

No. 4-2008
December 2008

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It is Time for a new Approach

Cinekid Amsterdam is continuously growing and had its latest successful edition in October 2008: strong films were selected for the competition, the Finnish animation *Niko - The Way to the Stars* won two awards, there was a well organized screeningclub for professionals, young festival guests experimented freely with new media tools in the medialab and in co-operation with ECFA Cinekid hosted an expert meeting. The seminar's subject was vaguely defined: „European children's films have difficulties reaching a substantial audience. American blockbusters dominate the market. How can European films be made more visible?“

New Editor for ECFA-Journal

Dear Readers of ECFA-Journal, ...

This will be the last issue of ECFA-Journal that I have edited. Nine years ago I took this task and tried to establish this newsletter as a regular and useful source of information on films for children from Europe. The main target group were people all over this continent who are working for an arthouse film culture for children on all levels from script writing, production, distribution, television and exhibition. It was a pleasure to meet so many dedicated and wonderful people during all these years. So thanks for your attention and I sincerely hope that these pages were not too boring for you. Indeed the feedback that you gave me was always positive and encouraging. Thanks a lot for it!

Thanks also to everyone who contributed to our newsletter: ECFA's presidents during these years, Domenico Lucchini, Eva Schwarzwald, Mia Lindrup and Tonje Hardersen, as well as ECFA's General Secretary Felix Vanginderhuysen, the writer Gert Hermans, the proofreaders Janet Reuter and Adam Graham and ECFA's webmaster Udo Lange. It was a pleasure to work with you on this Journal!

Therefore I am glad that one of these people will continue with the ECFA-Journal: Gert Hermans will be the new editor. He is a journalist who regularly works for Jekino and so has close contact to ECFA's headoffice in Brussels. So, in future, this Journal will be in the best possible hands. But I will not leave ECFA's media completely, from 2009 onwards I will concentrate on ECFA's website and hope to improve the information there.

So 'Good luck' to Gert Hermans and his new team and my best wishes to all of you. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Reinhold T. Schöffel



Sannette Naeyé, Director of Cinekid, welcomes the participants of the expert meeting „Bringing European Children's Films to a Broader Audience“. Foto: Vanessa Pattipeilohy, Cinekid

One quality of this meeting was its clear overview on the current situation, based on facts and figures that Reinhold T. Schöffel collected in his recent survey* (regular readers of ECFA Journal found a detailed report in the last issue**) and Felix Vanginderhuysen's report about the results of the distributors' grouping that ECFA started in 2006.

The Distribution Grouping

It was at another Cinekid seminar two years ago when nine European distributors decided to form an informal grouping. Coriander Film, Arthaus (Norway), MFA+

Film and BIF (Germany), Jekino (Belgium), Twin Film (The Netherlands), Neaniko Plano (Greece), Les Films du Préau (France) and Folkets Bio (Sweden) had some common goals: exchanging information and experience, but mainly getting better access to the EU's MEDIA Program funding.

Finding compromises between nine small and headstrong distributors isn't always easy. All of them have their own taste, tradition and national market situation. But the efforts resulted in twelve applications to the Media Program, out of which five

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The News Section: Films, Festivals, Awards

Buster – Copenhagen Int. Film Festival for Children + Youth, Copenhagen/Denmark

Best Film For Children: „Dragon Hunters“ by Guillaume Ivnerel and Arthur Qwak, France 2008

Special Mention: „The King of Ping Pong“ by Jens Joohnsson.

Nordisk Film Foundation's Award: „Nocturna“ by Adrià Garcia and Victor Maldonado, Spain 2007.

Best Child Actor: Georgia Groome in „Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging“ by Gurinder Chadha, USA 2008; Special Mention: Abbas Alijome in „Buddha Collapsed out of Shame“ by Hana Makhmalbaf, Iran 2007.

Best Film For Youth: „The Tracey Fragments“ by Bruce MacDonald, Canada 2007; Special Mention: „Lake Tahoe“ by Fernando Eimbcke, Mexico 2008.

