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Tuesday 9 April

| Arrival of participants

09:00 > 10:00 | One-to-one meetings in the Athènes/Stockholm Room (upon registration)

10:00 > 10:20 | Coffee Break

10:20 > 11:20 | One-to-one meetings in the Athènes/Stockholm Room (upon registration)

11:30 > 12:15 | Focus Region: A Year of Animation in the Southern Region by SudAnim

SudAnim will be taking a look back at the highlights of the year in animation across the region, with new productions, new locations and incredible awards. It's a good time to take stock of what's been achieved and to look ahead to the challenges and prospects that lie ahead, to ensure that the industry continues its upward curve and holds onto its position as France's 4th-largest animation cluster.

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12:30 > 14:00 | Lunch

14:00 > 14:20 | CartoonNext Welcome Words

14:20 > 15:00 | CartoonNext puts children, front and centre, of the debate on A.I. and generative A.I. Thanks to an inspiring keynote from renowned ethic fellow at the Alan Turing Institute, Dr. Mhairi Aitken, voted one of the top 100 brilliant women in A.I. ethics, internationally.

In her influential research, Dr. Aitken uniquely gives children a voice, exploring what excites them and what concerns them about these revolutionary tools. Learning from the impact of social media, Dr. Aitken will discuss the benefits A.I. can bring to children and children's media; as well as the risks, when formulating policy and governance, at a time some describe as A.I.'s "Wild West" era.

SPEAKER Dr. Mhairi Aitken (The Alan Turing Institute/UK)

MODERATOR Lisette Looman

15:00 > 15:45 | Anime is officially HUGE! According to Japanese powerhouse, Polygon, and its recent research.

And the future looks bright, with anime forecast to grow in value from around \$34.22 billion in 2024 to \$ 60.7 billion* in 2030. Once the impenetrable homeland of anime, Japan is now seeking international partnerships and courting international audiences, while Europe and the wider world is opening up to what's been dubbed anime adjacent. Pushing the boundaries of creativity and collaboration, CartoonNext hears what's next from premier distributor, GKIDS, leading the field in award-winning anime projects, and celebrated Spanish producer, Manuel Cristobal, about his ground-breaking "The Glassworker", the anime-influenced feature, from Pakistan.

*Source: Grand View Research

SPEAKERS Manuel Cristobal (Sygnatia/ES) & Rodney Uhler (GKIDS/USA) joining digitally

MODERATOR John Lomas-Bullivant

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15:45 > 16:15 | Coffee Break

16:15 > 16:55 | What Next in licensing? Cult licensing is the new byword.

If your idea has cult appeal, there are fresh opportunities to create your own licensing programme regarding consumer products. Licensing agent, Max Arguile, from Reemsborko, has a passion for all things pop culture. Whether it's anime, horror or other genres from webtoons, comics, TV, film or online, he has found a way to commercialise it and shares his insights with CartoonNext, with some fascinating case studies.

SPEAKER Max Arguile (Reemsborko/UK)

MODERATOR Lisette Looman

16:55 > 17:40 | How to nurture and mentor the next, new talent in Africa, looking to create and finance their own shows?

With inspiring insights and innovative initiatives from Ariane Suveg, instrumental in developing and producing the first animated series from Nigeria for Cartoon Network; joined by Sebastien Onomo of Special Touch Studios, a pioneer in producing award-winning content with African creatives, about to launch the first Pan-African Animation Workshop.

SPEAKERS Ariane Suveg (Celestine Blue/FR) & Sébastien Onomo (Special Touch Studios/FR)

MODERATOR Christophe Erbes

17:40 > 18:00 | Special Screenings: Oscar-nominated short film “Pachyderme” by Stéphanie Clément (TNZPV/Folimage) & multi-award-winning comedy “Boom” by Romain Augier, Charles Di Cicco, Gabriel Augerai, Yannick Jacquin & Laurie Pereira De Figueiredo (École des Nouvelles Images (ENSI)).

20:00 | Welcome Dinner at Le République

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Wednesday 10 April

09:00 > 09:45 | Meet the first European studio, wholly devoted to adult animation: Bobbypills! What Next for the inspiring company and its mission to empower artists to shape pop culture, through unique, accessible series and innovate the 2D animation sector?

