

Cartoon Movie

3-5 March 2026

Bordeaux, Nouvelle-Aquitaine

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PRESS KIT

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KINDRED SPIRITS



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CARTOON MOVIE

The European rendez-vous for animation film professionals

More than 800 producers, distributors, sales agents, investors, video game companies, book editors, streamers and new media players will meet from 3 to 5 March during **the 28th Cartoon Movie**, the European co-production forum for feature-length animation films.

The aim? To create partnerships and co-productions, allowing the funding of around 20 animated feature films per year in Europe.

50 projects from 21 countries have been selected to be pitched at Cartoon Movie 2026: 12 of them are in concept, 30 in development, 7 in production and 1 in sneak preview. France will be represented by 15 projects, followed by Germany with 6 and Spain with 5. The countries of Central and Eastern Europe (Czech Republic, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Poland and Romania) account for a total of 11 projects, while the Nordic region — Denmark, Norway and Sweden — feature 4 projects. Belgium, Italy, Ireland and the Netherlands present 2 projects each, while Austria, Greece, Luxembourg and Ukraine wrap up the list with one film each.

8 projects hail from the regional territory. 5 projects are supported by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region, and accompanied by ALCA: **“Blaise”** (KG Productions), **“Detective Kibbles”** (La Station Animation and likely be produced in the Angoulême studios), **“Jim Queen”** (Bobbypills), **“Pangea”** (Miyu Productions) and **“Smecheria or the Confidences of a Cheat”** (Hutong Productions as co-producer).

In addition, **“Happy Hunting vs the Apocalypse”** is produced by Bordeaux-based Kawanimation and **“Firebird”** is co-produced by Novanima Production which is based in Nouvelle-Aquitaine. Lastly, the regional co-writers and co-directors Chintis Lundgren & Draško Ivezić are involved in **“Saima: Scenes From a Midlife Crisis”** and **“Jim Queen”** is supported by the Charente Department.

With 46% of the selected projects, **family features remain the focus of the European animated films production**: **“Gingerbread Town”** (Den siste skilling - Norway, Knudsen Pictures - Germany, Artichoke - Slovakia & Ink & Light - Ireland), **“Halloween vs. Day of the Dead”** (Studio 100 International - Germany & 3Doubles Producciones - Spain), **“Cornebidouille”** (Les Armateurs & Folimage - France), **“Nine Lives Left”** (Wild at Heart - Greece) and **“Once Upon an Egg”** (Keplerfilm - Netherlands) among others...

The number of projects targetting **young adults and adults is still on the rise, with 38% of the selection** (30% in 2025), with very diverse projects such as: **“Igi”** (20 Steps Animation - Georgia & Heretic - Greece), **“Kigali Night”** (Parmi les lucioles films - France, Eklektik Productions - Belgium & Melusine Studio - Luxembourg), **“Night Tram”** (Negativ - Czechia, Sacrebleu Productions - France, BFilm - Slovakia & ArtShot - Lithuania) & **“Until Death Unites Us”** (GS Animation - Poland), among others...

8 of the projects selected this year at Cartoon Movie had previously participated in this event or in other CARTOON events in earlier stages of development.

Some projects already pitched at Cartoon Movie years ago, such as **“Dreamwalker”** (Vivi Film - Belgium, Parmi les lucioles films - France & Lighthouse Studios - Ireland) or **“Pirate Mo and the Legend of the Red Ruby”** (Ulysses Filmproduktion & Letterbox Filmproduktion - Germany, arx anima animation studio - Austria & Arxlight Pictures - Spain)...

Whereas other projects, such as **“Aya in the Desert”** (Alhena Production - Spain) and **“Silence Sometimes”** (Filmmakers Monkeys - Spain & Anima Estudios - Mexico), **were both pitched at [Cartoon Springboard](#)**, the pitching event for young talents of European animation schools.

PITCHED AT CARTOON MOVIE

NOMINEES AT THE 2026 EUROPEAN FILM AWARDS

- **“Arco”** France
(*Cartoon Movie 2021*)
- **“Little Amelie”** France
(*Cartoon Movie 2020 & 2021*)
- **“Olivia and the Invisible Earthquake”** Spain,
France, Belgium, Switzerland & Chile
(*Cartoon Movie 2020*)
- **“Tales From the Magic Garden”** Czechia,
France, Slovenia & Slovakia (*Cartoon Movie
2019 & 2025*)

> **Winner : “Arco”** France
Directed by Ugo Bienvenu

2026 GOLDEN GLOBES NOMINEES

- **“Arco”** France
- **“Little Amelie”** France

2026 OSCARS NOMINEES

- **“Arco”** France
- **“Little Amelie”** France

SELECTED TO THE 2026 BAFTA

NOMINATED FOR BEST ANIMATED FILM

- **“Little Amelie”** France

NOMINATED FOR BEST CHILDREN’S AND FAMILY FILM

- **“Arco”** France

2026 CÉSAR NOMINEES

- **“Little Amelie”** France
- **“Arco”** France



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HOW DOES CARTOON MOVIE WORK?

YOU CREATE, WE CONNECT
NETWORKING & CO-PRO EVENT

Cartoon Movie is neither a fair nor a festival, but rather a **co-production forum for European animated feature films**. European producers have the opportunity to **pitch their project to all potential financial partners** gathered in the same room, in order to:

- **Speed up financing of their project,**
- **Find co-production partners and cross-border cooperation,**
- **Catch the eye of European and international distributors and sales agents.**

The particularity of Cartoon Movie is that projects can be presented from the stage of concept, as well as in development, in production and in sneak preview. It is therefore the whole industrial and economic network that takes part in the development of the film, which increases tenfold the producer's opportunities for success.

CROISSANT SHOWS

To start the day, all the participant share an animated breakfast, the traditional "Croissant Shows", and watch on a giant screen the trailers of the projects to be presented in the morning, while sipping their coffee.

The aim is to visually introduce each project on an equal basis in front of all the participants and to encourage the financial partners to attend the «pitching» sessions.

The projects to be pitched in the afternoon will have their trailers shown at the "Coffee Shows", after lunch.

PITCHING SESSIONS

The pitching sessions will take place in two studios simultaneously at a day and time set by CARTOON.

The allocated time depends on the category of the project:

- Projects in concept: 10 minutes
- Projects in development: 20 minutes (+10 minutes for get in/out)
- Films in production: 20 minutes (incl. 5 minutes of screening) (+10 minutes for get in/out)
- Films in sneak preview: for completed films (released later in the year) an extract of 15 minutes and a brief introduction (3 minutes) by the producer and/or distributor/sales agent.

