



Official Selection for 6th BUFF Financing Forum 2012

Christmas divided

Petter Lindblad, Copenhagen Bombay Rights 1 ApS– Denmark

Animation. 80 min. Target group: 5-9 yrs. By Jacob Ley

The Director says: My great grandfather Hans-Christian Ley (1828-1875) was one of the first who ever drew an elf.

It was about 1840 and it is his drawings that has inspired me to make "Christmas Divided".

Christmas is described as the holiday that, around the world, creates the greatest feeling of togetherness. Between families, friends, young and old. The story in "Christmas Divided" is tied together with happiness, excitement, music and mysteriousness. Added with a grain of scariness, which I feel is a necessary ingredients, like it is a part of some of the oldest folktales we know. When they were told you sat together, young and old, and shared the experiences you had trough the story; funny, educational, exciting, sad and scary. The same feeling of togetherness I hope people will experience when they see "Christmas Divided".

"Christmas Divided" has it's own size, in both it's expressions and style. It is aimed for the 7-10 year old and will be made in a style that has the same grandeur as Tim Burton's "A Nightmare Before Christmas". I want who make a Christmas film that is really fun, beautiful and imaginative in its own way. It will at times be "dangerous", but always have the promise of whenever we cross the line, we come back again.

If my great grandfather turns in his grave about the Christmas film his great grandson will make I don't know. But I hope that he at the least will laugh at "Christmas Divided".

Dr Formaggio

Iris Otten, Pupkin Film – The Netherlands

Adventure/Romantic comedy. 85 min. Target group: 9+ yrs. By Margien Rogaar

The producer explains: After their fantastic holiday together at the diet camp on the Wadden Islands, Talisha, Faris, Benjy, Liewe and Fee all stayed in touch. The new holiday being organised by Fee's parents in an Italian farm villa will give them another chance to spend time together! Last year I got to know the lovable characters of the series Doctor Cheezy, Talisha, Fee, Benjy, Liewe and Faris. With pain in my heart we needed to say goodbye at the end of a memorable shooting period. In combination with the sparkling, intelligent and humorous scripts of Tijs van Marle I can look back on a extraordinary production. That's why I am delighted that we have the opportunity to continue this collaboration with the idea of the feature film Doctor Formaggio. With this idea we can even expand our fantasies by making the movie a European adventure. We are thinking the story of Doctor Formaggio will be appealing to every European child. And thanks to my loyal heads of department we will be able to combine entertainment with quality.

Morkel the Moss Monster

Camilla Fredrikke, Bendik Heggen Strønstad, Yesbox Productions AS – Norway

Animation. 97 min. Target group: 4-10 yrs. By Aleksander L. Nordaas

Synopsis Morkel is a hairy, cosy, mushroom eating creature living in a safe cave deep in a mysterious forest. One night he dreams about a huge mushroom and decides to leave the cave and enter a dangerous new territory to reach his goal. We will discover a fantastic and unique universe through the eyes of Morkel, a world that will challenge his will, courage and moral. The film portrays the sense of being small in a big, unknown world, a feeling the most of us has experienced at some point in life. The film will be funny, scary and entertaining with an underlying moral message.

Stella Polaris

Peter Kropinen, Hob AB – Sweden

Adventure. 90 min. Target group: 8-16 yrs. Director: TBA

Synopsis STELLA POLARIS is a big adventure film, set in the stormy waters of the Barents Sea, embracing life and defying death as Stella goes searching for the Red Gold together with the King Crab fishermen of northern Norway. Captains Courageous meets Deadliest Catch.

