



CARTOON FORUM IN “REAL LIFE”, A SPECIAL EDITION ADAPTED TO SANITARY PRECAUTIONS

- * *The co-production event for animation series will be held in Toulouse 14-17 September 2020.*
- * *86 new animation series from 24 European countries included in the line-up of the event.*
- * *The projects amount to a total budget of 357 million Euros and 486 hours of content.*

European animation is back on track with the 31st Cartoon Forum, the co-production event for animation series that will be held in the French city of Toulouse on 14-17 September 2020. Eighty-six original projects from all over Europe will be launched in this year's atypical edition focused on the business side of animation, as reflected in its motto "Business First". Cartoon Forum will be held under a strict biosafety protocol following the recommendations by the French government and the WHO, [as announced in June by CARTOON](#).

The 143 projects submitted to the Forum reflect the strength of a sector that did not come to a halt even during the global health emergency most critical period. In spite of this edition's exceptional conditions, producers will be presenting their projects in the flesh to the professionals attending the event, including decision makers, TV channels' and streaming platforms' heads of acquisitions, and other potential partners interested in European animation. The projects will take part in pitching sessions where producers will have the chance to talk their audiences into the distinctive concept and characters of their series.

A MAP OF EUROPEAN ANIMATION

Cartoon Forum's line-up offers a comprehensive overview of European animation, which is currently dominated by series aimed at 6-11-year-old children, produced in 2D animation and with 6-12 minutes episodes. Twenty-four European countries are involved in the projects, while another 8 countries outside the region participate as co-producers.

France leads the line-up with 34 projects, followed by Ireland (8), Denmark (6), Spain (6), and the UK (4), while Belgium, Finland, Germany, and Italy participate with 3 projects each. Led by Denmark, the Nordic countries presence amount to 10 projects, while 8 other projects hail from CEE countries, showing a growing trend in the number of projects from these geographic areas.

The selection includes projects from renowned production companies along with others that are growing fast internationally or production companies relying on young talent.

With an average cost of 4.1 million Euros per series, the 86 projects amount to a total budget of 357 million Euros and 486 hours of content.

Animation aimed at 6-11 children continues to lead the Forum's line-up with 35 projects (41%), closely followed by the series for pre-schoolers, which already account for the 35% (30 projects). Meanwhile, the number of projects aimed at Family Audiences (10 projects), Young-Adults (8 projects) and Teenagers (3 projects) remain stable.

Technical-wise, 66% of the projects rely on 2D animation and 22% on 3D CGI.

A COMMON SPACE

Renowned animation companies from all over Europe will be presenting their new projects in Toulouse, including France's Xilam Animation ("Gemma and the Defenders"), Dandelooo ("The Upside Down River"), Cyber Group Studios ("Monster In my Pocket"), Ellipsanime Productions ("Wonder Wai"), Vivement Lundi! ("Super-Lucha"), and Autour de Minuit ("Two Little Birds"), among others.

The line-up also includes new series by Denmark's Copenhagen Bombay ("Rabarbar"), Ireland's Dream Logic ("The Ghastly Ghoul"), Spain's Motion Pictures ("Agus & Monsters"), UK's Paper Owl Films ("Mr. Dog"), and Italy's Gertie Production ("Relè").

Some twenty of the selected projects are adaptations of comic books, books, and live-action films, including the French series "Open Bar" (Les films du poisson rouge) and "Zombillennium" (Maybe Movies) – based on the comic books by Fabcaro and Arthur de Pins, respectively.

Other highlights include UK's "Rocket Robbins" (Illuminated Films), based on the picture book series written by Nathan Bryon and illustrated by Dapo Adeola, Finland's "Belzebubs" (Pyjama Films), based on the webcomic created by JP Ahonen, and Netherlands' "Princess Arabella" (Phanta Animation), an adaptation of the picture book by Mylo Freeman.

The Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée Region continues to strengthen its presence with three projects: "Atla5, produced by Dwarf Ent. (Montpellier), "Obo, My Very Spatial Friend", produced by Digiblur (Toulouse), and "Immobile Stars", produced by Tripode Productions (Montclus).

CARTOON partnered with CEE Animation to promote the emergence of Eastern European projects; "Daisy & Dot" (KEDD, Hungary) and "Baldies" (Cofilm, Czech Rep.) were directly selected by the jury composed by experts from 5 CEE countries.

New talent represented by producers and directors working on their first projects hold a special place in Cartoon Forum's line up with projects such as "Hanna & Nana" (Jam Media, Ireland), "Baldies" (COFILM, Czech Rep.), "The Very Hairy Alphabet" (Eagle Eye, Germany), "Blue Figures" (Disnosc, France), and "Felix! He Can Explain Everything" (Sacrebleu Production, France). All of these projects were launched at [Cartoon Springboard](#), CARTOON'S pitching event devoted to young talent.

Other highlights include “Blue Figures” (Disnosc, France) and “Good Enough - Burnout Diary” (Studio Pupil, Netherlands), shortlisted in [Cartoon 360](#), CARTOON's pitching event for transmedia projects and IPs.

About CARTOON FORUM

Created in 1990 to boost the co-production and distribution of European animation for television and new media platforms, Cartoon Forum has helped 817 animation series obtain financing to the tune of over 2.81 billion Euros.

The main partners of Cartoon Forum Toulouse are Creative Europe - MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée), Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée Region, Mairie de Toulouse, Toulouse Métropole, Casino Barrière and France Télévisions.

About CARTOON

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

Cartoon Forum Director: Annick Maes - annick.maes@cartoon-media.eu - Tel: (+32) (0)2 242 93 43

Press Officer: Gerardo Michelin - gerardo@latindie.com - Tel: (+34) (630) 57 22 68

Press resources:

- Selected projects gallery:

<http://www.cartoon-media.eu/cartoon-forum/cartoon-forum-2020/discover-the-projects2020-1.htm>

- High res stills:

<http://www.cartoon-media.eu/home/press-login.htm>

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