The producers, often accompanied by their creative team, give details on all aspects of the project: concept, graphics, characters, story, planning, financing status, and viewer expectations.

At the end of each pitch a special space called «Extra Time» is set up at the exit of each studio for longer discussions or interviews and to facilitate negotiations.

THE MOBILE CARTOON MOVIE APPLICATION

“CARTOON Events” is CARTOON’s **mobile app** and displays the following functionalities:

Regarding the projects:

- All information concerning the selected projects (web announcement, contacts, etc.).
- A **digital agenda** to choose the pitches to which to assist.
- A **feedback form** to complete in order to facilitate contact and useful feedback to producers (new: possibility for the pitching producers to share the received feedback forms).

Regarding the other participants:

- A “**Chat**” section allowing participants to communicate with each other (including the picture of each participant).
- A **participants’ directory** gathering the contacts of all the registered participants and the profile of the companies will be available.

Regarding the event:

- A **voting system for the Tributes**.
- A **map of Bordeaux** with all practical information concerning the event (places, addresses, pharmacies, restaurants, etc).
- Direct access to important **documents related to accommodation** (vouchers...)
- The possibility to **choose your own password**.

THE “BUYERS” WEB SECTION

- The “**Buyers**” section on our website continues to be updated very regularly.
- In addition to our sustainable approach, our efforts have also been deployed in the development of our digital tools (website and mobile application) allowing us to centralize information and facilitate the experience of Cartoon Movie participants. This edition is our second one **without an e-catalogue, replaced by the extension of our mobile application and website**.





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Cartoon Movie 2026 - Program

Tues 3 March

**CARTOON TALKS:
KEYNOTES**
(14:00 - 16:00)

One-to-one meetings
(16:40 - 18:40)

Wed 4 March

Croissant show (9:00)

Pitching sessions
(10:00 - 13:15)

**Lunch
Coffee Show**

Pitching sessions
(14:45 - 19:00)

Thu 5 March

Croissant show (9:00)

Pitching sessions
(9:45 - 13:00)

**Lunch + Eurimages Co-production
Development Award + Tributes Awards 2026
+ Coffee Show**

Pitching sessions
(15:00 - 17:30)

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CARTOON MOVIE 2026 STATISTICS

PARTICIPANTS

More than 800 participants expected
+40 nationalities

PROJECTS

50 projects of animated feature films will be presented this year from 21 European countries for a total budget of 275.3 MIO EUR, representing 69 programme hours.

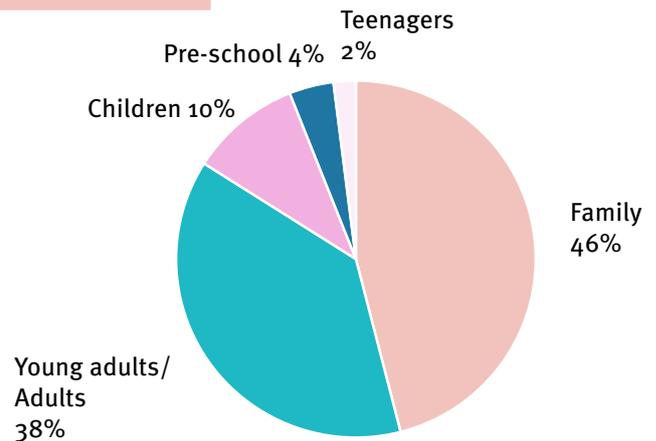
By nationality (main producer)

France	15
Germany	6
Spain	5
Czechia	3
Poland	3
Norway	2
Netherlands	2
Belgium	2
Italy	2
Ireland	2
Sweden	1
Romania	1
Georgia	1
Denmark	1
Austria	1
Greece	1
Ukraine	1
Hungary	1
Luxembourg	1
Croatia	1
Estonia	1

By category

Projects in concept	12
Projects in development	30
Films in production	7
Films in sneak preview	1
Total	50

BY TARGET



BY BUDGET (M EUR)

Less than 2 MIO EUR	4
2-3 MIO EUR	5
3-4 MIO EUR	11
4-7 MIO EUR	14
7-10 MIO EUR	11
More than 10 MIO EUR	5

Projects in concept

- Smecheria or the Confidence of a Cheat** by Antoine Fontaine
 An animated documentary immersing viewers in the shadowy and hypnotic world of the shell game, a notorious street scam where players must find a ball hidden under one of three cups. At its core is Doru, a 60-year-old Romanian player whose life is as elusive as the game itself: a labyrinth of illusions and manipulations. As Doru reveals the secrets of the game and recounts his nomadic life story across Europe to the director Antoine, the line between reality and illusion begins to blur, until the world itself feels like one grand shell game.

Prod.: Walking the Dog (Belgium), Hutong Productions (France) & Aparte Film (Romania)

Target: Young adults/adults

- Lollipop Tattoo** by Lisa Marie Russo
 Lollipop Tattoo explores the creator's surreal odyssey of tackling breast cancer. Twice. Her avatar, Eva, slips into youthful memories of seaside attractions and sunshine, which morph into something dark and corporeal as she juggles family life and illness. Rosebud, her husband, struggles to support Eva emotionally and she relies on her best friend Crystal, while their son Angelo's needs and moods change. Eva's mom in the US, Shortie, overcome with grief for her deceased son Dean, can't cope. A decade later, Eva comes out the other side, having been touched both mentally and physically, but still standing.

Prod.: Panoramime (France), Puffin Pictures (France) & Fly Film (UK)

Target: Young adults/adults

- Riamise** by Francesco Forti and Hirokazu Kojima
 Riamise is a city without water, consumed by drought, crime, and giant reptiles — the last creatures on Earth. While the rich thrive, two clans battle for control, and order collapses when the police commissioner — Jona's father — is murdered.

Prod.: IBRIDO Studio (Italy), Something Big (France) & Studio 4°C (Japan)

Target: Teenagers

- Sander's Midsummer** by Hanne Berkaak
 Sander (14) conceals his wounds beneath strict routines and a flawless surface. Forced to celebrate Midsummer at his grandmother's chaotic country house, his worst nightmares come true. He is transported to a floral fantasy world with everything Sander detests: untamed nature, impulsive creatures, and a total lack of discipline. When he meets the enchanting Solar Queen, Sander finds a counterpart in his strive for order. But the Solar Queen is planning a gruesome Midsummer ritual, and Sander must confront his worst fear: revealing his own imperfection and vulnerability.