Audience Award: „Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging“.

www.buster.dk

Filmfest Hamburg, Children's & Youth Film Festival „Michel“, Hamburg/Germany

Children Jury's „Michel“-Award: „Hey Hey, It's Esther Blueburger“ by Cathy Randall, Australia 2008; Special Mentions: „A No-Hit No-Run Summer“ by Francis Leclerc, Canada 2008, and „Butterflies“ by Kjell-Åke Andersson, Sweden 2007. Audience Award: „Butterflies“.

www.filmfesthamburg.de

Children's Filmfest Münster, Germany

Children's Jury Award: „Kidz in da Hood“ by Ilva Gustavsson & Catti Edfeldt, Sweden 2006.

www.kinderfilmfest-muenster.de

Schlingel - Int. Film Festival for Children and Young Audience, Chemnitz, Germany

European Children Jury's Award: „Stormheart“ by Kaisa Rastimo, Finland 2008, also main actress Ronja Arvilommi was awarded as the best child actor; Special Mention: „The Loveliest Riddle“ by Zdenek Troska, Czech Republic 2008. Experts Jury's best film for children: „Handlebar Moustache“ by Javad Ardakani, Iran 2007; best junior film: „Letter for the King“ by Pieter Verhoeff, The Netherlands 2008, Special Mention: „One Eye Red“ by Daniel Wallentin, Sweden 2007.

Audience Award: „Alice Upside Dwn“ by Sandy Tung, USA 2007.

Continuing from page 1

Experts Meeting on Children's Film Distribution in Europe: It is Time for a new Approach



Michiel de Rooij, Producer Bos Bros. and moderator of the meeting, Amsterdam; Reinhold T. Schöffel, Bundesverband Jugend und Film & ECFA, Frankfurt; Jonathan Davis, British Film Institute.

films actually were granted: *Lotte from Gadgetville*, *My Name is Eugene* (aka *Rascals on the Road*), *Trigger*, *Fighter* and *Where is Winky's Horse?* It is impossible (or too early) to conclude how the grouping's work influenced the individual results of these films; the list contains both flops (*My Name is Eugene*) and well received titles (*Trigger*). But this grouping definitely offered chances to films that otherwise would never have been distributed and enlarged the amount of films on the European market.

In cooperation with the Association of European Distributors the ECFA-grouping also started a lobby to change the regulations of the MEDIA Program, with some results in the changing both the 'selective' as well as the 'automatic support system'.

A new survey

Reinhold T. Schöffel presented the results of his recent survey on the European market situation (most of his conclusions you could find in the ECFA Journal Nr. 3 from September 2008**). Here is a short summary:

- The distribution of successful films was mainly handled by big US majors or by their national European departments. But at the same time small independent (arthouse) distributors proved themselves able to create a successful release. Ambitious high quality films can be successful and commercial projects can flop. Whatever the reason for commercial success or failure in the cinemas, the cinematographic qualities of a film is certainly not the most important criteria.
- Children's cinema loses ground to new media (which was backed by surveys in Norway and Sweden), particularly male teenagers don't go to the cinema anymore. Therefore cinema needs to present itself as attractive and diverse as possible. Arthouse as

well as entertainment is needed. Audience awards in many festivals prove that children's appreciation is not limited to just blockbusters.

- A remarkable contradiction: cinemas and multiplexes cannot find enough children's films or do not have a chance to screen them since major distributors enforce their films to be shown during all slots. And kids... they do like arthouse films but hardly find their way to the screenings.
- New impulses might come from digital cinema. With the easy transfer of films from one format to another (cinema, DVD, pay and public TV, online video, etc.) films will have their own chance to sneak to the audiences in every possible way, whether it is by using the cinema, school, home or Movie club market, national or international. That is an extra reason for joining all European distributional and promotional forces together to bring good films to a young audience.

