



CARTOON MOVIE CONFIRMS OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK FOR EUROPEAN ANIMATED FILM

- *In the last decade 123 animated films have obtained full financing for 800 million EUR thanks to Cartoon Movie*

Brussels, March 11, 2008. The European Association of Animation Film presented a promising report on the animation sector at the tenth anniversary of Cartoon Movie: European animation is continuing to grow at a steady pace, consolidating its role in the film industry with feature releases that are more and more successful with audiences each year.

Since 1999, 123 projects have obtained full financing thanks to this annual forum aimed at strengthening the production and distribution of animated feature films in Europe. The total 800 million EUR budget for these films demonstrates the increasingly important role of animation in the European audiovisual sector.

Over 500 sector professionals from 29 countries participated in the 10th edition of Cartoon Movie which presented 48 productions, including both completed films and works in progress. The event was celebrated from March 5 - 7 in Potsdam, Germany.

European animation of tomorrow

This new edition of Cartoon Movie kicked off on March 5th with the world premiere of "Dragon Hunters," a European co-production between France, Germany and Luxembourg directed by Guillaume Ivernel and Arthur Qwak.

Another highlight of the event was the screening of the first European 3D stereoscopic film: "Fly Me to the Moon" by Belgian company nWave Pictures.

Other recently-premiered European films such as "Peur(s) de noir" and "Go West. A New Adventure of Lucky Luke" from France, "The Three Robbers" and "Little Dodo" from Germany and "Nocturna" and "Donkey Xote" from Spain were also shown at the event, along with other works in progress.

Cartoon Tributes awards

Cartoon Movie also hosted the awards ceremony for Cartoon Tributes 2008, one of the animation industry's most prestigious honours that seeks to recognize personalities or companies who have had a positive and dynamic influence on the European animation industry over the last year. Voted by the over 500 professionals at the fx.Center Babelsberg, this year's winners were:

- **Best European Director of the Year:** Marjane Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud for "Persepolis" (France)
- **Best European Producer of the Year:** Prima Linea Productions for the film "Peur(s) du Noir" (France)
- **Best European Distributor of the Year:** Europa Distribution (Europe).

For more information on this event and other activities organized by the European Association of Animation Film, please visit our new website www.cartoon-media.be, where images of the projects and photographs from the event are available to be downloaded.

Cartoon Movie is organized by the European Association of Animation Film. The main partners of the event are MEDIA Programme of the EU - Medienboard Berlin-Brandenburg - Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Land Brandenburg - Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung (MDM) - Filmförderungsanstalt / German Federal Film Board (FFA), fx.Center Babelsberg and Studio Babelsberg.

German Co-organisation: NFP media rights

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