With 4 diverse series under its belt, partners including Netflix, Ubisoft and Warner, 2024 sees the opening of an exciting new studio in Angoulême. Speakers Arthur Delabays (Development Director), Nicolas Athané (Creative Director) and Gabrielle d'Andrimont (Development Manager) provide fascinating insights into their journey and ground-breaking philosophy.

SPEAKERS Arthur Delabays, Nicolas Athané & Gabrielle d'Andrimont (Bobbypills/FR)

MODERATOR Lisette Looman

09:45 > 10:25 | Spatial Computing – The Next big thing since the iPhone? It's being billed to become a gamechanger for 3D animation.

Apple have announced their first device which is the first mixed reality headset, treating it more like a new computing platform than a metaverse device. One of the authorities in this specialisation is Thomas Bedenk.

SPEAKER Thomas Bedenk (DE)

MODERATOR Christophe Erbes

10:25 > 10:50 | Coffee Break

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10:50 > 11:30 | Sidi Kaba - Guardians of the 1000 Kingdoms



Special Touch Studios (FR) | Game/Feature Film | Children 6-9 (Kids)

EXPERTS Manuel Cristobal (Sygnatia/ES), Pablo Jordi (Pikkukala/ES), Thomas Bedenk (DE) & Giorgia Fassiano (I Wonder Pictures/IT)

CHAIRPERSON Christophe Erbes

11:30 > 12:10 | Deco's Records



Wiggleywoo (IE) | TV series/Music/Digital First Content | Young Adults/Adults

EXPERTS Anna Taganov (BBC/UK), Max Arguile (Reemsborko/UK), Krešimir Zubčić (Croatian Television (HRT)) & Kelly Vero (NAK3D/CH)

CHAIRPERSON Frédérique Vinel

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12:10 > 12:50 | Joy Eternal



Fiilin Good Films (FI) | TV Series/Comics/Video Game/TV Special | Teenagers 12-15

EXPERTS Krešimir Zubčić (Croatian Television (HRT)), Pablo Jordi (Pikkukala/ES), Sarah Nehme (ONO/FR) & Giorgia Fassiano (I Wonder Pictures/IT)

CHAIRPERSON Christophe Erbes

12:50 > 14:20 | Extra Time & Lunch

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14:20 > 15:00 | Green as Hell