From the marketer's perspective

All the experts present at the seminar agreed that it is time for a new approach. The main problem to be solved: how to make the audience aware that European children's films exist? Harley Cokeliss (director, Barzo Productions, UK) suggested European cinema should become a brand, like Dreamworks or Disney. „When people are familiar with the brand, they will know what to expect from it.“ But the strength of the European film market (variety in languages and traditions) is at the same time its major weakness: Diversity is a blessing and a curse. And to what extent can educational values actually be used as a tool for promoting films? That arthouse films can be just as entertaining is not often enough advertised.

Xiao Juan Zhou (Delphis Films, Canada) made a few promotional suggestions. In general European films should invest more in marketing.

- Cross media solutions (with YouTube as the most obvious example) should be used as a marketing tool. Franchising is a good way to improve your promotion.
- The way the film is labelled by its distributor depends upon the market. Do not use „children's film“ as a fixed term. Sometimes it is better to brand it as „quality family entertainment“.
- Why not consider a „double shoot“? For a relatively small extra cost (shooting every scene in the original language and in English) new market possibilities could arise.

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Experts Meeting on Children's Film Distribution in Europe: It is Time for a new Approach

Henning Camre, representing Think Tank on European Film and Film Policy, presented a recent survey on media literacy in Europe. It is clear that film education should have a higher priority in European schools, to avoid the perception amongst kids that American blockbusters are the only possible standards for storytelling.

A distributor's struggle

Children's film distributors struggle with a lack of money and a lack of screens:

- Broadcasters these days are less involved in children's film, therefore the funding of children's films is mainly based on public subsidies. But the percentage of the national film budget spent on distribution is often too small (or even non-existent), since most of the money goes into production. With the changing film consumption patterns we must find other ways to get some of the money back and not just through ticket sales.
- Access to screens is a big problem: European children's films are seldom shown daily at different slots. In Europe there are a lot of independent distributors for a small amount of films. The result is fragmentation. To be ready for the new ways of distribution we should steal the secrets of the United States, where there are only a few distributors. Despite our anxieties, this is the only way to reach an audience. Public policy should work together with the industry and form conglomerates for production and distribution.

Other ways of distributing are a necessity, says Petri Kemppinen (Finnish Film Foundation). You can think of special events or promote the films at international film festivals. A cinema-on-demand

platform is a possibility, and screenings at schools is an important method to expose children to European films.

Conclusions

US distributors dominate the world. It is nice to have so many independent distributors in Europe, but maybe the price paid for this freedom is too high. To create a better landscape for European film, producers, distributors, cinemas and policy makers have to work together on an international level to create more awareness. We have to establish European films more as a brand. Better film education at schools is an extremely important way to introduce children to specific ways of storytelling in European film. Given the uprising role of new media, distributors should be prepared to think out of the box and consider new ways of distribution.

This expert meeting took place during Cinekid Amsterdam, October 25th 2008 and was organised together with ECFA and the Dutch Film Fund. The meeting was moderated by Michiel de Rooij (BosBros Film-TV Productions)

Report: *Gert Hermans,
Wendy Koops, Nina Cetinic*

* The survey with the figures of admissions for more than 200 films for children from the years 2005 until 2007 you can find at

www.ecfaweb.org/projects/statisticsindex.htm

** This issue of ECFA-Journal as well as all previous issues can be downloaded from ECFA's website

www.ecfaweb.org/journal.htm

The News Section: Films, Festivals, Awards

Young People's Jury, best film for young adults: „Letters For Jenny“ by Diego Fernandez Musiak, Argentina 2008.

