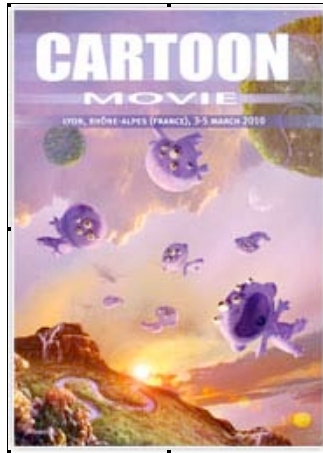


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BELGIUM SHOWS ITS STRENGTH IN EUROPEAN ANIMATION WITH TWO NOMINEES AT CARTOON MOVIE TRIBUTES

- *Stéphane Aubier and Vincent Patar will compete for Best Director of the Year for “Panique au Village”*
- *nWave Pictures finalist in the Best Producer of the Year category for “Around the world in 50 Years”, by Ben Stassen*

Directors and companies from France, Belgium, Sweden, Spain and Poland have been nominated as finalists for **Cartoon Movie 2010 Tributes**, the awards for outstanding contribution to the development of European animation over the last year.

The winners will be selected by the animation professionals attending Cartoon Movie 2010, the co-production forum for European animated feature films, making the awards one of the industry’s most prestigious and respected honours. Organised by **CARTOON – the European Association of Animation Film** – the prizewinners will be announced on 5 March at the Centre de Congrès in Lyon, France

Belgium shows its strength in European animation with two nominees. The duo formed by **Stéphane Aubier and Vincent Patar** will compete for Best Director of the Year award for their hilarious “Panique au Village”. This stop-motion film, born from the successful television series, was part of the official selection of last year’s Cannes Film Festival.

Belgium will also be represented in the Cartoon Movie 2010 Tributes by **nWave Pictures**. This Brussels-based company specializing in 3D digital production and

distribution will compete for Best Producer of the Year for “Around the world in 50 Years”, the long-awaited new film by Belgian director Ben Stassen.

The list of nominees – representing genres as varied as traditional tales, comedies and futuristic fiction and animation techniques ranging from stop-motion and 2D to stereoscopic 3D – reflects the diversity and richness of European animation.

Cartoon Movie 2010 Tributes nominees complete list includes:

Best European Director of the Year

- Stéphane Aubier & Vincent Patar for “Panique au Village” (Belgium)
- Tarik Saleh for “Metropia” (Sweden)
- Dominique Monféry for “Eleanor’s Secret” (France)

Best European Distributor of the Year

- Celluloid Dreams World Sales (France)
- KINO ŚWIAT (Poland)
- Wild Bunch Distribution (France)

Best European Producer of the Year

- Ilion Animation Studios for “Planet 51” (Spain)
- Herold & Family for “The True Story of Puss’n Boots” (France)
- nWave Pictures for “Around the World in 50 Years” (Belgium)

In 2009, the big winner of the Cartoon Movie Tributes was the film “The Secret of Kells” – a co-production between Ireland, France and Belgium recently nominated for the Oscar for Best Animated Feature Film - which took Best Director (Tomm Moore) and Best Producer (Cartoon Saloon, Les Armateurs and Vivi Film) awards. France’s BAC Films was selected Best Distributor of the year.

Cartoon Movie 2010 is organised with the support of the **MEDIA Programme of the European Union, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l’image animée)**, the **Rhône-Alpes Region, Greater Lyon** and in collaboration with the **Cluster Imaginove (Lyon)**. Since 1999, more than 140 projects with a total budget of 1 billion EUR have obtained full financing thanks to this annual forum aimed at strengthening the production and distribution of animated feature films in Europe.

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