



GREATEST ACHIEVERS IN THE EUROPEAN ANIMATION INDUSTRY STRIVE FOR THE CARTOON FORUM TRIBUTES

European animation will celebrate its greatest achievements of the year at the **Cartoon Forum Tributes**, to be delivered on September 19th in the French city of Toulouse. Twelve companies from eight countries are in the run for the **Broadcaster, Investor/Distributor, and Producer of the Year awards**, which will be voted by close to 1,000 professionals attending Cartoon Forum, the European co-production forum for animated TV series. The significant geographic diversity in this year's nominees follows the great momentum of the animation industry across the continent.

Four public broadcasters - **ARTE** (France - Germany), **Radio Télévision Suisse - RTS** (Switzerland), **Radio Televizija Slovenija - RTV** (Slovenia), and **Televisió de Catalunya - TVC** (Spain) – were nominated for Broadcaster of the Year. Pubcasters' overwhelming majority in this category bears witness to their key role in the production and broadcasting of European animation.

French companies **Madrigall Group** and **Prime Entertainment Group** contend for the Investor/Distributor of the Year award along with Spain's **Mondo TV Studios** and Germany's **ZDF Studios**.

Finally, the Producer of the Year award will be claimed by one of **Cartoon Saloon** (Ireland), **Movimenti Production** (Italy), **Pikkukala** (Finland - Spain), or **Sacrebleu Productions** (France).

Nominees will present themselves in short interviews held to the backdrop of Cartoon Forum's activities. Seventy-five TV series from 20 European countries – totalling a 350.7 million € budget and 388 hours of content – will be presented at this new edition of Cartoon Forum, which this year will host a spotlight on Italian animation.

BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR

ARTE (France - Germany)

Founded in 1992, Franco-German ARTE is a European public cultural television channel and digital network with a strong focus on creation and innovation. “Samuel”, “Music Queens”, “Boys Boys Boys”, and “Globozone” are some of the series scheduled on the channel that have been previously pitched at Cartoon Forum.

Radio Télévision Suisse – RTS (Switzerland)

Radio Télévision Suisse (RTS) is a public service broadcaster owned by the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation. Their TV channel RTS 1’ RTS Kids programming block broadcasts 24 hours a week of animation. “Audrey’s Shelter”, “The Ghastly Ghoul”, “Looking for Santa”, and “Mum is Pouring Rain” - all four pitched at Cartoon Forum - are some of the series and TV specials included in its programming schedule.

Radio Televizija Slovenija - RTV (Slovenia)

Based in Ljubljana, Slovenia's national public broadcaster Radio Televizija Slovenija schedules its animation offer in a weekend block on TV Slovenija 1 and its app RTV Živ žav. “Rita & Crocodile”, “Ernest & Celestine”, and “Pompon Ours” are some of the European series included in its offer.

Televisió de Catalunya - TVC (Spain)

Generalist public TV broadcaster Televisió de Catalunya offers content for early childhood, children and early teens both through its channel SX3 and online. The pubcaster has participated as co-producer in renowned international animations series such as “The Triplets”, “Saari”, “Ask Lara” or “Jasmine & Jambo”.

INVESTOR/DISTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR

Madrigall Group (France)

Madrigall Group is a French publishing holding company whose subsidiaries Casterman, Gallimard Jeunesse, and Sarbacane are dedicated to children’s books, comic books and novels for teens and young adults. Their books “Tobie Lolness”, “Ernest & Celestine”, “Trotro”, and “Anna & Froga” have become successful animated IPs.

Mondo TV Studios (Spain)

From its studio in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Mondo TV Studios is engaged both in the distribution & production of content and in delivering 2D and 3D animation services. Subsidiary to Squirrel Media, the company operates in Spain, Italy, Portugal, Latin America and the US Hispanic market. “Monster Loving Maniacs”, “Annie & Carola”, and “Bat Pat” are some of the series in its catalogue that were pitched at Cartoon Forum.

Prime Entertainment Group (France)

Subsidiary to Hildegard Group, Prime Entertainment Group has operated in the international distribution & production market for more than 20 years, working with major broadcasters and partners worldwide. In 2019, the company opened up to animation after including content from

Les Armateurs and Folimage in its catalogue. Now, they are interested in enhancing its offer with content from studios in Europe and the rest of the world.

ZDF Studios (Germany)

ZDF Studios is a subsidiary to ZDF, one of the largest TV broadcasters in Europe. Founded in 1993, the company is focused on global programme distribution, international co-productions, and acquisition of licences and merchandising. ZDF Studios has the largest German-language programme catalogue in the world and a growing number of international productions, including series, television films, documentaries and children's programmes such as "Dinomite & Lucy", "Klincus", "Tobie Lolness", "Alone", and "Dougie Dolittle".

PRODUCER OF THE YEAR

Cartoon Saloon (Ireland)

Established in 1999 by Paul Young, Tomm Moore and Nora Twomey, Cartoon Saloon is a world-renowned animation studio with five Academy Award and two Golden Globe nominations, as well as many wins, including a BAFTA and an Emmy. Located in Kilkenny, Ireland, the studio produces shorts, feature films, and TV series, including "Skunk Fu", "Dorg Van Dango", and "Silly Sundays", which have been pitched at Cartoon Forum.

Movimenti Production (Italy)

Italy's leading independent production and animation studio, Movimenti Production is a subsidiary to Banijay Group that has produced acclaimed animated TV series, music videos, live-shows and multi-platform projects such as "Tear Along the Dotted Line" and "Topo Gigio". Their series "OPS – What a Hopsrible Pack" and "Copperhead" have been presented at Cartoon Forum.

Pikkukala (Finland - Spain)

Founded in Helsinki in 2012 by Veronica Lassenius and Pablo Jordi, Pikkukala is focused on the production of original animated series for kids and families. In 2018, the company landed in Spain with Pikkukala Barcelona, a studio focusing on TV and feature animation production, and services. "Royals Next Door", "Taste Buddies", and "Saari" are some of the series by this studio that were pitched at Cartoon Forum. The company is also an active co-producer in Europe, after having been involved in series such as "Samuel".

Sacrebleu Productions (France)

Founded in 1999 in Paris, Sacrebleu Productions has produced internationally acclaimed works such as their short-films "Barking Island" and "Sunday lunch", and their feature films "Marona's Fantastic Tale", "Long Way North" and "Flow". Series-wise, the company has presented several projects at Cartoon Forum over the years, including "Felix!! He can explain everything!", "Annie Melting Heart Cake", and "The Song of the Storms".

ABOUT CARTOON FORUM

Created in 1990 to boost the co-production and distribution of European animation for television and new media platforms, Cartoon Forum has helped 997 animation series obtain financing to the tune of 3.6 billion €.

The 35th Cartoon Forum is organised by CARTOON – European Association of Animation Film with the support of Creative Europe – MEDIA, CNC (Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée), Région Occitanie, Mairie de Toulouse, Toulouse Métropole, Casino Barrière and France Télévisions (FTV).

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