartoon-media.eu/home/press-login.htm> - Password: cmbordeaux2020

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