Tarsilinha

Kiko Mistrorigo, TV PinGuim– Brazil

Animation. 75 min. Target group: 6-10 yrs. By Celia Catunda

The producer says: TARSILINHA is a 3D animated feature film of 75 minutes and stereoscopic projection. It will take families and children to a trip to the playful universe of Tarsila do Amaral. A great adventure of the character Tarsilinha, a 9-year-old girl, starting in her home in a small town and enters a fantasy world made up of graphics, colors and characters from the works of the artist. From the perspective of the character Tarsilinha, we will make a great journey through a fantastic scenery, unusual encounters, strange animals and surprises at every stage of this adventure. The film features magical characters emerging from Brazilian legends, mixing elements of cultures such as Native indigenous, African and Portuguese colonizers. This mixture of cultures so present in the formation of Brazilian identity is an inherent part of the film. Tarsila do Amaral is the most representative painter of the first phase of the Brazilian modernist movement. Her painting Abaporu, 1928, inaugurated the Anthropophagous Movement in the visual arts. Tarsila's work also has a special relationship with the public, to whom this project is intended: children. Tarsila is one of the artists that most arouses interest and curiosity among the children. Tarsila's imaginary is so rich, playful and diverse that inspires the imagination and fantasy of children, without further explanation.

We are the pirates

Leila Lyytikäinen, Kinoproduction Oy – Finland

Family film, 90 min Target group: Family. By Teppo Airaksinen

The director says "We are the Pirates of the Roads"(Me Rosvolat) is a very popular and critically acclaimed award-winning children's novel. The richness in books generally is that you can use your own imagination when reading. You can create your own images that are rising from the text. And when talking about a book that is specifically written for children, it gets even more important. Children really need something that will stimulate their imagination in a good way. That will give them something totally new to think about. A film is a series of pictures made for the purpose to tell the story in the best way possible. Good books and films both exist for one reason only; telling stories make us feel different emotions. Both make us cry and laugh. Both make us feel joy and sorrow. Even though "We are the Pirates of the Roads" (Me Rosvolat) has already reached many children as a book, it tells such an important and original story that it needs to be told on the big screen, where it will reach even more children and whole families. "We are the Pirates of the Roads" presents us a world that is perfect for a film for children. The main character is a 9-year old girl named Vilja who lacks the attention of her father, because he's too busy doing his work. When Vilja is accidentally captured by a family of robbers, she will enter to a community that is very steady and tight. Where no one gets left behind. Eventually Vilja becomes so attached to her new family, that she doesn't even want to go back to her old life. Robbing is just too exiting to drop out yet. But soon Vilja starts to miss her dad and her brother and sister and she wants to go back home. Vilja's father has learned that without his family he doesn't have anything. Family is all that matters after all. Even though that kind of message can sometimes feel as an obvious one, we all agree that it is nonetheless an important one. The story holds great adventure, deep emotions and heart warming comedy. Perfect elements for a great cinematic experience.

The tough guys

Trine Aadalen Lo, Filmbin AS – Norway

Comedy, 80 min Target group: 8-13 yrs. By Christian Lo

Synopsis Modulf, 11-year-old, is a small "superhero". Every day at school he is bullied by the tough guys, Frank and Jørgen. And that's fine. Because then Modulf saves the other children from being bullied. The idea is really quite ingenious, when Frank and Jørgen have soaked Modulf, they don't bother to embark on others. They are not too brutal to Modulf, he's tougher than he looks, and he manages to convince his mother and teacher that everything is in order. Modulf takes off for the others, and he feels he has a function in the world. One day Lise joins Modulf's class. Lise does not agree with Modulf's theories. Why should Modulf be bullied to make Frank and Jørgen the toughest guys in school? No one has good right to harass others, even if the victims "accept" it? Modulf's life gets no easier after Lise emerges. She cares, and creates havoc in the ranks - and suddenly she is the one in the middle of the storm who must be saved. Modulf is forced to face his own situation – and do something about it.

TOUGH GUYS is a funny, warm and serious story about bullying and friendship, based on Arne Svengen's best selling children's book "De Tøffeste Gutta".

The Snowflakes

Nynne Selin Eidnes, Nice Ninja ApS – Denmark

3D animation comedy, 85 min. Target group: 7-12 yrs. By Thomas Borch Nielsen

Synopsis: Sometimes, on crystal clear winter nights, a shooting star finds its way to earth. Inside is a magic stone that can make a snowman come to life. But what if the snowman wakes up to find that the stones she's got is broken? Well she will want to go and find a new one! Only the problem is that a snowman never leaves the garden he is built in.

