



FIVE FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR THE CARTOON D'OR 2009 PRIZE FOR BEST EUROPEAN ANIMATED SHORT FILM

- ***Short films from France, UK, Sweden, Germany and Ireland are among the finalists***
- ***The winner will be announced at Cartoon Forum 2009, to be held in Norway next September***

The European Association of Animation Film has announced this week the five finalists for Cartoon d'Or 2009, an award for the best European animated short film. The winner will be announced in the Norwegian city of Stavanger on September 24.

Created in 1991 to support upcoming talent in European animation, this is the only pan-European prize specifically for animated films. Competition in this event is exclusively reserved for winners of awards from one of eleven partner animation festivals, considered some of the most important in Europe, over the past year. The Cartoon d'Or is supported by the MEDIA Programme of the European Union.

Selected from a total of 29 candidates, the five finalists of this new edition are:

- Uzi and Lotta Geffenblad for "Aston's Stones" (Sweden)
- Merwan Chabane for "Party Animals" (France)
- Bastien Dubois for "Madagascar, carnet de voyage" (France)
- David Oreilly for "Please Say Something" (Germany / Ireland)
- Nick Park for "Wallace & Gromit: A Matter of Loaf and Death" (United Kingdom)

The finalists will have the opportunity to present the film to over 700 participants at Cartoon Forum, the annual European rendez-vous to support the co-

production, financing and distribution of animation series for television and new media platforms which will be held in Rogaland, Norway from September 22-25. The winner – which will be voted by a jury made up of the directors Serge Elissalde, Tomm Moore and Kari Juusonen – will receive funding for his or her next animation project.

The three previous winners of this prestigious award are Benjamin Renner (A Mouse's Tale - La Queue de La Souris, 2008) from France and Luis Cook (The Pearce Sisters, 2007) and Joanna Quinn from Britain (Dreams and Desires - Family Ties, 2006).

The following are the festivals associated with Cartoon d'Or in 2009: AniFest - Trebon (Czech Republic); Anima - Brussels (Belgium); Animadrid - Madrid (Spain); Biennial of Animation Bratislava - Bratislava (Slovak Republic); Cinanima - Espinho (Portugal); Encounters Short Film Festival - Bristol (United Kingdom); Festival International du Film d'Animation - Annecy (France); Fredrikstad Animation Festival - Fredrikstad (Norway); Holland Animation Film Festival - Utrecht (Netherlands); I Castelli Animati - Genzano di Roma (Italy); and Internationales Trickfilm Festival Stuttgart (Germany).

Cartoon Forum Rogaland is organised with the support of EU MEDIA Programme, the County of Rogaland, the cities of Stavanger and Sandnes, the Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs, the Norwegian Film Institute, Nordisk Film & TV Fond, Innovation Norway, Sparebanken 1 SR-Bank and NRK.

For further information and press images please visit: www.cartoon-media.eu

Cartoon d'Or Organisation

Yolanda Alonso
yolanda.alonso@cartoon.skynet.be
Tel : +32 2 242 93 43

Cartoon Forum Organisation

Annick Maes
annick.maes@cartoon.skynet.be
Tel : + 32 2 242 93 43

International Press

Gerardo Michelin
gmichelin@ya.com
Tel : + 34 630 57 2268