



Lucca Animation 2009

International Animated Film Festival

March 18 – 22

This year's spring will be a spring in the sign of moving images communication, thanks to the second edition of **Lucca Animation**, the International Animated Film Festival. For five days, from March 18 to March 22, an amazing parade of guests, workshops, retrospectives and premieres, with the best of the world animated production, will take place in the Tuscan town, transporting it into an innovating and, in the same time, historical planet.

Amongst the various events, the **International Short Film Competition**: forty films, chosen amidst two hundreds participants coming from everywhere in the world (from **Canada to Iran**, from **Japan to Estonia**), have been selected to run for the **Gran Premio 2009**, which will be awarded by a specialized jury.

There will be room also for **Special Programmes** with themed screenings like **Roborealismo**, a retrospective on the films that changed, over three decades, the vision of the mythical Japanese giant robots, or a special focus on Africa, with the screening of the first animated feature entirely produced in **Zimbabwe**, forerunner of a new and continuously growing scene.

As an ideal companion to all of this, an important retrospective dedicated to the **Masters of Prague**: after the surrealism and symbolism of **Estonia**, it is now time for shapes and magic from the Bohemian city, with the most complete review on the historical European school ever screened in Italy. From the Grand Old Men, like **Jiří Trnka** and **Bretislav Pojar**, undoubted pillars of world animation history, through the oneiric works of **Jan Švankmajer** to the latest inventions, a unique walk through the charming productions of **Czech Republic**.

Lucca Animation is not just cross-border animation: **Italian animation** is conceived to be a showcase for national productions, a real journey to the discovery of studios and everyday life of "animated" Italy. A place to meet authors, which will have the occasion to exchange opinions and receive critics and advice by an audience of amateurs.

After assisting to the films screenings, Festival audience will be able to meet the authors in *workshops* and conferences. Amongst the guests, obligatory mention goes to the Dutch **Rosto**, animator, rocker, director, author of graphic novel, with his film in a mesmerizingly dark 3D, and **Andrea Zingoni**, creator of the famous **Gino il Pollo** (to mention just one of his many productions), a true phenomenon riding on the web wave and the newly born pixels animation.

For more information see:

www.luccanimation.com