Animation Jury, best animated film: „Rolly and Elf: Incredible Adventure“ aka „Quest For A Heart“ by Pekka Lehtosaari & Andrei Agnatenko, Finland 2006.

www.ff-schlingel.de

International Biannual Festival of Animation, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
International Jury's Award: „Aston's Stones“ by Uzi and Lotta Geffenblad, Sweden 2007. CIFEJ-Award: „Foolish Girl“ by Zoya Kireeva, Russia 2006. UNICEF-Award: „The Wrong Trainers“ by Kez Margrie, Great Britain 2007. Visegrad Award: „Joyets“ by Magdalena Osinska, Poland 2008. The Children Spectators' Prize: „The Weatherman“ by Will Becher, Great Britain 2007.

www.bab-slovakia.sk/

Cinekid - International Film, Television and New Media Festival for Children and Young People
Amsterdam/Netherlands
Professional Jury's Award and Audience Award: „Niko – The Way to the Stars“ by Michael Hegner & Kari Jusonen, Finland, Denmark, Germany & Ireland 2008; Children Jury's MovieSquad Junior Award: „The Ten Lives of Titanic, the Cat“ by Grethe Bøe, Norway 2007.

www.cinekid.nl

The Chicago International Children's Film Festival, USA
Children's Jury Awards, best feature films: 1st prize „The Ten Lives of Titanic, the Cat“, 2nd prize, also Best of the Fest-Award: „Stella and the Star of the Orient“ by Erna Schmidt, Germany 2007.
Children's Jury Awards, best animation films: 1st prize „Quest For A Heart“ by Pekka Lehtosaari, Finland, 2007, 2nd prize „Spirit Of The Forest“ by David Rubin & Juan Carlos Pena, Spain 2008.
Adult Jury's Awards, best feature films: 1st prize „Mozart in China“ by Bernd Neuburger, Austria 2007, 2nd prize „Where is Winky's Horse?“ by Mischa Kamp, The Netherlands 2007.

www.cicff.org

Nordic Filmdays Lübeck/
Germany, Section Films for



ECFA's President Tonje Hardersen, ECFA's General Secretary Felix Vanginderhuysen and Michiel de Rooij, Moderator and Filmproducer at Bos Bros.

The News Section: Films, Festivals, Awards

Children & Young People

Best film for children and/or young people: „Fighter“ by Natasha Arty, Denmark 2007; special mentions: „One Eye Red“ by Daniel Wallentin, Sweden 2007, and „Frode and All the Other Rascals“ by Niels Chr. „Bubber“ Meyer, Denmark 2008.

Children's Jury: „SOS – Summer of Suspense“ by Arne Lindtner Næss Norway 2008; special mention: „No Network“ by Ari Kristinsson, Iceland 2007.

www.filmtage.luebeck.de

Cinemagic - World Screen Festival for Young People, Belfast, Northern Ireland
Children's Jury, best feature film: „Alice Upside Down“ by Sandy Tung, USA 2007; best short film: „New Boy“ by Stephanie Green, Ireland 2007.

Teenagers' Jury, best feature film: „Crusade – A March through Time“ by Ben Sombogaart, NL, B, LUX, D 2006; best short film: „Cherries“ by Tom Harper, Great Britain 2007.

www.cinemagic.org.uk

Castellinaria Festival Internazionale del Cinema Giovane Bellinzona, Switzerland
Children's Films Jury (6 to 15):
Castello d'oro: „Beautiful Bitch“ by Martin Theo Krieger, Germany 2007; Castello d'argento, „Fuori la Mua“-Award and Premio Arturo: „Clown“ by Marco Pontecorvo, Italy 2008; Castello di bronzo: „Don (Off-Side)“ by Arend Steenbergen, The Netherlands 2006.

Young People's Films Jury (16 to 20): Tre Castelli Award: „Rusalka“ („Mermaid“) by Anna Melikian, Russia 2007; Award „Ambiente e salute: qualità di vita“: „With a Girl of Black Soil“ by Jeon Soo-il, South Korea/France 2007; Special Jury Prize: „Strangers“ by Erez Tadmor & Guy Nattiv, Israel 2008.