Prod.: Mikrofilm (Norway), Den siste skilling (Norway) & Knudsen Pictures (Germany)

Target: Family

Projects in development

- Billie Beat** by Nina Wels and Timo Berg
 What if you want to be a rock star - but you stink? Skunk girl Billie loves playing the drums, but to get into a cool girl band, she prefers to dress up as a squirrel. Of course, this gets her into a lot of trouble and eventually Billie has to learn that her dream of having her own band can only come true if she stands up for herself and her community.

Prod.: Little Dream Entertainment (Germany)

Target: Family

- Cosmo Princess** by Quentin Rigaux
 Somewhere in the endless cosmos, a lost astronaut and a cosmic princess collide on a perilous odyssey, a quest that might forever reshape their destinies... and the fate of the universe itself.

Prod.: Sacrebleu Productions (France)

Target: Family

- Ejo** by Jacek Rokosz
 Rwanda. Summer of 1994. Didi (12) survived thanks to her smarts and hatred for all living creatures, especially humans. Eric (8) survived thanks to his wild imagination and sensitivity. The two kids of opposite tribes are forced to venture together into the post massacre land in search for food, new home and their lost souls.

Prod.: Animoon (Poland) / Special Touch Studios (France) & Basement Animation Company (Nigeria)

Target: Young adults/adults

- Hakim's Odyssey** by Patrick Imbert
 Hakim, a young Syrian nurseryman, sees his life turned upside down when civil war breaks out. Forced to flee, he travels across the Middle East, driven by a single idea: to keep moving forward.

In Turkey, he meets Najmeh, a fellow exile. Their love gives birth to Hadi, and with him, the hope of a happier life.

Resourceful as ever, Hakim becomes a pastry chef, a tour guide or a taxi driver. But the life of a refugee is precarious, and xenophobia is ever-present. When Najmeh manages to reach France thanks to a visa, it marks yet another trial for Hakim. Determined to reach Europe clandestinely, Hakim sells everything he owns and makes the fateful decision to cross the Mediterranean with his son.

Prod.: Folivari & Solab Films (France)

Target: Young adults/adults

- Kindred Spirits** by Tomm Moore
 An Irish refugee child alone in New York of 1847. A Choctaw son far from the warmth of his family. When their paths align, Mara and Tushka will journey through epic adventures and magical encounters, watched over by Mara's brother Dan, who cannot accept his own passing into the spirit realm. Together they are searching for a people to call family and a place to call home. Exploring the historic bond between

Films in production

› **Blaise** by Dimitri Planchon & Jean-Paul Guigue

The Sauvage family would just like to be loved. Carole knows her employees hate her, so she does everything she can to change that. Jacques, her husband, has never worked a day in his life and doesn't feel respected. As for Blaise, their 16-year-old son, solitary, introverted and lacking in conviction, always agrees cautiously to everyone and everything. To this girl, Joséphine, for example, whom he meets at a party. OK, he too is a militant. OK, he's also a rebel... OK, he's ready to blow things up!

Prod.: KG Productions (France)

Target: Young adults/adults

› **Igi** by Natia Nikolashvili

In prehistoric times, within the quadrupedal tribe of primitive hunter-gatherers lives IGI, a young boy who ultimately becomes the first to stand upright in a society of stooped individuals. 'No one stands like this,' the New Chief declares, forcefully bending IGI back into the expected posture.

Now, IGI faces a crucial choice: to conform and suppress his exceptional abilities, blending in with others, or to delve deeper into his gifts and risk exile from the only safe home he knows.

Prod.: 20 Steps Animation (Georgia) & Heretic (Greece)

Target: Young adults/adults

› **Monster Mia** by Verena Fels

Twelve-year-old Mia feels out of place in the perfect town of Primrose Valley, especially compared to her flawless twin sister. After repeated trouble at school, she's sent to the eerie Rotwood Academy, where she discovers her classmates are real monsters—and she must hide the fact that she's human. As she befriends a vegan vampire named Paprika and a clumsy monster called Oscar, Mia finally finds a place where she belongs. But when the headmaster plots to turn all humans into monsters, Mia and her friends must stop him and prove that being different is a strength.

Prod.: arx anima animation studio (Austria), Peng-Boom-Tschak Films (Germany), arx anima MD (Germany) & Arxlight Pictures (Spain)

Target: Family

› **Starseed** by Anca Damian

In a Zimbabwean township facing the drying up of the river, three children witness the arrival of a strange visitor who claims to come from the future. Loveness, a brave little albino girl, seizes the opportunity and saves the goddess of water, trapped in the knot of time.

Prod.: Aparte Film (Romania) / Special Touch Studios (France) / Yzanakio (Canada) / Quetzalcoatl (Belgium), Wrong Men (Belgium) & Known Associates Group (South Africa)

Target: Family

Film in sneak preview

› **Jim Queen** by Marco Nguyen and Nicolas Athane

On the Parisian gay scene, Jim is the king of Gym Queens, the sexiest and most coveted community on social media. One day, he realises he's been infected with Heterosis, a strange virus decimating the community and turning gay men into... heterosexuals! Jim loses his throne and is abandoned by his entire entourage. All but one follower: Lucien, a scrawny young virgin. Together, they set off on a journey across the Marais (the Parisian gay village), in search of the mysterious Doctor Ragout, who claims to have found a cure for the virus. This cure could not only save Jim, but also prevent the extinction of homosexuality.

5 of the 8 projects selected in production and sneak preview stages participated in Cartoon Movie in concept or development stages before:

"Starseed" pitched in concept in 2021 and in development in 2022; **"Detective Kibbles"** participated in development in 2020; **"Igi"** was selected in concept in 2021 and finally **"Pirate Mo and the Legend of the Red Ruby"** [1] (In development) and **"Jim Queen"** [2] (In concept) were both pitched in 2023.



TUESDAY 3 MARCH

OBJECTIVES & CONTENT

The “**Coaching Programme**” is a training initiative through which young talents from local well-known specialised schools will have a large overview of the animation industry and the challenges of launching a project through the various steps of the production of the feature films, the trends of the market, success of the creators, the difficulties encountered by the director, the writer or producer and resolutions, the role of each, the budget and the financial package, partnerships with other countries, etc.

Implanted in Bordeaux since 2017, this initiative benefits 11 local schools. The number of students participating follows a similar pattern, they now represent approximately **10% of all Cartoon Movie’s participants**.