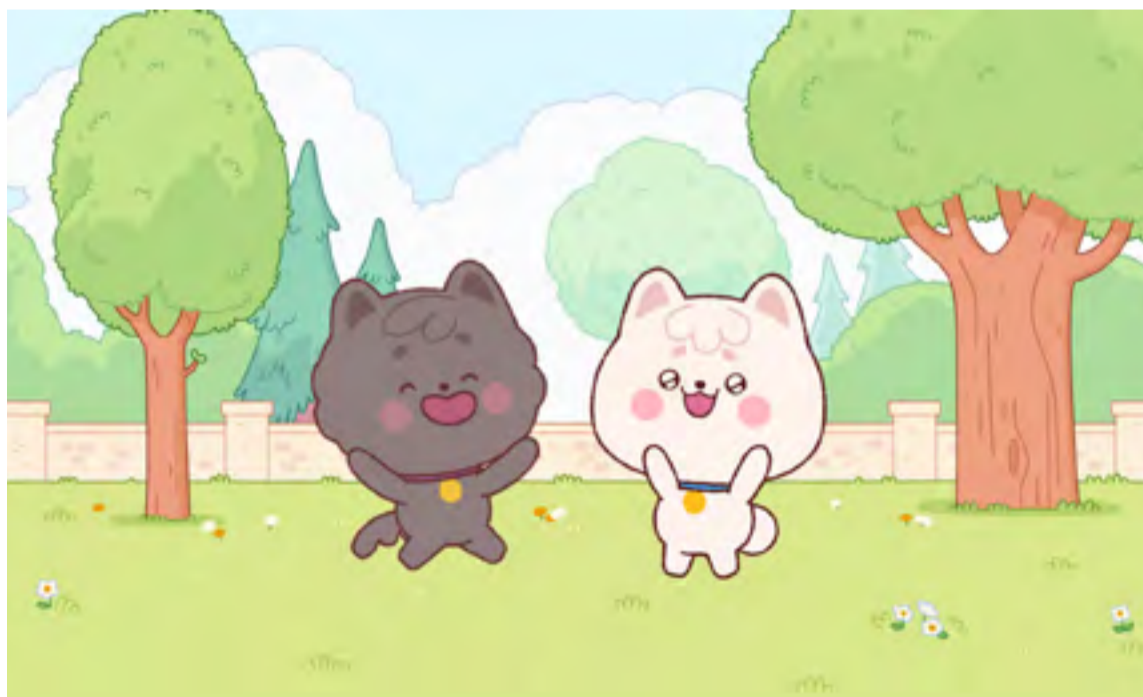


6X2 (IT) | Feature Film/360 Cinema/VR Narrative/Book | Young Adults/Adults

EXPERTS Japhet Asher (Polarity Reversal/UK), Thomas Bedenk (DE), Pablo Jordi (Pikkukala/ES) & Alex Cameron (Parrot Analytics/UK)

CHAIRPERSON Frédérique Vinel

15:00 > 15:40 | Cloudy & Stormy



Laniakea Pictures (PL) | Game/Comics/TV Series | Family

EXPERTS Kelly Vero (NAK3D/CH), Zia Sands (Warner Bros. Discovery-EMEA/UK), Sarah Nehme (ONO/FR) & Anna Taganov (BBC/UK)

CHAIRPERSON Christophe Erbes

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15:40 ➤ 16:20 | What Next for Epic Games, a major supporter of animation in Europe? In a rare keynote from EPIC and their UE Business Director, Ben Minall, we explore what initiatives are planned for the next generation of studios and creatives.

Following on from their ground-breaking Unreal Engine, Ben shares some of their vision and opportunities, as well as touching upon UEFN, their application for designing, developing and publishing games and experiences, directly onto Fortnite, using the power of the Unreal Editor.

SPEAKER Ben Minall (Epic Games/UK)

MODERATOR John Lomas-Bullivant

16:20 ➤ 16:50 | Extra Time & Coffee Break

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16:50 > 17:25 | CartoonNext highlights animation excellence in Hungary.

With producer and female entrepreneur Réka Temple, who's celebrating the power of 2D and animation, as cinema. She provides fascinating insights into her ground-breaking feature, "4 Souls of Coyote", chosen for the Academy International Category. And looking to the future, she sets out what Hungary and Eastern Europe has to offer the rest of European animation.

SPEAKER Réka Temple (Cinemon Entertainment/HU)

MODERATOR Christophe Erbes

17:25 > 18:15 | Animating The Future! CartoonNext presents The Dor Brothers, celebrated A.I. pioneers and "among the most prolific producers of A.I. in the world", according to Charlie Fink of Forbes magazine. They "rock cinematic A.I."

Specialising in all things creative in A.I., from A.I. generated music videos, animation, film, commercials and more! A big part of their mission is "to show the world the significance of A.I. art and expand humanity's knowledge of these powerful and world-changing tools". We speak to Yonatan Dor, about his remarkable story, his innovative craft, his deep-felt philosophy, and what the future of A.I. might hold. We also give the audience the opportunity to try out their "Event Station: the world's first A.I.-powered photobooth experience!".

SPEAKERS Yonatan Dor (The Dor Brothers/DE) & Japhet Asher (Polarity Reversal/UK)

MODERATOR John Lomas-Bullivant

18:30 > 19:30 | Cocktail by SudAnim at WTC Hall

Free evening for participants

Speakers' Dinner (only for invited speakers)

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Thursday 11 April

09:00 > 09:40 | CartoonNext gazes into the Crystal Ball at Animation's "Future Horizon". And it's not all doom and gloom, following recent market downturns!

Leading industry analysts, Parrot Analytics, take a data-driven approach to historical trends and current market data to anticipate what lies ahead, pinpointing opportunities for growth and innovation. Exploring the rising demand for varied animation content, with increased interest in adult animation and broadcasters strategically investing in anime and related genres. Special attention will also go to "Local Roots, Global Reach" and how stories like "Miraculous Ladybug & Cat Noir" can evolve from local favourites to global franchises.

SPEAKER Alex Cameron (Parrot Analytics/UK)

MODERATOR Lisette Looman

09:40 > 10:40 | What's Next for our broadcasters? Thanks to a series of strategic initiatives, CartoonNext asks: are European Channels re-aligning, what are their future plans and what opportunities might that mean for our industry?

