



Press release  
Bordeaux, 12 March 2019

## Bold and promising projects during the 21<sup>st</sup> Cartoon Movie!

Cartoon Movie, the European pitching event for animation films, took place in Bordeaux last week with about 900 participants from 40 different countries, with 250 buyers including 137 distributors and sales agents. Organised by CARTOON, the 2019 edition of this professional forum was the ideal platform to assess the current state of European animation whilst boosting 66 new projects featuring a wide variety of genres and production techniques.

### BUZZ FILMS AND TRENDS

During these two days, the pitching sessions got a full house. The majority of the projects targeted the family audience (67%) but we can observe more and more surprising and innovative projects for young adults/adults:

- **"I lost my Body"** by Jérémy Clapin – director of the acclaimed and award-winning short film "Skhizein" – Xilam Animation
- **"The Walking Liberty"** by Alessandro Rak – "The Art of Happiness" & "Cinderilla The Cat" – MAD Entertainment
- **"Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman"** by Pierre Földes – based on the book "Short Stories" by Haruki Murakami – Cinéma Defacto, ...

The most successful projects during Cartoon Movie were a mixture of historical, hot topics (immigration, saving the planet, ...) and political films:

- **"Where is Anne Frank?"** by Ari Folman ("The Congress" and "Waltz with Bashir") – Purple Whale Films
- **"Buñuel in the Labyrinth of the Turtles"** by Salvador Simó – Sygnatia
- **"No Dogs or Italians Allowed"** by Alain Ughetto ("Jasmine") – Les Films du Tambour de Soie, ...

Or with a particular artistic touch:

- **"The Crossing"** by Florence Mialhe – Les Films de l'Arlequin
- **"Chicken for Linda!"** by Chiara Malta & Sébastien Laudenbach ("Girl without Hands"), supported by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region – Dolce Vita Films
- **"Tre Infanzie"** by Simone Massi – Offshore, ...

Family films have remained the focus of Cartoon Movie's projects:

- **"The Ballad of Yaya"** – Blue Spirit Productions
- **"The Secret of Birds"** by Antoine Lanciaux – Folimage
- **"Musketeers of the Tsar"** by Paul & Gaëtan Brizzi – Est-Ouest Films
- **"Yuku and the Flower of the Himalayas"** by Arnaud Demuyne ("The Wind in the Reeds") – La Boîte, ... Productions
- **"Henrietta – The MOOvie"** by WunderWerk, ...

As well as successful commercial projects:

- **"Terra Willy"** by Eric Tosti – TAT productions ("The Jungle Bunch")
- **"Chequered Ninja"** by Anders Matthesen & Thorbjørn Christoffersen (the best-selling animation movie in Denmark ever with around 900 000 tickets sold) – A. Film Production, ...

### NEW PROJECTS OF WELL-KNOWN DIRECTORS / AUTHORS

- **Claude Barras** ("My Life as a Courgette") with **"Savages!"**
- **Ari Folman** ("The Congress" and "Waltz with Bashir") with **"Where is Anne Frank?"**
- **Marie Desplechin** with **"Séraphine"** and **"The Crossing"**
- **Alessandro Rak** ("The Art of Happiness" & "Cinderella The Cat") with **"The Walking Liberty"**
- **Anca Damian** ("The Magic Mountain" & "Cruic: The Path to Beyond") with **"Marona's Fantastic Tale"** and **"The Island"**
- **Alain Gagnol & Jean-Loup Felicioli** ("A Cat in Paris" and "Phantom Boy") with **"Tales of the Hedgehog"**
- **Alexis Ducord** ("Zombillennium") with **"Saba"**
- **Cédric Babouche** ("Chico Chica Boumba" & "Ernest & Celestine") with **"In the Forest"**
- **Jérémy Clapin** (Director of the acclaimed and award -winning short film "Skhizein") with **"I Lost my Body"**

### THE 10 PROJECTS ATTRACTING THE MOST BUYERS:

- **"The Ballad of Yaya"** – Blue Spirit Productions (France). In 1937, the story of Yaya, a wealthy 9-year-old Chinese girl during the invasion of Shanghai by Japan.  
*(In development)*
- **"Where is Anne Frank?"** by Ari Folman ("Waltz with Bashir" & "The Congress") – Purple Whale Films (Belgium). The project is a 2D & stop-motion film about Kitty, Anne Frank's imaginary friend.  
*(In production)*
- **"Musketeers of the Tsar"** by Paul & Gaëtan Brizzi (twin French artists, painters, illustrators, animators, and film directors) – Est-Ouest Films (France).  
*(In production)*
- **"The Secret of Birds"** by Antoine Lanciaux ("Neige et les Arbres Magiques") – Folimage (France).  
*(In development)*
- **"Benjamin Bat"** by Patrick Raats ("Woozle & Pip in Search of the Scallywagger!") – The Storytellers Film & TV (Netherlands).  
*(In development)*
- **"The 14<sup>th</sup> Santa"** by Caoz (Iceland).  
*(In development)*

- **"Dino Mite"** by M.A.R.K.13 (Germany). An adaptation from: "Minus Drei" by Ute Krause.  
*(In development)*
- **"Henrietta - The MOOVie"** by Karsten Kiilerich, Cherifa Bakhti & Dieter Riepenhausen, is an adaptation from the book of Alexander Steffensmeier – WunderWerk (Germany).  
*(In development)*
- **"My Grand Father used to say he saw Demons"** by Nuno Beato – Sardinha em Lata (Portugal). The project is made in 2D (the city) and in stop-motion (for the country side's scenes).  
*(In development)*
- **"Terra Willy"** is the upcoming adventure movie of Eric Tosti about the discovering of the planet, its fauna and flora, and its dangers – TAT productions (France). (Release date in France & Belgium: April 2019). The movie is already pre-sold in 70 countries.  
*(In sneak preview)*

