



Press release
19 January 2015

Cartoon Movie will gather together more than 700 animation film professionals from 4 to 6 March in Lyon

CARTOON MOVIE

From 4 to 6 March, Lyon will become the European capital of animation film: more than 700 animated feature film producers, investors, distributors, sales agents and video game companies from all of Europe and beyond will attend the 17th Cartoon Movie to create partnerships and co-productions, allowing the funding of around 20 animated feature films per year in Europe.

CARTOON GAMES

The Cartoon Games will take place on Wednesday 4th March, just before Cartoon Movie. Organised in collaboration with the Imaginove cluster, these meetings aim to foster partnerships upstream between animation producers and video game companies.

FESTIVAL "ON CARTOON DANS LE GRAND LYON"

At the same time as Cartoon Movie, 30 cinemas from the GRAC network will present the best recent European animation films to the general public of "la Métropole de Lyon" from 7 February to 6 March.

Famous directors to present their new films at Cartoon Movie

Among the projects in production, professionals will be able to enjoy the first images of "Dofus - book 1", a feature film version of the video game directed by **Anthony Roux** and **Jean-Jacques Denis** and "Young Perez" by **Jean-Jacques Kahn** and **Frank Van Leeuwen** which tells the story of a Jewish boxing champion in 1931 and his deportation to Auschwitz.

As for **Paul and Gaëtan Brizzi**, they participated in the making of two films: "The Repentant" and "Musketeers of the Tsar".

"Noël au Balcon" will also be presented in the presence of **Arthur Qwak** and **Didier Tronchet**. This film is also inspired by his comic book "Houppeland", Grand Prize of dark Humour in 1998.

Eight completed films, looking for some last international sales deals, will be presented including “Song of the Sea” directed by **Tomm Moore** and recently nominated for an Oscar 2015, “108 Demon-Kings” by **Pascal Morelli**, as well as two films adapted from comics “Moomins on the Riviera” by **Xavier Picard** and “Mortadelo & Filemon. Mission: implausible” by **Javier Fesser**. Distributors will also discover a cross-media project “Oops! Noah is gone...” by directors **Toby Genkel** and **Sean Mc Cormack**. The creation of a video game from the film came about following the meeting of a video game company, Mimimi Productions, during Cartoon Games.

European animation dares to discuss more and more complex topics

This new edition of Cartoon Movie again showcases the wealth of creation in the field of European animation film, with a wide variety of techniques and topics intended for all audiences.

In addition, the number of projects for young adults and adults is still important. The directors dare to tackle more and more complex political and historical themes, such as the fall of the Berlin Wall (“Fritzi - A miraculous revolutionary tale” by Balance Film), slavery (“L’affaire Furcy” by Tiktak Production), General Pinochet’s dictatorship (“The Radio” by Amelio Ortiz & Navarrete) or the grip of the Taliban (“The Swallows of Kabul” adapted from the novel by Yasmina Khadra and produced by Les Armateurs).

Meanwhile, "The Jungle Bunch" (TAT productions) and "Vic the Viking – The Movie" (Studio 100 Animation), both adaptations from successful series, will delight the whole family.

Music is also in the spotlight in two films: “Hoodoo” (Mozaic Productions) on the blues and “The Truth about Simon Nino” (Tama Filmproduktion) in memory of the famous jazz singer Nina Simone.

Also new: a film inspired by a manga of Jirô Taniguchi and Baky Yumemakura, “The Summit of the Gods” (Julianne Films).

And finally, “Vincent” (Submarine), a film based on Barbara Stok's celebrated graphic novel, is the first feature film about Vincent van Gogh's moving life story. Her unique style recalls the basic principles of the visual style of animation.

This year, Cartoon had a record number of submitted projects: 40% more than the previous edition. Cartoon selected **60 projects** from 17 European countries: 21 of them are in concept, 21 in development, 10 in production and 8 are completed films.

France will be represented by 25 projects, followed by Germany with 9, United Kingdom with 4 and Belgium, Italy and Ireland with 2 films each.

The variety of countries producing animated films is still growing, thanks to the vitality of the Nordic countries with 10 projects, and countries of Eastern Europe such as Poland and the Czech Republic.

4th edition of Cartoon Games on 4 March: 600 speed dating professionals

CARTOON and Imaginove, the cluster of image and digital content in Rhône-Alpes, are organising the 4th Cartoon Games, which consists of matchmaking sessions of 20 minutes each between animation film producers and video game companies. The aim is to encourage the players of both worlds to develop a common project both as a feature film and video game.

In 2014, 38 video-game and interactive content companies and 40 animated film producers met during more than 600 express meetings.

“On cartoon dans le Grand Lyon!” festival

At the same time as Cartoon Movie, the inhabitants of “la Métropole de Lyon” will have the opportunity to discover or rediscover a selection of great European animation films and have the privilege of meeting some iconic film directors at the festival “On cartoon dans le Grand Lyon”, organised by the network of cinemas, GRAC.

About CARTOON MOVIE

The 17th edition of Cartoon Movie is organised with the support of Creative Europe - MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l’image animée), the Rhône-Alpes Region, “la Métropole de Lyon” and in collaboration with the Imaginove cluster (Lyon). Since 1990, over 229 films pitched at Cartoon Movie, with a total budget of 1.5 billion Euros, have secured their financing and have been released thanks to this annual forum aimed at strengthening the production and distribution of animated feature films in Europe.

About CARTOON

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, Cartoon Master training seminars and Cartoon Connection, a programme intended to explore ways of reinforcing cooperation between EU and non-EU animation professionals.

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