MiniCastellinaria: „Christmas Story“ by Juha Wuolijoki, Finland 2007. Audience Award: „Summer of '62“ by Mehdi Charef, France 2007.

www.castellinaria.ch

Internationales KinderFilm-Festival, Vienna, Austria
Children's Jury Award: „Bunt“ by Park Gyoo-tae, South Korea 2007; Children's Jury's UNICEF-Award: „Red Like the Sky“ by Cristiano Bortone, Italy 2006. Special Mentions: „Teo's Voyage“ by Walter Doener, Mexico 2008, and

Films on the Horizon

New European films for children or young people which are ready to be discovered for your programmes. More information and more films can be found at www.ecfaweb.org. Obviously we can never guarantee that we cover all important new films. Producers, distributors and sales agents are kindly invited to inform us of their new releases.



Clown

Clown

Feature Film, Italy, France Romania 2008
Director: Marco Pontecorvo
Production: Panorama Films, Rai Cinema
World Sales: Beta Cinema

Gruenwalder Weg 28 d
D-82041 Oberhaching
phone: ++49-89-67 34 69 14
fax: ++49-89-67 34 69 888
E-Mail: beta@betacinema.com
Internet: www.betacinema.com

Egon & Dönci

Feature Film, Hungary 2007
Director: Adam Magyar
Production: AEnima CGS
World Sales: Hungaricom Ltd.
Mesterházi u. 10.
HU-1116 Budapest
phone: ++36-1-365 1750
fax: ++36-1-365 1755
E-Mail: info@hungaricom.hu
Internet: www.hungaricom.hu
www.egonanddonci.com

Ilja and the Robbers

Animation, Russia 2007
Director: Vladimir Toroptschin
Production: Melnitsa Animation
World Sales: Melnitsa Studio
Melnichnaya Ul. 4
RUS-192019 St. Petersburg
phone: ++7-812-567 1540
fax: ++7-812-567 8506
E-Mail: info@melnitsa.com
Internet: www.melnitsa.com

Kuka

Feature Film, Russia 2007
Director: Jaroslaw Tschewaschewski
Production: Kinokompanija "Staralis"

World Sales: Kinokompanija "Staralis"
Derbenewskaya Str. 20/16
RUS-115114 Moscow
phone: ++7-495-510-5848
fax: ++7-495-510-5849
E-Mail: staralis@staralis.ru
Internet: www.staralis.ru

Lili the Witch – The Dragon and the Magic Book

Feature Film, Germany, Italy, Austria 2008
Director: Stefan Ruzowitzky
Production: Blues Eyes Fiction, Classic SRL/Italy, Dor Film Austria, Trixter, Studio Babelsberg

World Sales: Telepool
Sonnenstr. 21
D-80331 München
phone: ++49-89-558760
fax: ++49-89-55876188
E-Mail: telepool@telepool.de
Internet: www.telepool.de
www.knister.com/hexe-lilli-der-film_de

Planet Carlos

Feature Film, Germany 2008
Director: Andreas Kannengießer
Production: KW Filmproduktion, Hochschule für Film und Fernsehen „Konrad Wolf“
World Sales: KW Filmproduktion
Bundesallee 86
D-12161 Berlin
phone: ++49 30 50 59 50 25
fax: ++49 30 50 59 50 22
E-Mail: mail@kwfilmproduktion.de
Internet: www.kwfilmproduktion.de
www.planetcarlos.de

Ricky Rapper

Feature Film, Finland 2008
Director: Mari Rantasila
Production: Kinotar Oy
World Sales: Kinotar Oy
Vuorikatu 16 A 9
SF-00100 Helsinki
phone: ++358 9 135 1864
fax: ++358 9 135 7864
E-Mail: kinotar@kinotar.com
Internet: www.kinotar.com
www.ristorappaja.fi



Planet Carlos

Films on the Horizon



Sunny and the Elephant

The Secret of Moonacre

Feature Film, Gr. Britain/Hungary 2008
Director: Gabor Csupo
Production: Forgan Smith Entertainment
World Sales: Velvet Octopus
3a Lower James Street
GB-London W1F 9EH
phone: ++44-207-2871900
fax: ++44-207-2872314
E-Mail: info@velvetoctopus.com
Internet: www.velvetoctopus.com
www.forgan-smith.com/
id81.html