This year more than 80 students and teachers will attend the “Coaching Programme”. **The schools taking part this year** are 3iS Bordeaux, BRASSART Bordeaux, e-artsup Bordeaux, Ecole de Condé Bordeaux, Ecole Emile Cohl Angoulême, Ecole des Métiers du Cinéma, d’Animation (EMCA Angoulême), ECV Bordeaux, L’Atelier Angoulême, MJM Graphic Design Bordeaux, Université Bordeaux Montaigne et YNOV Campus Bordeaux. 2 Belgian schools also take part to this initiative: Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Visuels de la Cambre (ENSAV) and Haute Ecole Albert Jacquard (HEAJ) ; **13 schools in total**.

<https://www.cartoon-media.eu/movie/programme/coaching-programme>

HELPING THE INTEGRATION IN THE WORLD OF WORK

The “Coaching Programme” stands as an **opportunity for students to learn more about the sector, its opportunities and challenges and how to better integrate it** by meeting both national and local professionals during masterclasses and one-to-one meetings, and therefore doubling-down with their academic experiences at school.

The Nouvelle-Aquitaine Région being the second pole for animation in France, the “Coaching Programme” is also included in regional development by **connecting local students and professionals and cultivating the regional ecosystem** through the **Job Fair (“Bourse à l’Emploi”)**. These one-to-one meetings are an opportunity for future professionals to show their work, get feedback, exchange on the reality of a working in the industry and find an internship or a first job in video games companies or animation studios.

The novelty for the 2026 edition: **the Elevator Pitch**, a workshop that will be organized to allow students to train pitching! Presenting a project convincingly in the time it takes to ride an elevator - that’s the goal of the Elevator Pitch Workshop, where students will have a few minutes to pitch their animation project to a professional from the animation sector, who will give immediate feedback afterward, along with advice and recommendations.

BRINGING LIGHT ON YOUNG AND FUTURE TALENTS

Since 2017, **7 projects of young talents** who participated in the “Coaching Programme” have been pitched at other Cartoon events, among them:

- “Surkotés” pitched at Cartoon Springboard 2022.
- “The Mission” pitched at Cartoon Springboard 2021
- “Agent B. and Spy D.” pitched at Cartoon Springboard 2020
- “Atlas and the Hidden Doors” pitched at Cartoon Springboard 2019

PROGRAM

- Presentation of **CARTOON and Cartoon Movie** by Agnès Bizzaro
- Presentation of **ALCA Nouvelle-Aquitaine (Agence livre, cinema et audiovisuel)** by Ingrid Florin Muller
- Masterclass “How to make a good pitch and the tips to get there” by Agnès Bizzaro
- Masterclass “Animation at France Télévisions, focus on short films” by Joseph Jacquet

- **14:20 - 18:40: “Job Market/Bourse à l’Emploi” initiative:** Registered students will meet local professionals of the image industry (video games, animation...) to network and potentially find their next internship or futur job.
- **14:20 - 18:40: “Elevator Pitch” workshop:** Selected students will train their pitching skills through individual meetings with Agnès Bizzaro.



3 MARCH FROM 14:00 TO 18:40

RÉGION
Nouvelle-
AquitaineBORDEAUX
MÉTROPOLEAGENCE LIVRE
CINÉMA & AUDIOVISUEL
EN NOUVELLE-AQUITAINEMagelis
Pôle des industries créatives d'Angoulême

cobo



OBJECTIVES & CONTENT

- To create synergies between the animation & transmedia industries.
- To encourage producers to bring their transmedia partner at the same early stage as the co-producer and the distributor in the process of a feature film.
- To foster the concurrent development of a feature film and game or apps/transmedia approach based on the same characters and graphic bible, like major hit films.

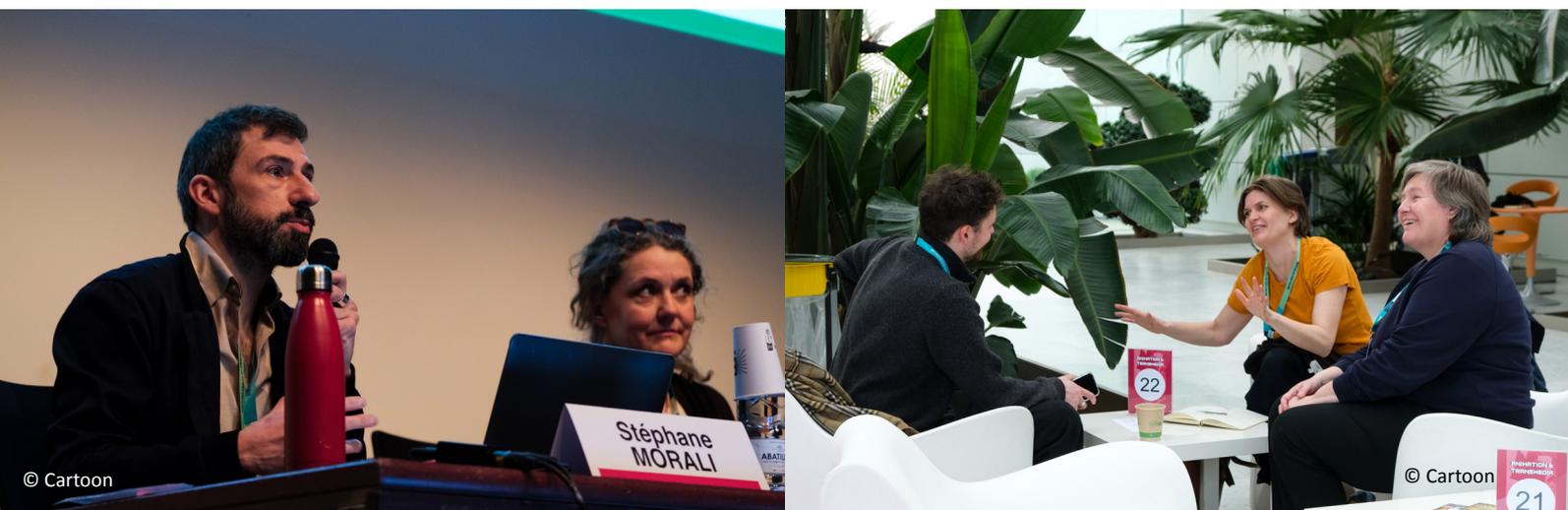
GENERAL SCHEDULE

Animation & Transmedia will take place on **3 March, from 14:00 to 18:40 in the Congress Centre of Bordeaux-Lac.**

14:00 - 16:00 : Keynotes

- **14:00-14:30 Presentation of the Green Distribution Toolbox by Christine Eloy of Europa Distribution (BE)**
Moderated by John Lomas-Bullivant
- **14:30-15:00 "Green animation standards: public consultation launch" by Adrien Roche of Ecoprod (FR)**
Moderated by John Lomas-Bullivant
- **15:00-16:00 "XR and Cinema : similarities and differences of two majors narrative medias" by Francis Gelin of Couleur.tv (CAN) & Matthieu Lépine of Immersion (FR)**
Moderated by Aymeric Castaing