### **CARTOON GAMES: A DEEPER INSIGHT INTO THE VIDEO GAME INDUSTRY**

In collaboration with **CATS** (Cluster Aquitaine du Transmedia Storytelling) and **Bordeaux Games**, Cartoon organised the "Cartoon Games", which is an event dedicated to animation, video game companies. It consisted of an entire afternoon of keynotes by key leaders (this year: *Luc Verdier, CEO of YS Interactive and Jean-François Szlapka, General Manager of SolidAnim*), 1-2-1 meetings and exchanges. The main objectives were to **create synergies between the animation, video game, transmedia industries and for the first year, comic editors**; and in the long term, to encourage producers to bring game & transmedia partner at the same early stage as the co-producer and the distributor in the process of a feature film.

This year, video game, transmedia & comic editors' companies (Ubisoft, ShinyPix who created "Robinson Crusoe" game, Remote Control Productions (RCP), Timof Comics, Editions Akileos, Ys Interactive, SolidAnim who created "Cafard" and "White Fang game", ...) met European animation producers during the afternoon. This is the beginning of a new generation of feature films, integrating game & transmedia dimensions at the same early stage of the process as the co-producer and the distributor.

### **CARTOON MOVIE TRIBUTES 2019**

During the 21<sup>st</sup> Cartoon Movie, participants voted for the winners of the Cartoon Tributes 2019: the Awards for outstanding contribution to the development of European animation over the last year. Considered as one of the European animation most prestigious rewards, the winners are:

- **DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR: Salvador Simó** for "**Buñuel in the Labyrinth of the Turtles**" (Spain)
- **SALES AGENT OF THE YEAR: Sola Media** (Germany)
- **PRODUCER OF THE YEAR: Submarine** (Netherlands) for (co)-producing 6 animated films today: "**Coppelia**", "**Fox & Hare save the Forest**", "**Where is Anne Frank?**", "**Buñuel in the Labyrinth of the Turtles**", "**My Grandfather Used to Say He Saw Demons**" and "**In the Forest**"

[Download the dedicated press release](#)

## THE EURIMAGES CO-PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT AWARD 2019

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 once 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 animated co-production 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 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 Thursday 7 March, during the Cartoon Movie (Bordeaux, France), to the project **"Of Unwanted Things and People"** by David Súpup, Ivana Laučíková, Leon Vidmar & Agata Gorzałdek and co-produced by Maur film (Czech Republic), Artichoke (Slovakia), ZVVIKS (Slovenia) & WJTeam/Likaon (Poland).

The Jury was composed of Dorien Van de Pas (Netherlands Film Fund – Netherlands), Tom Carpelan (Filmkompaniet - Finland) and François Mergier (STUDIOCANAL - France).

[Download the dedicated press release](#)

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE NETHERLANDS

For the third time, Cartoon Movie directed its spotlight at a country.

This year, the Netherlands, a country which has a vibrant animation industry and open attitude towards international production, has been chosen for being the spotlight country. The Spotlight on the Netherlands is supported by the Netherlands Film Fund, Creative Industries Fund NL, Animation Producers Netherlands, CFAP and AVROTROS.

On the strength of its six selected projects (and three co-productions) this year, Dutch animation appeared as a constant thread throughout Cartoon Movie: **"Benjamin Bat"** (The Storytellers Film & TV), **"Miss Moxy"** (Bosbros), **"Pat & Mat: The Film"** (Lemming Film), **"In the Forest"** (Submarine), **"Sisterhood of the Meadow"** (Studio Pupil), and **"The King and the Thief"** (il Luster). And also, Dutch co-productions: **"Where is Anne Frank?"** (Submarine), **"My Grandfather Used to Say He Saw Demons"** (Submarine), and **"Buñuel in the Labyrinth of the Turtles"** (Submarine).

## About Cartoon Movie

### ***The 21<sup>st</sup> edition of Cartoon Movie***

Since 1999, over 333 films pitched at Cartoon Movie, with a total budget of 2.2 billion Euros, have secured their financing and have been released thanks to this annual forum aimed at strengthening the production and distribution of animated feature films in Europe.

*Cartoon Movie is organised by CARTOON with the support of Creative Europe - MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée), Région Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bordeaux Metropole, Invest Nouvelle-Aquitaine, the City of Bordeaux and le Pôle Image Magelis.*

⇒ **Next edition: 3-5 March 2020**

## **About Cartoon**

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, Cartoon Master training seminars and Cartoon connection, a programme intended to explore ways of reinforcing cooperation between EU and non-EU animation professionals.

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## **Images**

**The list of selected projects** can be found at this link:

<http://www.cartoon-media.eu/cartoon-movie-event/cartoon-movie-2019/discover-the-projects-2019.htm>

**Poster of the event and high-resolution stills of the projects** available for downloading in the Press Area:

<http://www.cartoon-media.eu/home/press-login.htm> / Password: cmbordeaux2019

## **Pictures of the event:**

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/35940214@N05/albums/72157707111784245/with/46544494414/>

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