Special People

Feature Film, Great Britain 2007
Director: Justin Edgar
Production: 104 Films Ltd.
World Sales: 104 films ltd
PO Box 63849
GB-London N1P 1ND
phone: ++44-207 6900424
E-Mail: justin@104films.com
Internet: www.104films.com

Spirit of the Forest

Animation, Spain 2008
Director: David Rubin & Juan Carlos Pena
Production: Dygra Films
World Sales: Fantastic Films International
3854 Clayton Avenue
USA-Los Angeles,
CA 90027
phone: ++1-323-661-7088
fax: ++1-323-661-7188
E-Mail: info@ffimail.com
Internet: www.fantasticfilms
international.com
www.dygrafilms.com

Stormheart

Feature Film, Finland 2008
Director: Kaisa Rastimo
Production: Stormheart Oy Ltd
World Sales: NonStop Sales AB
Döbelnsgratan 24
SE-11352 Stockholm
phone: ++46-8-6739999
fax: ++46-8-6739988
E-Mail: info@nonstopsales.net
Internet: www.nonstopsales.net
www.stormheart.fi/

The Story of Leo

Feature Film, Italy 2008
Director: Mario Cambi
Production: Esse&Bi Cinematografica,
Dujass Film
World Sales: Adriana Chiesa Enterprises
Via Barnaba Oriani 24a
I-00197 Roma
phone: ++39-06-8086052
fax: ++39-06-80687855
E-Mail: info@adrianachiesa
enterprises.com
Internet: www.adrianachiesa
enterprises.com
www.dujassfilm.com

Sunny and the Elephant

Feature Film, France 2008
Director: Frédéric Lepage
Production: MC4 Productions,
France 2 Cinéma
World Sales: Studio Canal
1, Place du spectacle
F-92130 Issy-les Moulineaux
phone: ++33-1-71 35 35 35
fax: ++33-1-71 75 88 88
E-Mail: rrea@canal-plus.com
Internet: www.studiocanal.com
www.sunnytelephant-
lefilm.com

Switch – Snowboarder

Feature Film, Norway 2008
Director: Ole Martin Hafsmo
Production: Rubicon Film AS
World Sales: NonStop Sales AB
(address see above)
Internet: www.nonstopsales.com/
switch



Egon & Dönci

Three Lives

Feature Film, Czech Republic 2007
Director: Jiri Strach
Production: Ceska Televize
World Sales: Czech Television
Telexport Programme Sales
Kavci Hory
CZ-140 70 Praha 4
phone: ++42-2-6113 7047
fax: ++42-2-6121 1354
E-Mail: telexport@czech-tv.cz
Internet: www.czech-tv.cz/sales

The News Section: Films, Festivals, Awards

„Magique!“ by Philippe Muyl,
France/Canada 2008. Audience
Award: „Little Ghost Laban“ by Per
Åhlin & Alicia Jaworski, Sweden
2007.

www.kinderfilmfestival.at

FICI – Festival International de
Cine para la Infancia y la Ju-
ventud / Int. Children & Youth
Film Festival, Madrid, Spain
Adult's Jury: „Mozart in China“ by
Bernd Neuburger, Austria 2007;
Young People's Jury: „XTC – Just
Don't Do It!“ by Maria Peters, The
Netherlands 2006; Audience Award:
„Christmas Story“; Children's Jury:
„Care of Footpath“ by Kishan S. S.,
India 2008; CIFEJ-Award: „El Angel
del Acordeón“ by Camila Lizarazo,
Colombia 2008.

www.fici.info

Oulu International Children's
Film Festival, Oulu, Finland
Children's Jury: „SOS – Summer of
Suspense“; CIFEJ-Award: „Fighter“
by Natasha Arty, Denmark 2007;
Little Bear Award: Finnish producer
Outi Rousu.

www.ouka.fi/lef

London Children's Film Festi-
val, Barbican London, GB
Audience Award: „Stormheart“.