16:40 - 18:40 : Organised One-to-one meetings





ANIMATION IN THE FRENCH AUDIOVISUAL MARKET

France remains the leading animation producer in Europe and continues to rank among the world's major animation countries. It confirmed its position as the 4th largest commissioning country for animated series worldwide, behind the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. Animation remains the leading French genre exported in international cinemas. After the post-COVID recovery, the sector has entered a phase of consolidation: television continues to be the backbone of financing and exposure, while global demand from streaming platforms has slowed compared with previous years. International competition has intensified and French animation is currently less performant internationally than in previous years, particularly compared with major American franchises. Co-production remains a structural pillar of the sector, as animation is a costly genre: foreign pre-financing plays a more important role than in other audiovisual fields, with European partners such as Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany remaining key contributors.

CHANGES IN BROADCASTING AND DISTRIBUTION

Television remains the main distribution channel for French animated works and continues to structure the ecosystem, while animation circulates across complementary windows including theatrical release and video-on-demand services. Although platforms still offer large animation catalogues, their expansion benefits French works only marginally, as commissions decline and investments from European TV groups decrease. At the same time, digital platforms such as YouTube have become unavoidable players for youth content, particularly for short and recurring formats.

ANIMATED CINEMA: A DYNAMIC BUT COSTLY GENRE

French animated feature films continue to demonstrate strong production dynamics and a high level of artistic diversity. Animation is one of the most expensive film genres to produce and relies heavily on external financing. Compared with live-action fiction, the contribution of French broadcasters to the financing of animated feature films remains structurally weaker, while the share of foreign pre-financing is significantly higher. As a result, international and European co-productions have become essential to the economic viability of animated films, playing a central role alongside public support mechanisms. While theatrical attendance in France is largely driven by major American franchises, French animated films continue to maintain a visible presence in cinemas, with several titles ranking among the top animated releases in 2025.

THE FRENCH ANIMATION MARKET TODAY

France's animation ecosystem stands out for the density of its production companies, the strength of its public support system and the scale of employment it generates. In recent years, the sector has counted close to 200 animation production companies and around 10,000 jobs, making animation one of the most structured and industrialised creative sectors in France. Employment remains concentrated, with a limited number of major studios accounting for more than half of total payroll, alongside a large network of small and medium-sized companies. In a context of global market adjustment and tighter financing conditions, French animation remains a strategic cultural and economic asset, supported by a strong domestic market and an internationally recognised reputation for creative excellence.

Source: «Les tendances du marché de l'animation française édition (2025)» by the CNC (published in November 2025)

FRANCE TELEVISIONS

france.tv France Télévisions is the leading animation curator in Europe with more than 15 series and 3 animated films produced each year by independent French studios.

France Télévisions is the first clear partner of French cinema, supporting creators and putting cinema at the heart of its cultural ambition. All year long, we offer a wide selection of films on our antennas and our france.tv platform that are both eclectic and demanding, and we convey to all audiences the desire to go to the dark rooms.

Major partner of French cinema and first funding agency, France Télévisions supports all forms of creation through its programs.

With 60 films co-produced each year, more than 60 million euros are invested in film creation. It is also 45 to 50 partnerships to support the films at the time of their release. With 400 films broadcast each year, France Télévisions offers works for all audiences on all its channels, and the france.tv platform completes this offer with 200 works available free of charge in free and legal streaming. Thriller, sagas, comedies, romantic comedies, animation, real cinema, there is something for everyone.

France Télévisions is proud to be associated with this 28th edition and for the next two years with this essential European event for creativity and productions of European animated films.

SolabFilms & Folivari

HAKIM'S Odyssey



AN AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTION SECTOR

Many films partially made in Nouvelle-Aquitaine have been distinguished with the highest honours and are still remembered today. These full-feature films were either co-produced or made in the many studios of the region (Miyu, Novanima, 3.0 Studio, Les films du poisson rouge, 2 Minutes, Shan Two, Blue Spirit).

Cesar Award for Best Animated Film:

- *“Chicken for Linda!”* (directed by Chiara Malta and Sébastien Laudenbach) in 2024
- *“Josep”* (directed by Aurel) in 2021
- *“My Life as a Courgette”* (directed by Claude Barras) in 2017

Cristal for a Feature Film at Annecy’s animation festival:

- *“Chicken for Linda!”* in 2023
- *“Little Nicholas: Happy as can be”* (directed by Amandine Fredon and Benjamin Massoubre) in 2022
- *“Calamity, a Childhood of Martha Jane Canary”* (directed by Rémi Chayé) in 2020
- *“The Bears’ Famous Invasion of Sicily”* (directed by Lorenzo Mattotti) in 2019

Other categories at Annecy’s animation festival:

- *“Dandelion’s Odyssey”* (directed by Momoko Seto) – Paul Grimault prize in 2025
- *“Death does not exist”* (directed by Félix Dufour-Laperrière) – Jury special distinction for an original Soundtrack in a feature Film in 2025
- *“Little Amélie”* (directed by Maïlys Vallade & Liane-Cho Han) – Audience Award in 2025
- *“Living Large”* (directed by Kristina Dufková) – Contrechamp Award in 2024
- *“Blind Willow Sleeping Woman”* (directed by Pierre Foldès) - Jury Award in 2022

Cannes’ official selection:

- *“The Most Precious of Cargoes”* (directed by Michel Hazanavicius) – Official Selection in 2024
- *“Red Turtle”* (directed by Michael Dudok de Wit) - Jury Prize in 2017

SUPPORT FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES

In Nouvelle-Aquitaine, eight local authorities are actively committed to supporting audiovisual and film productions through the film fund, in partnership with the CNC, with the support of ALCA Nouvelle-Aquitaine, the Region’s cultural agency. In the animation sector, the most significant contributions come from the Region itself (around €2 million) and the Charente Department (with a comparable budget). Other local authorities such as Bordeaux Métropole and Dordogne are also involved. All share a common goal: fostering the growth and development of the animation industry in Nouvelle-Aquitaine. A regular and constructive dialogue between local authorities and industry professionals has been strengthened, culminating in January 2026 with the implementation of a renewed strategy for the cinema and audiovisual sector.

NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE RENEWS ITS STRATEGY TO SUPPORT CINEMA AND AUDIOVISUAL ARTS

Faced with the economic, societal, and environmental changes impacting our societies, the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region, with the support of ALCA, reaffirms its commitment to cinema and audiovisual arts. In a world where modes of production, distribution, and consumption of images are rapidly evolving, the Region reiterates that artistic creation, the diversity of narratives, and the local roots of productions are essential values to preserve and promote.

MÉCA, THE NEW EMBLEMATIC PLACE OF CULTURE

The MECA – the house for creative economy and culture - is located on the banks of the river Garonne near Bordeaux' train station. The MECA brings together the regional fund for contemporary art and the two regional cultural agencies: ALCA (film, audiovisual and book agency) and OARA (live performance agency). This creative community centre was designed as a hub for regional artistic creation and production where directors, producers, visual artists, choreographers, comedians, authors, editors and more come together and in which the citizens are at the heart of contemporary creation and of art in the making. Home of artistic hybridization, the MECA embodies the support of creative sectors in Nouvelle-Aquitaine.

5 productions supported by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region and accompanied by ALCA are part of the selection at Cartoon Movie 2026:

- [1] **"Blaise"** - KG Productions (France)
- [2] **"Detective Kibbles"** - La Station Animation (France)
- [3] **"Jim Queen"** - Bobbypills (France) & Umedia (Belgium)
- [4] **"Pangea"** - Miyu Productions (France)
- [5] **"Smecheria or the Confidences of a Cheat"** - Walking the Dog (Belgium), Hutong Productions (France) & Aparte Film (Romania)

1 project is produced by a studio based in Bordeaux

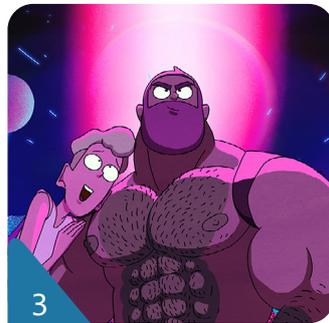
- [6] **"Happy Hunting vs the Apocalypse"** - Kawanimation (France)

1 project is co-produced by a studio based in the region Nouvelle-Aquitaine

- [7] **"Firebird"** - 13ka (Czechia) & Novanima Productions (France)

1 project has co-writers or co-directors based in the region

- [8] **"Saima: Scenes from a Midlife Crisis"** by Chintis Lundgren & Draško Ivezić



Bordeaux and its region are attracting ever more talent from the creative economy. It's the **2nd city in France for hosting comic strip professionals; 3rd largest city in France behind Paris and Lyon in terms of video game creation; 3rd region for filming feature films and television series...** Bordeaux is definitely a cinema city, with a special focus on animation. Increasingly, filmmaking, digital innovation, and the visual arts are feeding each other. Recent video game adaptations in the film industry and permanent innovation in terms of special effects and immersive environments testify to this phenomenon. This is a real opportunity for the Bordeaux region, as it deploys its creative and innovative potential leveraging a booming animation ecosystem.

Project produced by studio based in Bordeaux



“Happy Hunting vs the Apocalypse”

by Boris Belghiti, Maxime Paccalet & Pierre Razetto

Produced by Kawanimation (FR)

THE KEY PLAYERS IN THE LOCAL ANIMATION ECOSYSTEM

- **SUN CREATURE FRANCE** - www.suncreature.com - A production company and creative animation studio based out of Copenhagen and Bordeaux which earned international recognition and awards.
- **TSUNAMI STUDIO** - www.tsunami-studio.com - an animation turn-key solution for CG industry, productions companies, videogame publishers and brand agencies.
- **HORA 3D** - www.hora3dstudio.fr - Studio specialised in 3D animation.
- **DIGITAL DISTRICT** - www.digital-district.fr - An internationally reknown visual effects studio.
- **UN JE NE SAIS QUOI** - www.unjenesaisquoi.fr - An artistic Swiss knife company (animation, illustration, ...).
- **VIRTUAL ROOM** - www.bordeaux.virtual-room.com - Company specialised in collaborative virtual reality.
- **MIDRALGAR [MARMITA FILMS]** - www.midralgar.fr - Independent production company based in Bordeaux and Paris. Co-producers of “My Grandfather’s Demons”.
- **LES PRODUCTIONS BALTHAZAR** - www.balthazarprod.com - Independent production company based in Bordeaux and Paris.
- **ATLANTIZ PARK** - <https://fr-fr.facebook.com/atlantizpark/> - Audiovisual communication and animation.
- **MAELSTROM STUDIOS** - www.maelstrom-post-production.fr - Image and sound post production studios.
- **COBO** - www.co-bo.org - A collective of major actors of the creative and cultural industries (CCI) in Bordeaux which work to create interdisciplinary cultural bridges.
- **DES SINGES ANIMÉS** - www.dessingesanimes.com - A young French company, based near Bordeaux, its goal is the making and production of 2D and 3D animated content.
- **LES VALSEURS** - www.lesvalseurs.com - A cinema and television production and distribution company reaching a global audience through fiction, animation and documentary content

Happy Hunting



vs the Apocalypse



With its production support fund in the animation fields, fiction, documentary and new media, the department of Charente is a favorite destination of French producers. This fund is contracted by the Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée (CNC) and the Region Nouvelle-Aquitaine. With nearly 11M€, the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region offers the second fund for production aids after the Ile-de-France, well-ahead of other French regions. Thus, since 1997, many studios have taken up residence in Charente, in the Magelis ecosystem.

Today, 200 organisations specialising in visual media, including 50 animation-VFX and video game studios, more than 300 comic book authors, a campus with 15 flagship schools, over 2,000 students and 40 courses, Magelis, Creative industries hub in Angoulême, has built a strong ecosystem dedicated to creation and innovation in the image and sound sectors. It has established itself in a dominant position in the international environment.

Backed by its network and its experience, Magelis organises professional events, undertakes urban development necessary for the establishment of businesses and schools, and implements cooperation tools to coordinate the entire network.



Magelis, it's:

150

companies/organisations

(audiovisual/ digital image/
comics/ sound/ multimedia)

2500

professionals

THE ANGOULÊME ECOSYSTEM

Many animation studios are located in the Image Cluster fostered by Magelis. Today, Nouvelle Aquitaine is France's number 2 production centre for animated images in France after the Paris region. Angoulême's cluster counts nearly 30 animation studios, 2,500 professionals and 2,000 students in 15 specialised schools which adds to the dozen schools located in Bordeaux. A large percentage of animation productions broadcast on national screens are made in Nouvelle-Aquitaine. This figure has been steadily increasing in recent years as the new tax credit boosted the competitiveness of local talents.