Early 90s, the EBU helped set up visionary animated co-productions, with the Public Channels, such as ecological Animals of Farthing Wood. Since then, FTV has raised its animation budgets, DR made a call for projects to support local production and, post-Brexit, the BBC is seeking more animated projects, in co-production with Europe. Now the EBU has launched a new initiative to bring the pubcasters together and two new co-productions have been announced.

SPEAKERS Krešimir Zubčić (Croatian Television (HTR)), Anna Taganov (BBC/UK),
Annalisa Liberi (RAI Kids/IT) & TBC

MODERATOR Christophe Erbes

10:40 > 11:10 | Coffee Break

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11:10 > 11:50 | The Broos



Bobby Prod (FR) | TV Series/Digital First Content | Young Adults/Adults

EXPERTS Anna Taganov (BBC/UK), Alex Cameron (Parrot Analytics/UK), Japhet Asher (Polarity Reversal/UK) & Sarah Nehme (ONO/FR)

CHAIRPERSON Frédérique Vinel

11:50 > 12:30 | No Pets! - Tinies Rule the World



Nuvole e Strisce (IT) | TV Series/Video Games/Digital First Content/Live Gaming | Children 5-7 (Bridge)

EXPERTS Zia Sands (Warner Bros. Discovery-EMEA/UK), Charlotte Monsarrat (FR), Japhet Asher (Polarity Reversal/UK) & Kelly Vero (NAK3D/CH)

CHAIRPERSON Christophe Erbes

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12:30 ➤ 13:10 | Fonce



CINÉ-LITTÉ Productions (DE) | VR Film/Short film | Teenagers 12-15

EXPERTS Manuel Cristobal (Sygnatia/ES), Thomas Bedenk (DE), Charlotte Monsarrat (FR) & Giorgia Fassiano (I Wonder Pictures/IT)

CHAIRPERSON Frédérique Vinel

13:10 ➤ 14:40 | Extra Time & Lunch

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14:40 > 15:15 | What Next for Studio Meala! This dynamic Irish studio is all about pushing the boundaries of hand-drawn animation, and creating a fair, sustainable studio for artists to thrive in.

Recently chosen to bring to life an episode of cult horror franchise "Banquet of Hungry Ghosts", Studio Meala will soon be embarking upon an exciting new slate of their own and also looking to work with under-represented and diverse studios, across Europe.

SPEAKERS Stephen Fagan & Shane Perez (Studio Meala/IE)

MODERATOR Lisette Looman

15:15 > 16:00 | What's New and Happening in the world of publishing and what fresh opportunities might there be for creators and storytellers in Europe?

Children and Family alumni, Bob Higgins, President of recently created production company Trustbridge Entertainment (in NY), talks about sourcing, developing and producing premium content across Europe and the Globe, based on books, and how he is introducing innovative cross-media ideas to the process.

SPEAKER Bob Higgins (Trustbridge Entertainment/US) joining digitally

MODERATOR John Lomas-Bullivant

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16:00 ➤ 16:35 | The innovative, social media-driven “Samuel” has come of age! A hit at Cartoon Forum, the emotive yet humorous depiction of adolescence is airing on France’s ARTE, and Spain’s 3Cat and RTVE.
A broadcasting first for Spain!

CartoonNext will follow the creation of young talent Emilie Tronche, from its inception on Instagram to its incarnation as a TV and an Instagram – YouTube series and onto its launch on TikTok as a parallel series. Challenging traditional formats, “Samuel” offers fresh inspiration for cross-media-led projects and demonstrates that innovation and a 360 strategy do not have to be at the expense of an author’s unique voice and vision.

SPEAKERS Pablo Jordi (Pikkukala Barcelona/ES) & Damien Megherbi (Les Valseurs/FR)

MODERATOR Christophe Erbes

16:35 ➤ 17:00 | Coffee Break

17:00 ➤ 17:50 | Grand Finale

An entertaining and informative “End of the Show” Round Table, with surprising questions and revealing answers from a cross section of CartoonNext’s eminent speakers and experts. With audience participation and Q&A.

MODERATOR John Lomas-Bullivant

19:30 | Farewell Cocktail by Toon Factory followed by Dinner at Les Réformés