



PRESS REPORT March 18., 2010

The Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film celebrates animated film

Stuttgart – Yet again the Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film (May 04 – May 09) has a wealth of reasons for young and old to celebrate. The much-loved Sandman is celebrating his world premiere, the Moomins their comeback in 3D, the Simpsons the Superbowl and the anti-globalisation animated film *"Logorama"* its Oscar. The ITFS and its enthusiastic Stuttgart audience, the FMX 2010 which takes place at the same time as the Festival and the Animation Production Day 2010 (APD) will again attract the international animated film industry to Stuttgart.

This year the **International Competition**, the heart of the Festival, boasts amongst other things the **Oscar winner 2010** in the category "Best Animated Short Film" - *"Logorama"* a critique of globalisation by François Alaux, Hervé de Crécy and Ludovic Houplain. The **Tricks for Kids** competition which awards prizes to current children's animated films includes top-quality works such as *"The Gruffalo"* by Jakob Schuh and Max Lang, nominated for the BAFTA award (British Academy of Film and Television Arts).

The first animated film by American cult director **Wes Anderson** (*"Darjeeling Limited"*) will be shown in the feature-length film competition **AniMovie**. *"Fantastic Mr. Fox"* is based on a book by **Roald Dahl**. The lead storyboard artist **Christian de Vita** will personally present the film.

An absolute highlight of the competition is the ITFS' presentation of the **world premiere of "The Sandman – Adventures in the Land of Dreams"** produced by Jan Bonath (Scopas Medien AG). For the first time ever this internationally popular television character will appear on the cinema screen at the Stuttgart Festival of Animated film. Among the contenders for this coveted award are *"Ponyo"* by **Hayao Miyazaki** (Oscar and Golden Bear for *"Spirited Away"*), the newest, colourful Anime from the Ghibli studio, the magical film *"Kerity, la Maison des Contes" (Eleanor's Secret)*, in which books come to life and *"Piercing 1"*, which dares to look at the current social situation in China.

Further prizes will be awarded for the **German Screenplay Award**, the student competition **Young Animation** and the competition for commissioned films **Under Commission**. The nominations for the **Speaker Award for the Best Voice Actor in an Animated Feature Film** will be announced at the press conference April 22.

However not only the competitions, but also the **supporting programme** boasts numerous top-quality events and star guests. American animation artist and director **David Silverman** has been responsible for numerous episodes of probably the world's best known animated family, the **"Simpsons"** and this year he will be presenting his work at the Festival of Animated Film in May. This will not only include the hit animated film *"Simpsons – the film"* but also his most recent clip about the yellow family which was produced for the **Superbowl**.

This year at the **Studio presentations** well-known animated studios from all over the world such as **Scopas Medien AG** (Frankfurt), **Sony Pictures** (Culver City), **Nexus** (London), **A. Film** (Copenhagen), **Oy Filmkompaniet** (Helsinki) and the **Fuji Creative Cooperation** (Tokyo) will be presenting themselves at the ITFS.

The **Oy Filmkompaniet Helsinki** also will be presenting its project *"Moomins and the comet chase"*, a film in **3D**. The music to the film is from the Icelandic singer **Björk**. Her *"Comet Song"* is a delightfully fresh contribution to this troll adventure.

At the **Disney Lectures Bruce Smith** will be looking at the return to classic animation using **"The Princess and the Frog"** as an example whilst **Leo Sanchez Barbosa** will provide an exclusive insight into **"Tangled"** due to open in US cinemas in November 2010.

This year the Festival will also focus on the busy Asian city state of **Singapore**, which has developed to become a productive interface between East and West. Thus various successful western production companies such as **Lucasfilm** or **Double Negative** have already opened studios there. A curated programme will also be looking at a particular area of tension - **Animation und Propaganda** and will include relevant filmic treasures from the archives of the British Film Institute, the German Bundesarchiv and the National Archives in Washington.

Further information is available at our website www.ifs.de. Please contact us for further text or pictorial material.

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The Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film (May 4.-9. 2010) was founded in 1982 and is one of the biggest and most important festivals of animation film worldwide. An amount of 52,500 euros prize money in total is awarded in seven competition categories. The Stuttgart Festival of Animated Film works closely with the FMX10, Europe's largest expert conference for animation, effects, games and digital media, and together with the FMX it holds the Animation Production Day 2010 (APD).