

## **"CARTOONS ON THE BAY 2002" FROM 18TH TO 22ND APRIL AT POSITANO THE PREMIER OF LILO & STITCH OPENS THE FESTIVAL OF ANIMATION**

The sixth edition of CARTOONS ON THE BAY - International Festival and Conference of Television Animation will begin on the evening of April 18th this year at Positano with the Italian premier of "Lilo & Stitch" by Chris Sanders and Dean De Blois, Disney's new film with Elvis Presley's greatest songs in an esotic hawaian atmosphere, which will be on release all over Europe next summer.

On the evening of Saturday 20th Cartoon Network will present the Italian premier of the TV movie "Samurai Jack" by Genndy Tartakovsky, who won an Emmy Award with the series "Dexter's Laboratory" and "The Powerpuff Girls". "Samurai Jack", which has reached record viewing figures in the United States, will soon be broadcast on the satellite channel Cartoon Network accessed via Tele + and Stream and will soon become a live-action film directed by Brett Ratner, the director of the successful "Rush Hour" films.

From 18th to 22nd April the Festival, promoted by Rai and conceived and organized by Rai Trade, will present many more premiers and interesting events. Rowan Atkinson, the popular British actor who created the Mr. Bean character, will present in the Competition the Italian premier of the animation series "Mister Bean", to which he has added the voice, or rather the strange vocalisations of the protagonist. At the Pulcinella Awards there will also be the participation of the Canadian series "Braceface", with the voice of Alicia Silverstone as a girl who, as well as the normal problems and challenges typical of her young age, with her ugly and inconvenient brace for her teeth. Again from Canada there is the series "Rescue Heroes" about the adventures of a team of firemen, based on the action figures by Mattel of the same name. In addition there will be the world premier of the French series "Jacques Cousteau's Ocean Tales", in which the famous captain of the Calypso, in an animated version, tells of his most exciting submarine adventures. Worth mentioning is the Irish short film "Give Up Yer Aul Sins" by Cathal Gaffney and Darragh O'Connell, nominated for the 2002 Oscars, as well as the Italian revelation of the year which is Gino Cartoon, the funny chicken who has become a star of the Web, in the Competition with the episode "Poppies and burqua".

These and other TV movies, series, shorts and animated Web programmes, make up a total of 38 works from 12 countries (Australia, Canada, China, Estonia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Spain and the United States) which have obtained the candidature for the "Pulcinella Awards" after being selected from a total of 180 programmes - a record number - from 20 nations sent in to this competition in which the best animation productions of the year participate. To present the 10 Pulcinella Awards this year there will be Bob Balser, the president of Cartoon, the animation platform of the Media programme of the European Union, Eve Baron, the head of the children's department of France 3, Bill Kroyer, the leader in American animation who supervised the photorealistic effects of the animals in "Like Cats and Dogs" and the dinosaurs of "The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas" as well as directing the polar bears of the Coca Cola TV ads. There will also be Philippe Jacot, the head of the children's department of the UER, the union of European state televisions, and Gianfranco Noferi, the director of Rai Sat Ragazzi.

This year the Pulcinella Award for the career will be awarded to the a Japanese-American Jimmy Teru Murakami, the "globe trotter" of the animation world, who in his fifty year career has worked at U.P.A. Pictures in the United States, in Japan for Toei, in France, Italy, the Netherlands, and in England at TV Cartoon in London where he won a British Academy Award for the short-film "Insects". In 1965, while still in California, he founded Murakami-Wolf studios with Fred Wolf and in 1972 he moved to Ireland where he set up his own company. In 1987 he made the feature-length film "When the Wind Blows", a tragic fable about nuclear war with music by David Bowie, aimed above-all at an adult audience, in accordance with the commitment he has always had as an artist and in his activity as a producer and promotor of high quality animation as a European industry.

At Positano Jimmy Murakami will present the Italian premier of his most recent animated feature-length film "Christmas Carol: The Movie", based on the famous story by Dickens with the voices of Simon Callow, Kate Winslet and Nicolas Cage.

As well as the Competition and the premiers, the Festival directed by Alfio Bastiancich will present an action-packed programme with numerous conferences with the participation of the world's greatest experts in the field. Among the topics on the agenda, there will be computer graphics and special effects for TV series; licensing, which is often a crucial element in the production of television cartoons for the earnings from the products derived from them, animation in the Web and soundtracks for animated films and TV series, while the Showcase will present 118 works from 20 countries. In addition to various special events, retrospectives, and team games in which children will create cartoons, every evening a stage-show will present numerous "friends of cartoons", to be hosted by the Festival. Also this year in fact, personages from the worlds of show-business and sport who, for their work or just their private affections, feel close to the world of cartoons, will walk the boards of the "stage of the cinema" set up on the beach of Positano.

Rai will cover the Festival with the reporting of national and international television and radio news services, including specially dedicated programmes, but also with satellite programmes and on line news on the Rai.it site. Also this year the Rai website will dedicate its own events channel to the festival, through which it will be possible to view films in the competition and vote by e-mail for one's favourite film, which, if it wins, will receive a particular "Pulcinella net-award". Also the other channels of Rai.it will present special features on the event at Positano. The widest range of coverage will be seen on the "Children's" and "Cinema" Channels.

And so it will be a great carnival to discover the latest news and developments in the colourful world of cartoons and animation in the beautiful setting of the Amalfi Coast.

