PRESS RELEASE Bordeaux, 10 March 2022



THE WINNER OF THE EURIMAGES CO-PRODUCTION AWARD AT CARTOON MOVIE IS "MELVILE"

Following a call for proposals launched in June 2020, the Council of Europe's Eurimages Fund has selected seven co-production markets around the world to present the **Eurimages Co-Production Development Prize in 2022**, including the one of Cartoon Movie. This cash-prize of 20,000 € has been created to promote the Fund's role in encouraging international animated co-production from the initial stages of a project. The project has to be designed from the outset as an international coproduction for cinema release and initiated by a lead producer based in a Eurimages country willing to co-operate with other partners internationally. The lead producer should aim to involve at least one other producer from a Eurimages country. The award, which takes the form of a non-reimbursable subsidy, must be used by the producers to cover development expenses of the animation project.

The Eurimages Co-production Development Award was awarded today, Thursday 10 March 2022, during the 24th edition of Cartoon Movie to the project "Melvile" produced by Need Productions (Belgique), Special Touch Studios & Creative Touch Studios (France), and directed by Romain Renard & Fursy Teyssier.

The jury was composed of Emma Scott (Screen Ireland – Ireland), Frédéric Corvez (Urban Group – France) and Rose-Marie Strand (Folkets Bio – Sweden). The jury was very impressed with the high level of the 8 projects presented to them. There was such a diversity of visual styles, story-telling and methodology, as well as a wonderful selection of European countries partnering with each other. This made the job to choose a winner very difficult! However one project persuaded the jury in the end: **Melvile.** They responded to this dark and intricate story which fully immersed them in the world of the protagonist. Adapted from a graphic novel, the film-makers have devised a new method of animation, called charcoalisation, to serve the original vision of the creator really successfully.

Lead by Belgian producer, Need Productions, partnering with French companies Creative Touch and Special Touch Studios, the script was written by Olivier Tollet from the graphic novel by Romain Renard and will be codirected by Renard and Fursy Teyssier.

This Eurimages development award will enable the companies to continue their project development and to find a 3rd partner to begin the journey to production.

About Cartoon Movie and CARTOON

Since 1999, 426 films have been financially supported by Cartoon Movie with a total budget of 2.8 billion euros. 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 Cartoon Masters training seminars.

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Press resources

- <u>2022 nominees</u>
- Poster of the event
- <u>Picture of the winner</u>