

PRESS RELEASE  
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## THE EUROPEAN ANIMATION INDUSTRY COMES TOGETHER IN BORDEAUX AT THE 26<sup>TH</sup> CARTOON MOVIE

The French city of Bordeaux will be host to Cartoon Movie, the co-production and pitching event for European animated feature films organized yearly by CARTOON association. Fifty-five films from 16 countries will be pitched before more than 850 professionals looking to find new partners and speed up their production and international distribution. To be held on March 5-7, Cartoon Movie's 26<sup>th</sup> edition will cast its spotlight on the publishing sector with the aim of creating new synergies with the animation film industry.

France, Belgium, Germany, Spain, and Norway lead the event's line-up, mainly made up of in-development projects (34). The pitching sessions at the Bordeaux Congress Centre will also feature 13 in-concept projects, 4 films in-production, and 4 sneak-previews of yet-to-be-released films: "**Elli**" by Jesper Møller, Piet de Rycker & Jens Møller, "**Kensuke's Kingdom**" by Neil Boyle & Kirk Hendry, "**Living Large**" by Kristina Dufková, and "**SuperKlaus**" by Steven Majaury & Andrea Sebastiá.

Reflecting the richness and diversity of European animation, the selection features both celebrated and up-and-coming directors. **Alain Gagnol** ("Dog my cats!"), **Toby Genkel** ("Out of Frame"), **Patrick Imbert** ("The Wild Inside"), **Kari Juusonen & Jørgen Lerdam** ("Niko - Beyond the Northern Lights"), **Alessandro Rak** ("The Little Prince of Shangri-La"), or **Alain Ughetto** ("Rose and the Marmots") are some of the renowned helmers who will be pitching their new works at the event.

Amounting to 60% of the line-up, adventure films largely dominate a selection that also features other genres such as comedy, drama, action films, documentaries, musicals, fantasy, and sci-fi. The films address topics ranging from friendship and environmental concerns to sensitive issues such as inclusion, bullying, migration, health conditions, and political and gender issues, among others.

The full list of projects can be found [here](#).

## European animation at a glance

The projects total duration represents 76.5 hours, with an average length per film of 84'. The overall budget amounts to 397.6 MIO EUR, with an average cost per film of 7.2 MIO EUR.

French animation leads Cartoon Movie selection with 15 projects, including 4 from the Nouvelle-Aquitaine. Three of the latter are supported by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region: **“Into the Wonderwoods”** by Vincent Paronnaud & Alexis Ducord, **“Living Large”** by Kristina Dufková, and **“Picasso in Royan”** by Benoît Laure, which is also supported by the Département Charente together with **“The Line”** by Philippe Rolland.

Belgium, Germany, and Spain participate with 5 projects each. By regions, the Nordic countries have doubled their participation year-on-year with 9 projects, which break down as follows: Norway (4), Denmark (2), Sweden (2), and Finland (1). Also noteworthy is the sustained participation of the CEE countries, with 6 projects from Poland (3), Hungary (1), and Czech Republic (2), while Luxembourg has enhanced its profile with 3 projects as majority producer.

Thirty-seven projects (65%) are already co-productions between two or more partners, including 13 works involving non-Creative MEDIA countries.

Films aimed at family audiences are still in the majority with 31 works (56%), while 10 are aimed at Young Adults/Adults, other 10 at Children, 2 at Teenagers, and 2 at Pre-schoolers.

Regarding the animation techniques, 3D is on top with 24 projects, while 2D projects stand at 16. Fourteen projects combine 2D/3D, and one uses drawing as a technique.

## Books & Films: a close relationship

Adaptations of books, illustrated books, graphic novels and comics remain a major source of inspiration for the projects presented at Cartoon Movie. Hence, this year's Spotlight is dedicated to the publishing industry. Delegates from some 20 publishing companies from all over Europe will have the opportunity to present books with potential for screen adaptation, as well as to discover animation producers interested in enhancing their projects and IPs with new content.

With 15 projects (28%) based on books or graphic novels, the close relationship between the publishing and animation film industries is apparent in this year's line-up. This first **Spotlight on Publishers** is organized in collaboration with Frankfurter Buchmesse and VIP Brands.

In an effort aimed at the future of animation, Cartoon Movie features the **Coaching Programme** for 90 young talents and teachers from 12 local specialized schools to learn about the animation industry. In addition to them, 10 other students from Belgium schools will be participating in the programme.

Three prizes will be awarded at the event: **Eurimages Co-production Development Award**, an initiative by The Council of Europe's Eurimages Fund to encourage international co-production from the initial stages of an animation project; **Cartoon Movie Tributes**, which, voted by the participants at Cartoon Movie, recognize the Director, Distributor, and Producer of the Year, and **Euroregional Audiovisual Award**, a new joint initiative by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Euskadi Navarre Euroregion to promote the film industry in the three territories that in its first edition will be dedicated to animation.

Lastly, an activity looking to create synergies between the animation, video games & transmedia industries will take place on the opening day of the event. [Animation & Transmedia](#), as it is titled, will feature two roundtables and one-to-one meetings for animation professionals who wish to meet with video game companies and publishers.

### **About Cartoon Movie**

Since its first edition in 1999, 467 films have been financially supported by Cartoon Movie with a total budget of 3.06 billion EUR. Organised by CARTOON, Cartoon Movie is an annual forum aimed at strengthening the production and distribution of animated feature films in Europe. The event has the support of Creative Europe - MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée), Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bordeaux Métropole, and 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 the training seminars Cartoon Springboard, CartoonNext, and Cartoon Business.

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[Images of the selected projects for Cartoon Movie 2024.](#)