SUCCESS STORIES MADE IN ANGOULÊME



“Chicken for Linda!”

by Chiara Malta & Sébastien Laudenbach
(Cartoon Movie 2019 & 2023)

Awards: Annecy 2023 (Cristal for Best Feature & Distribution) & Césars 2024 for Best Animated Feature

Nominated: European Film Awards 2023 (European Animated Feature Film) & Lumiere Awards (Best Score & Best Animated Film)



“Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman”

by Pierre Földes
(Cartoon Movie 2014, 2019 & 2021)

Awards: Annecy 2022 (Best Feature Film).

Nominated: Annecy 2022 (Cristal for Best Feature), Zagreb World Festival of Animated Films (Grand Prize) & Lumiere Awards 2024 (Best Animated Film)



“Mars Express”

by Jérémie Périn
(Cartoon Movie 2019, 2022 & 2023)

Nominated: Césars 2024 for Best Animated Feature, Lumières Awards for Best Animated Feature and Annecy 2023 (Cristal for Best Feature, Jury and Public Prices)

2 MINUTES - www.2minutes.fr • 3.0 STUDIO - www.3pointostudio.com • Atlantiz Park - www.atlantizpark.com • BLUE SPIRIT STUDIO - www.spirit-prod.com • BOBBYPILLS - www.bobbypills.com • BOCAJ • BORDERLINE FILMS / SCHMUBY PRODUCTIONS - www.borderlinefilms.fr • CARIBARA ANGOULEME - www.caribara-animation.com • DYNAMOTION - www.dynamotion.tumblr.com • ELLIPSE ANIMATION - www.ellipseanimation.com • EMCA - ECOLE DES METIERS DU CINEMA D'ANIMATION - www.angouleme-emca.fr • EMILE COHL - www.cohl.fr • FOST STUDIO - www.fo.studio • GOLEM&LINEA FILMS - www.golemandlinea.com • HARI STUDIOS - www.studiohari.com • L'ATELIER - www.ecolelatelier.com • LA CHOUETTE COMPAGNIE - www.chouetteco.com • LA FRENCH MACHINE - www.lafrenchmachine.com • LES FILMS DU HERISSON • LES FILMS DU POISSON ROUGE - www.lesfilmsdupoissonrouge.com • LIGHT VFX - www.lightvfx.com • LOOPS CREATIVE STUDIO - www.loopscreativestudio.com • MALIL'ART PRODUCTIONS - www.malil-art.com • MIYU PRODUCTIONS - www.miyu.fr • NORMAAL ANIMATION - www.normaal.fr • NOVANIMA PRODUCTIONS - www.novanima.eu • OBJECTIF 3D - www.objectif3d.com • Once Upon A Time - www.onceuponatoon.net • SAPIN SYMPA - www.sapinsympa.com • SHAN TOO - www.gaoshanpictures.com • SILEX ANIMATION - www.silexfilms.com • SUPERPROD ANIMATION - www.superprodstudio.net • Tigobo Animation - www.tigoboanimation.com • TOKU - www.tokustudio.com • TOONKIT - www.toonkit-studio.com • UNIQUE ANIMATION • XILAM ANIMATION - www.xilam.com



2026 will celebrate an exciting new chapter in CARTOON’s growing partnerships. The launch of the **“Québec-Canada Land in Europe: A Space for Creation”** Initiative during Cartoon Movie 2026 and Cartoon Forum 2026 will spotlight a renewed commitment to international co-production. A dedicated session will present an outstanding selection of projects, offering creators and industry professionals fresh opportunities to connect, collaborate, and build meaningful partnerships. At a moment when Europe is navigating economic pressures and Québec-Canada is adapting to a shifting U.S. market, this initiative provides a powerful platform for cross-border cooperation. Together, we are opening new pathways for talent, expanding market potential, and shaping a vibrant future for animation.

In collaboration with:

QUÉBECRÉATIF

SODEC
Québec

**TELEFILM
CANADA**

QUÉBEC AND CANADIAN PROJECTS PITCHED AT CARTOON MOVIE THIS YEAR



“Jane, the Fox and Me”
Embuscade Films (Québec-Canada)



“Shanghai Ballade”
Directed by Jason Loftus & Masha Loftus
Lofty Sky Pictures (Canada)



“Marguerite and the Duke”
Directed by Pierre Greco & Phillipe Arseneau Bussièrès
10th Ave Productions (Québec-Canada)



“The Mountain of Dreams”
CarpeDiem Film & TV (Québec - Canada)



“Puddle Jumpers”
Flying Kraken Creative Studios (Canada)

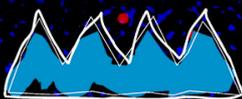


“The President’s Daughter”
Directed by Ian Keteku
Quarterlife Crisis Productions (Canada)



COSMO
PRINCESS

كوكبية أميرة



Sacrebleu
Productions

THE EURIMAGES CO-PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT AWARD



Eurimages is the cultural support fund of the Council of Europe. Established in 1989, it currently numbers 38 of the 46 member states of the Strasbourg-based organisation, plus Canada. Eurimages promotes independent filmmaking by providing financial support to feature-length fiction, animation and documentary films. In doing so, it encourages co-operation between professionals established in different countries. Eurimages has a total annual budget of approximately 30M€.

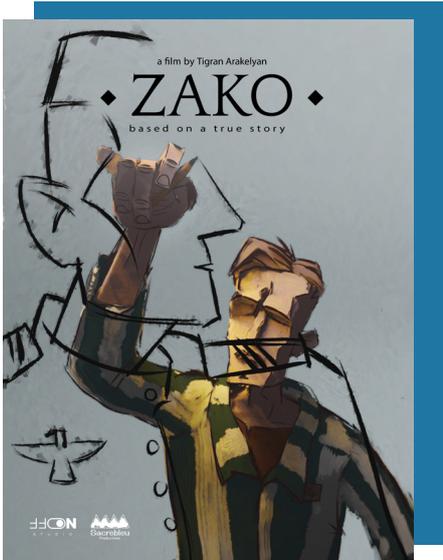
The **Council of Europe’s Eurimages Fund** has joined forces with ten co-production markets all over the world – and Cartoon Movie is one of them again this year – in order to award the **Eurimages Co-production Development Award**. **This cash prize of €20,000** has been created to promote the Fund’s role in **encouraging international co-productions animations from the initial stages of a project**.

The project has to be designed from the outset as an international co-production for cinema release and initiated by a **lead producer based in a Eurimages country willing to cooperate with other partners internationally**.