Finn

Sabine Veenendaal, Flinck Film - The Netherlands

Family, 90 min. Target group: 8+ yrs. By Frans Weisz

Synopsis Finn (9) lives with his father in the small village. One day, a stranger called Luuk (68) moves into an old farm. He plays the violin. Finn feels strongly attracted to the violin, but his father strictly forbids him to go there. He wants Finn to play football. But Finn makes his own plan. He no longer trusts his father, who has too many secrets he doesn't tell Finn about. Finn makes a decision. While his father thinks that he is at football practice, Finn secretly takes violin lessons from Luuk. He discovers the reason for all those secrets, which leaves him with a huge dilemma...

Super

Joachim Lyng, Magnus Ramsdalen, Sweet Films AS – Norway

Live action drama, 100 min Target group: 12-18 yrs. By Terje André Nymark

The producers says: The story of a young girl who transcends her limitations is a universal and powerful story that plays on every ones memories of growing up. To overcome a physical handicap is probably one of the most emotional journeys a person can go through and to be able to bring that to the screen is an interesting and fulfilling challenge.

Julie's blindness is on one hand the films greatest risk, but at the same time its greatest strength. By figuratively opening the audience' eyes to her reality we risk losing part of our target audience, but by not daring to enter that controversial space we risk losing our story to mediocrity. We have found in research that it is best not to underestimate the young audience. They have powerful empathy and a cunning ability to see their story reflected in the silver screen. Julie's story is a personal and deeply moving take on what it's like to grow up and to become independent in contemporary society. It's set in a suburbia environment to increase the sense of imprisonment by the system that Julie feels she is the victim of. The film will juxtapose suburbia with beautiful open nature scenes where some of the key scenes of the story plays out, in order to illustrate the sense of longing for freedom that Julie experiences.

Our goal is to show the audience a world through Julie's blind eyes, and through that discover that her world is not different from our own.

Blasting Bängtssons

**Annika Hellström, Cinenic Film AB & Martin Persson, Anagram Produktion AB
Sweden** Cross Media for children aged 5- 12. By Petra Revenue

The producers explain: Enjoy a highly explosive story, a cracker for the entire population, but mostly for children aged between 5 and 12. The amazing tale of a family who are convinced that, there is no problem that cannot be solved with a big explosion. If you just do it in a pleasant and positive way.

Meet The BLASTING BÄNGTSSON´S, a family that blows everything to pieces to help out in the small town where they live, without really understanding the consequences. Despite their clumsy way of dealing with problems it's usually fine in the end, and they are continuously receiving new missions, both of the other citizens and the mayor himself.

Cloud Chamber

Vibeke Windeløv, Windeløv/Lassen Interactive - Denmark

Fiction with extensive, scientific non-scientific elements x 10 episodes TV/Internet Target group: 15-25 yrs. By Christian Fønnesbech

The director says: We are doing this because it needs to be done: we are ready, the audience is ready – and the medium is finally ready. I have spent 10 years exploring how dramatic stories can be told through the Internet. Over more than 30 projects, our team has experimented with filmed webisodes, social networks, online games, search functions, discussion fora, mobile platforms and all the other elements that are the basic grammar of this new medium.

We have the opportunity to bring dramatic storytelling into the Information Age. If we get it right, it will usher in a new era of deeper online stories – an era which we helped define, and where filmed elements are central once again.

Particle Physics hold the secrets of the Universe. The electronic music underground is exciting, edgy and accessible. And protagonist Kathleen's pain reflects my pain – the pain of being torn between greater goals, personal needs and a family that is lost in the heartless voids and immensities of space. We've shown what we can do on a smaller scale – this time, we're trying to light a beacon in the fog.

