



DIVERSITY AND BIG NAMES MARK CARTOON MOVIE'S 12th EDITION

- ***This year 50 new projects for animation features will be presented from 17 European countries***
- ***Ari Folman, Patrice Leconte and Kari Juusonon among the film directors***

Cartoon Movie 2010 is gearing up for its twelfth edition with a line-up featuring French film director Patrice Leconte's leap to animation and the latest projects by Ari Folman, famous for his animated documentary "Waltz with Bashir", and Kari Juusonon, co-director of the successful Finnish film "Niko & The Way to the Stars".

France repeats its position as a driving force behind European animation with 18 projects in the event, followed by Spain with 6 and Germany and Finland with 4 each. The Nordic countries have a strong presence with 10 projects, reaffirming the region's current positive trend for animated film.

Cartoon Movie is the annual forum created in 1999 by CARTOON, the European Association of Animation Film, to support and promote the European animation industry. This year it will be celebrated in Lyon (Rhône-Alpes), France, from 3 to 5 March and will showcase a total of 50 films to be viewed by producers, distributors, investors and decision-makers from the audiovisual industry.

The films and projects selected for the event have a total budget of over 300 million EUR and comprise some 70 hours of animation. They range from projects in the early stages of development to completed films like "*Eleanor's Secret*", "*Yona Yona Penguin*" or "*Metropia*", and reflect the diversity and

richness of European animation. The projects also represent a variety of film genres and different animation techniques and target audiences.

A third of the projects selected for the event are literary adaptations, confirming literature as one of the main sources of inspiration for European animation. The projects include adaptations of classic authors such as Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Perrault or Joseph Conrad, as well as contemporary writers like Stanislaw Lem or Stieg Larsson.

Cartoon Movie 2010 is organised by CARTOON 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.

More information about Cartoon Movie 2010 and the selected projects at www.cartoon-media.be/MOVIE/index.php

For images on high resolution of the projects, please visit: www.cartoon-media.eu/MOVIE/press.php

Password: 22MaVycj79 (case sensitive)

**

Cartoon Movie Organisation: Annick Maes
Tel: (32) (2) 242 93 43 - annick.maes@cartoon.skynet.be

International Press: Gerardo Michelin
Tel: (34) (630) 57 22 68 - gmichelin@ya.com