Cartoons on the Bay 2002 is organized with the support of Rai Fiction, the Province of Salerno, the Municipality of Positano, the Campania Region - the Department of Tourism and with the patronage of the Ministry for Culture and Cultural Activities, the Education, Universities and Research Ministry, the UER/EBU European Broadcasting Union, the Italian Animation Film Association, Asifa-Italia, the Association of Audiovisual Animation Companies - Cartoon Italia and the Italian Unicef Committee. The official Sponsor of the event is Ferrero with the Kinder Sorpresa brand.

For further information: [www.cartoonsbay.com](http://www.cartoonsbay.com); tel. 06.37498315.

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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TELEVISION ANIMATION 2002

### **Covo dei Saraceni Hotel**

*The application of computer animation in television series and the creation of sound tracks for cartoons will be the major themes of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Television Animation. However, the usual topics: “Licensing & Cartoons”, the panel “An Animated Web”, and the presentations of “Focus on the Studios” will also not be overlooked. Furthermore, there will be a meeting summing up the prospects of Italian animation as well as the presentation of Italian animated projects in the “Pitch-Me! Italia” competition.*

#### **FRIDAY, the 19<sup>th</sup>**

*Session I - h. 9,30 – 11,30 a.m.*

##### **CGI FOR ANIMATED SERIES**

*The technological and creative boom in 3D computer animation over the last few years is most obvious in feature films and art films. However, it can also be seen in television series. The quantity of television series, either wholly or partially created in CGI, is constantly growing even though, at the moment, the availability of slots and television programming are rather weak. Introducing the subject is Bill Kroyer, a top CGI expert and author in the US. Other key creators and producers in the sector will also be participating in this session.*

*Session II – h. 4 – 6 p.m.*

##### **CARTOONS & LICENSING**

###### ***The Role of Independent Producers in Licensing Strategies***

*In a market that is already ripe and has become more and more common, independent producers no longer limit themselves to inventing and realizing a product but they also now follow its commercial exploitation in the core business as well as in derived products. The producers most attentive to the European, American and Asian markets develop alliance and licensing strategies for single products and also create specialized departments in their own companies. After an introductory speech by Robby London, Creative Director of one of the most dynamic US companies in the field, there will be several case history presentations from leading companies in the industry from both Europe and Canada.*

#### **SATURDAY, the 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Session III – h. 9,30 – 11,30 a.m.*

##### **MUSIC IN ANIMATION**

*The close link between music and animation is well known. Since the creation of sound tracks for cinema, famous musicians and singers have undertaken the challenge of composing and voicing for cartoons and continue to do so today. However, the development of animated film and television productions brings with it new esthetic and cultural forms that require different approaches including different types of music. The session will provide a picture of this phenomenon from an artistic point of view as well as in terms of a means of communication. Various influential musicians and composers of sound tracks for films, television and the web will participate.*

*Session IV – h. 4 – 6 p.m.*

##### **FOCUS ON THE STUDIOS**

*What are the economic, productive, technological and creative realities concealed behind the independent studio names who contribute to a large part of the productions presented annually at Cartoons on the Bay? Very often not even the most active international professionals know. “Focus on the Studios” serves to get better insight into global production and at the same time indicates the currently most dynamic studios and invites them to make a presentation to professionals in the field all gathered together in Positano.*

Moderator: Heather Kenyon, Animation World Network  
Presenters: Iginio Straffi, Rainbow, Italy  
Karen Dufilo, Pixar, Usa  
Iain Pelling, Cosgrove Hall, U.K.

### **SUNDAY, the 21st**

Session V – h. 9,30 – 11,30 a.m.

#### **A VERY ANIMATED WEB - Flash: animation goes back to its roots?**

*The phenomenon is right in front of everyone's nose: the public is capable of appreciating with the same sort of enthusiasm, the rather cold look of a million dollar feature film in CGI and an exciting minute of animation on the web created by a talented newcomer. It is the symbolic force of the image in movement at one's fingertips that has fascinated pioneers of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Today millions of young people around the world still extol the same interest. Destined to be refined, flash is a small revolution coming from the web, heading towards television and will maybe even one day make it to the cinema. The session will be introduced by Bruno Bozzetto, an expert in world animation and one of the first to approach this new production technique.*

Session VI – h. 4 – 6 p.m.

#### **WHERE IS ITALIAN ANIMATION HEADING?**

*From European incentives of the MEDIA programme in the early '90's to successive investments in public television and in private film producers in the sector, the panorama of Italian animation which started out as a small workshop, is outlining itself today as an important part of the national audiovisual sector. Nevertheless, to come to the fore of the international market, creativity and undertaking must go hand in hand. Authors, scriptwriters and directors must find their producers and vice versa. From the two standpoints, what is the current situation of Italian animation and what are its prospects?*

h. 5 p.m.

#### **PITCH-ME! ITALIA COMPETITION - Selection (closed to the public)**

### **MONDAY, the 22nd**

Session VII – h. 9,30 – 11,30 a.m.

#### **PITCH-ME! ITALIA COMPETITION - Presentations by finalists**

*"Pitch-me! Italia" is a presentation/competition dedicated to a selected number of new Italian projects to be displayed and discussed in public. After having been put in the limelight at Cartoons on the Bay, last year's winner, the series "Tommasone, The Magic Dragon" by Lastrego & Testa has already gone into production.*

Judges: Michaela Haberlander (FilmFersehFonds Bayern, Germany), Annita Romanelli (Rai Fiction, Italy), Robby London (Dic Ent., Usa).