www.londonchildrenfilm.org.uk

Forthcoming Festivals

International Young Audience
Film Festival Ale Kino!,
Poznan/Poland
December 12th to 20th 2008

www.alekino.com

International Filmfestival
Berlin, Section Generation,
Berlin/Germany
February 5th to 15th 2009

www.berlinale.de

Europees Jeugdfilmfestival
Vlaanderen, Antwerp &
Brugge/Belgium
February 21st to March 1st 2009
www.jeugdfilmfestival.be

New York Int. Children's Film
Festival, New York/USA
February 27th to March 15th 2009
www.gkids.com

Montreal Int. Children's Film
Festival, Montreal, Canada
February 28th to March 8th 2009
www.fifem.com



journal

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ECFA – EUROPEAN CHILDREN'S FILM ASSOCIATION

The goal of ECFA is to support cinema
for children in its cultural, economical,
aesthetic, social, political and educational
aspects. ECFA was founded in 1988
in Mons/Belgium after the Conference
of Troja/Portugal and brought together
a wide range of European film profes-
sionals and associations, producers,
directors, distributors. ECFA's aim is to
set up a working structure in every
European country for films for children
and young people, a structure adapted
to Europe's multicultural interests.

For more informations and
membership (membership-fee
200 Euros per year) contact:

ECFA – European Children's
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Rue des Palais 112
B-1030 Bruxelles
Phone: ++32 - 2 - 242 54 09
Fax: ++32 - 2 - 242 74 27
E-Mail: ecfa@jekino.be
Internet: www.ecfaweb.org

The European Children's Film Distribution Network:

www.ecfaweb.org/network.htm
Databases on children's film festivals,
sales agents, distributors and TV-pro-
grammers interested in European
films for children.

Deadline for submissions: January 9th 2009

BUFF Financing Forum 2009

All who are looking for financial help for their children's film project are invited to come to the BUFF Financing Forum 2009 at Malmö/Sweden with their project to meet 15 international financiers, who may just be looking for your children's film project to invest their money in.

TV, shorts, series, documentaries as well as animation, feature films and new media formats aimed at a young audience will be suitable for submission in the following states:

- Development
- Under production
- Post production
- Ready for distribution.

broadcasters, commissioning editors, co-producers, distributors and sales agents.

Dates: March 12th to 14th 2009 during BUFF Filmfestival in Malmö, Sweden.

Projects can be submitted online through the website below. For further information please check the website or contact:

When the organizers have made their selection of projects, the selected production companies will get the opportunity to have one-to-one meetings with 15 participating international financiers covering

Annette Brejner
Producer of BUFF:FF
E-Mail: annette.brejner@buff.se
phone: ++46 733 612 619
Internet: www.financingforum.eu

ECFA's Annual General Meeting in Berlin, Saturday, February 7th 2009

The Annual General Assembly of the European Children's Film Association will be held during the International Film Festival Berlin on Saturday February 7th, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm (approximately).

Location: Hotel Savoy Berlin, „Salon Bellevue“, Fasanenstrasse 9, 10623 Berlin

Preliminary Agenda:

1. Report on the Annual General Meeting 2008
2. Report on the ECFA-activities 2008
3. Financial report on the year 2008
4. Approval of the reports
5. Election of new board members
6. Projects for 2009
7. Proposals from the members for future projects
8. Information from the members about their projects
9. Any other business

A get-together of the Children's Film Community at the International Film Festival in Berlin, February 7th 2009, New Location!

On Saturday, February 7th, from 9pm to 12pm there will be the famous get-together for all those working with children's films, organized by ECFA, Bundesverband Jugend und Film, Farbfilm Distribution, Förderverein Deutscher Kinderfilm, Kinderfilm GmbH, MDC International Film Distribution, Schlingel International Filmfestival for Children and Young Audience and Stiftung Goldener Spatz. The get-together will be at a new location, you will need an invitation to get in. ECFA-members will receive their invitation from our office in Brussels. Guests are welcome of course, please contact ECFA's office at least a week in advance, so we can send you your invitation by mail.

Your Advertising in ECFA-Journal and on www.ecfaweb.org

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