Pet Zoo Crew

Denis Wigman, Nada van Nie, CTM Nada - The Netherlands

Animated 360 Media Show, 26 episodes x 12 min - Target group: 9-12 yrs. By Mark Denessen

Synopsis The show connects to the needs of children to know and resolve trivia and emotions, whilst growing up. The show does this when it interprets the trivia and emotions through six very different views of life. These views of life are personified by six archetypes. These six archetypes are constructed and visualized out of combinations of six music styles and instruments, with an animal character from a different geographical background attached to each aspect.

The combination of music and lifestyles is as old as music itself, whereas every music style mirrors a different lifestyle but at the same time, all this different styles handle about the same universal feelings. This is why the different characters and styles can perfectly work together.

The different styles of music are: Classical, Reggae, Pop, Rock, Techno Punk and Country.

The animals are a Rabbit, a Monkey, a Goat, a Rat, a Pig and a Turtle. There are four male and two female characters. To make the impact of the animals stronger, the animals are juxtaposed to their music style. For example the Rat is a classical snobbish pianist and the turtle an ADHD drummer / rocker.

Of course, since this is a very funny animated children's show, all characters are over the top modeled and are partly of caricatures of the lifestyles they represent. These are the basic (band) characters; apart from the children (below) side characters based on the principle of a music style connected to an animal can appear in the show.

My Family and I

Thomas Heurlin, Koncern TV og Filmproduction A/S - Denmark

Documentary series x 10 episodes of 12 min. Target group: 5 – 7 yrs. By Ania Hauber

The director says: am passionate about the idea of telling stories about normal children, in abnormal settings. Or rather, to tell that children are normal and they, like everybody else, live in a setting which for them as a starting point is normal – a setting which they relate to- and live with, in the best possible way. Only when external impressions and influences affect us, we start to see the nuances of our own lives. Unfortunately we fear some of the new things, if it's something we don't recognize from the stories we know.

Exactly this recognition and development is where the kids who I want to find and work with are. It fascinates me to explore what it does to their self-perception and by sharing their stories with their peers, I want to send an important message about how differences should be embraced rather than feared. My ultimate desire with the movies is to strengthen the tolerance and understanding among children in the audience.

Itsy & Bitsy

Michael Ekblad, SluggerFilm AB - Sweden

Animation, 6 x 5 min. for TV, Internet & E-books. Children 3-5 yrs

By Michael Ekblad & Ulf C Ebeling

Synopsis Itsy & Bitsy has its origins in the well known children's song about Itsy-Bitsy spider. The stories take place in a microscopic universe, where Itsy and Bitsy (yes, they are two separate individuals), are the main characters in a world full of fascinating insects. All the characters are acting in a human way, even if they are fundamentally driven by their natural behaviors as insects.

Imse is cunning and calculated guy, who always try to make events to turn out to his own advantage. Bitsy is meek, naive and sweet. Even so, he still manages to get the best out of the situation.

Nuka - the Eskimo Diva

Lene Børglum, Space Rocket Nation - Denmark

Documentary. Target group: Young People. By Lene Stæhr

Synopsis NUKA The ESKIMO DIVA – is a documentary about a young gay man from Nuuk Greenland. Being gay in a small traditional society like the Greenlandic is not easy. The film follows Nuka in his struggle with trying to be accepted by his family and country. Nuka have arranged a pink dance, performance drag show and I s going on tour to the small remote villages of Greenland, where they still live the lives of traditional hunters. Nuka tried to commit suicide four years ago because of the massive opposition against those who are different – Nuka The Eskimo diva is a warm-hearted film about a young man trying to find a place in life – as he says him self “can I be a hunter in stilettos.”

Egor's Entrance

Lise Saxstrup, Klassefilm - Denmark

Documentary. Target group: Family. By Katrine Philip

Synopsis In Denmark, the dance halls are bursting with happy dancers of high international standards. It is all about getting the right partner, when you want to go to the top. But in a small country like Denmark, this is not always as easy as it sounds. In recent years it has become more and more common to import dancers from other countries, especially Russia or other Eastern European countries. As low as 15 years old, these dancers go to Denmark to seek happiness and dance their way to the top with a Danish partner.