Winner of the Eurimages Co-production Development Award of 2025:

Zako
Produced by OnOff Studio (Armenia) & Sacrebleu Productions (France)

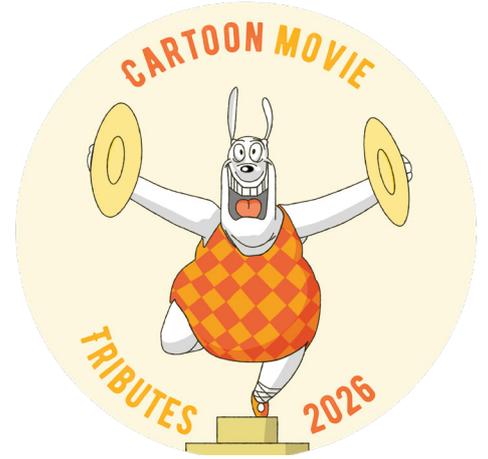
<https://www.cartoon-media.eu/movie/programme/eurimages>



The 13 projects nominated for the Eurimages Co-production Development Award:

Title	Company	Countries
	<p>Acorn's Adventure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pure Shore • Fabian&Fred 	<p>Czechia Germany</p>
	<p>Before They Were Gods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mylla Films • Brokendoll • Qvisten Animation • Parce Que Films • Elastic Film 	<p>Sweden Sweden Norway Canada UK</p>
	<p>DREAMERS - The Hunt for Shadowclaw</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parapictures film productions • Falcon Features • Kickstart Entertainment • Epsilon Film 	<p>Germany Canada Canada Germany</p>
	<p>Dreamwalker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vivi Film • Parmi les lucioles films • Lighthouse Studios 	<p>Belgium France Ireland</p>
	<p>Ejo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animoon • Special Touch Studios • Basement Animation Company • IYUGI 	<p>Poland France Nigeria Rwanda</p>
	<p>Family Squad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animagrad • Telescope Animation • PFX • Fiilin Good Films 	<p>Ukraine Germany Czechia Finland</p>
	<p>Gingerbread Town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Den siste skilling • Knudsen Pictures • Artichoke • Ink & Light 	<p>Norway Germany Slovakia Ireland</p>
	<p>Kigali Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parmi les lucioles films • Ekλεκtik Productions • Melusine Productions 	<p>France Belgium Luxembourg</p>
	<p>Kindred Spirits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cartoon Saloon • Folivari 	<p>Ireland France</p>
	<p>Kokum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Thiltges Distributions • Special Touch Studios 	<p>Luxembourg France</p>
	<p>Nina and the Goddess of Thunder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Europe Film Sales • Fabrique d'Images • Fantabulous • Human/PFX 	<p>Poland Luxembourg France Poland</p>
	<p>Saima: Scenes from a Midlife Crisis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Film • Adriatic Animation • Avec ou sans Vous 	<p>Estonia Croatia France</p>
	<p>The Heart of Djembe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cottonwood Media • Booya Studio • Umedia 	<p>France Ivory Coast Belgium</p>

2026 will see the 25th edition of the **Cartoon Tributes**. An opportunity during the Cartoon Movie to pay tribute to the exceptional actors of European animation by awarding them prizes. Divided into three categories: **Director, Distributor and Producer of the Year**, these prizes will be awarded according to the votes of more than 800 participants from around forty different countries that are on site at Cartoon Movie. 3 nominees by category present successively in a few words their work during the lunches. **The results of the winners will be announced on Thursday March 5 at the end of the lunch.**



Nominees 2026 in the 3 categories:

<https://www.cartoon-media.eu/movie/programme/tributes>

Tributes Winners 2025:



Sales Agent of the year: Kinology (Grégoire Melin- 1st from the left)

Director of the year: María Trénor (represented by Alba Sotorra on the picture, 2nd from the left)

Producer of the year: Dream Well Studio, Sacrebleu Productions (Ron Dyens – 2nd from the right), Take Five (Gregory Zalcman – 1st from the right)

- **Ron Dyens, Movie projects: “Cosmo Princess” & “Night Tram”**
Co-Producer of “Flow” (2024) - FR
- **Patrick Imbert, Movie project: “Hakim’s Odyssey”**
Director of “The Summit of the Gods” (2021) - FR
- **Tomm Moore, Movie project: “Kindred Spirits”**
Director of “Song of the Sea”(2014) & “Wolfwalkers” (2020) - IR
- **Anca Damian, Movie project: “Starseed”**
Director of “Crulic: The Path to Beyond” (2011) - RO
- **Tibor Bánóczki & Sarolta Szabó, Movie project: “The Wild and the Tame”**
Producers of “White Plastic Sky” (2023) - HU
- **Michaela Pavlátová, Movie project: “Night Tram”**
Director of “My Sunny Maad” (2021) - CZ
- **Christian de Vita, Movie project: “Caruso - A Love Opera”**
Director of “Yellowbird” (2014) - IT
- **Benoît Delépine, Movie project: “Detective Kibbles”**
Director and author of “Groland” - FR
- **Reza Memari**
Director of “The Last Whale Singer” (2026) - DE



CARTOON MOVIE'S PARTNERS

The 28th Cartoon Movie is organised by CARTOON with the support of Creative Europe - MEDIA Programme of the European Union, the CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée), Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bordeaux Métropole, Magelis, pôle des industries créatives and France Télévisions.

ORGANISED BY CARTOON

Cartoon Movie was devised and created by CARTOON, an international non-profit association based in Brussels, aiming to support and promote the European animation industry. For 36 years it has received financial support from Creative Europe - MEDIA Programme of the European Union to run its activities, which are concentrated in three areas:

- › **CARTOON MOVIE:** a co-production forum for feature-length animation films, mainly for the cinema. Cartoon Movie (about 800 participants) takes place every year in March.
- › **CARTOON FORUM:** a co-production forum for animated series, mainly for television. Cartoon Forum (about 900 participants) takes place annually in September.

Next edition: **14-17 September 2026 in Toulouse, France.**

- › **CARTOON MASTERS:** three training seminars per year for professionals in the industry, dealing with specialised subjects affecting the development of skills and trade involved in animation.

Next editions: **CartoonNext, 8-10 April 2026 in Marseille, France**

Cartoon Springboard, 3-5 November 2026 in Madrid, Spain

Cartoon Business, 24-26 November 2026 in Brussels, Belgium

The list of selected projects:

<https://www.cartoon-media.eu/movie/discover-the-projects>

High-resolution stills of the projects available for downloading in the Press Area:

<https://www.cartoon-media.eu/movie/images-of-the-projects-for-the-press>



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