Egor is 15 years old. He is Russian, but for the last three years, he has lived with his mother in China, where she is a dance teacher. His father works for the Russian army and has not seen his son for three years. Egor's mother decided that Egor could stand a great chance dancing in Denmark although it would be at the expense of leaving everything behind in China – family, friends and school.

Egor is a young, very smart and skilled man with emotions run high. He has difficulty respecting his Danish dancepartner's mother Sanne, who must decide over him, making him doing things differently than with his own Mom. The air is thick of conflicts and had it not been for the burgeoning success, Egor would be safely on a flight back to China by now.

Watch Me

Stine Meldgård, Volden Pictures - Denmark

Short fiction. Target group: 9-12 yrs. By Kasper Munck

Synopsis WATCH ME is about 12 years old Sofie's fight to keep her family whole in the face of her parents' looming divorce and in the midst of the emotional chaos that threatens to engulf them all. Sofie does her best to defend herself and her little brother Gustav from their parents' constant breach of trust, while at the same time nurturing a growing urge to break away from the family, away from Gustav. She is gradually drawn towards love and a budding feeling of independence. As she battles her parents' betrayal, she herself is forced to let the person that's closest to her down.

1864 – The Game

Bjarke Hjort, GearWorks Interactive – Denmark

Cross Media Game, Target group: 12-18 yrs. By Benjamin Salqvist

Synopsis: The main vision is to create a product that manages to both entertain and educate. The game will draw on facts and historical source material e.g. letters, photographs and maps. The player will be faced with ethical dilemmas as well as the horrors of war, thus introducing the target group to cultural and historical issues of borderland conflicts that continues to shape the European political agenda even today.

The 1864 Game is launched in 2014 as a part of one of the largest events in Danish broadcast history. The event that marks the 150th anniversary of the war, is commissioned by DR and consists of a € 20 mil. fiction-series and a true-to-facts TV-documentary. The game is designed to complement the TV-documentary as part of DR's ambition to reach a young and increasingly interactive audience.

Monster Ink Fairy Tale Book – 2012 BUFF:ff "Ägget" (Rookie)

Lars Håhus, Tim Badylak, Miranda Van Den Brink, Ink Fairy Books – Sweden

Transmedia project for young children. By Lars Håhus, Tim Badylak & Miranda Van Den Brink

The producers says: Ink Fairy books is a production company focusing on modern storytelling through multiple digital devices and platforms for children. We strongly believe that a perfect blend of storytelling and playfulness can truly engage readers and create a valuable experience for kids. Our first product will be the story about Ito and his father going monster fishing, followed by a story arc of two more books telling the story of their journey and long awaited return to their home Island. A deeper understanding of the universe and its characters will be told using transmedial story telling techniques and result in multiple products all tying in to the same overall narrative. Our next project will enter the preproduction phase when our first has entered Beta and by late 2012 we plan to have at least four projects running simultaneously to enable a consequential transmedia production.

Synopsis Ito, the Monsterfisher tells the tale of the tiny creature Ito and his father Itiro's journey from the island on which they live to the magnificent mainland. The story is set in a mysterious fantasyworld inhabited by gigantic monsters that only come out after dark. Ito himself is a fluffy little fellow and to a fluffy little fellow the world can seem a big, frightening place, especially with so many monsters out and about. To get to the mainland Ito and his father must hitch a ride with a monster big enough to carry them across the sea. Monsters are mesmerized by all things that shine and glow and to lure a monster close enough to jump onto its back they have to go monsterfishing. They attach a glowfruit to a fishing pole, climb the island's highest mountain and wait for a monster to catch sight of the fruit. Monsters don't eat small fluffy creatures like Ito and his father but when a monster migo sees the glowfruit he charges right at it, mouth open in awe, and accidentally swallows Itiro. Ito has to find the migo and save his dad but he's not alone. He's joined by the fuzzy little monster cub Itchi who is on the lookout for adventure...

