

[illegible]

Julianne Feller, 42West | julianne.feller@42west.net | 212.277.7555
Annalee Paulo, 42West | annalee.paulo@42west.net | 310.477.4442
Matt Hirsch, *Bond Influence and Strategy* | matth@bondinfluence.com | 212.354.2118
Hannah Rimm, *GKIDS* | hannah@gkids.com | 212.528.0500



SYNOPSIS

The highly anticipated new film from the Academy Award® - nominated writers and directors of *A Cat In Paris* is a stylish noir caper, set in the shadowy streets and alleyways of New York.

Leo has a secret. A mysterious illness has transformed him into a phantom boy, able to leave the confines of his body and explore the city as a ghostly apparition. While in the hospital, he befriends Alex, a New York City cop injured while attempting to capture a nefarious gangster who has taken control of the city's power supply, throwing the metropolis into chaos. Now they must form an extraordinary duo, using Leo's phantom powers and Alex's detective work to foil the plot and save New York from destruction. *Phantom Boy* continues Gagnol and Felicioli's fascination with animated film noir, in a heart-thumping adventure that pushes their trademark visual style to literal new heights, as Leo swoops and soars above the greatest skyline in the world.





RELEASE DATE:

JULY 15, 2016

TECHNICAL CREW

DIRECTORS

ALAIN GAGNOL
JEAN-LOUP FELICOLI

SCENARIO

ALAIN GAGNOL

GRAPHIC DESIGN & ART DIRECTOR

JEAN-LOUP FELICOLI

CHIEF TECHNICIAN

PATRICK TALLARON

DIRECTOR OF IMAGES

IZU TROIN

EDITOR

HERVÉ GUICHARD

SOUND SUPERVISOR

LOÏC BURKHARDT

MIXER

JEAN-PAUL HURIER

ANIMATORS

FRENCH TEAM

XAVIER CRUZ, ALAIN GAGNOL
TOBY JACKMAN, SIERGIEJ GIZILA, ANTOINE
LANCIAUX, SYLVIE LÉONARD, ELENA
POMARES, LAURENT REPITON, MORTEN
RIISBERG, HANSEN MARC ROBINET

ANIMATORS

BELGIAN TEAM

PASCAL VERMEERSCH (CHEF ANIM),
NANCY BENS, CAMIEL HERMANS, DAVID
BOLS, SARAH MENHEERE, PIETER SAMYN,
ARJAN WILSCHUT

CO-PRODUCTION

FOLIMAGE
LUNANIME
FRANCE 3 CINÉMA
RHÔNE-ALPES CINÉMA

PRODUCER

JACQUES-RÉMY GIRERD

PRODUCTION STUDIOS

FOLIMAGE (LA CARTOUCHERIE)
LUNANIME

DEPUTY PRODUCER BELGIUM

ANNEMIE DEGRYSE

PRODUCTION MANAGER

CATHERINE BLANC-MAURIZI

MUSIC

SERGE BESSET

CONDUCTOR

STÉPHANE CORTIAL

SET DESIGNERS

ZOÏA TROFIKOVA
ÉMILIE MERCIER
CHRISTEL GUIBERT

SET GRAPHICS DESIGNER

JEAN BOUTHORS
COLOUR MODELS
MARYSE TUZI

CAST

MARY

AUDREY TAUTOU

THE BROKEN FACE

JEAN-PIERRE MARIELLE

ALEX

ÉDOUARD BAER

MOLE

JACKIE BERROYER

LEO

GASPARD GAGNOL

TITI

NOA BERNAOUI-SAVREUX

THE LITTLE GUY/ THE EXTERMINATOR

PATRICK RIDREMONT

THE GIANT

PATRICK DESCAMPS

THE COMMISSIONER

YVES BARBOUT

THE MAYOR/FATHER

PHILIPPE PEYTHIEU



PRODUCTION NOTES

The first film from directors Alain Gagnol and Jean-Loup Felicioli, *A Cat in Paris*, was steeped in a film noir ambiance with the distant sound of jazz music across the rooftops of Paris. After Paris was reinvented for *A Cat in Paris*, *Phantom Boy* offers a new graphic vision of New York. The film's settings were drawn from photos, then recomposed, sometimes by moving a building or changing perspective entirely, often in a nod to classic New York cinematic moments and the perspective of comic books.

Computer graphics were a key tool, but the animation remains carefully crafted using hand-drawn images on paper. That way, the drawings retain their delicacy and sensitivity. Drawn in wax crayons on paper, the backgrounds were then reworked on a computer. The pencil and crayon strokes are deliberately visible on screen, which serves as a reminder that films are not merely consumer products but rather the fruit of meticulous work by a team of artists and technicians. This technique also offers a much more personal vision of this camera-friendly city.

Phantom Boy is deeply influenced by the directors' love of comic books, particularly the golden age of Marvel in the 1960s, when characters became known as much for their human shortcomings as for their superpowers. Comics have much in common with the detective genre. Both are mainly set in an urban setting, and the shadows cast by the skyscrapers are just as likely to hide a sharp-dressed crook as a comic book super-villain.

In *Phantom Boy*, Leo's challenge is twofold: he must prevail on the inside through the mental and physical challenges of his illness, and on the outside, in his attempt to stop a dangerous gangster, The Face, from threatening the safety of New York City.



Photos © Patrick Zani

THE DIRECTORS

ALAIN GAGNOL & JEAN-LOUP FELICOLI

Alain Gagnol was born in 1967 in Roanne, France. He studied animation, illustration and strip cartoons at the Ecole Émile Cohl in Lyon, before working as an animator for French animation studio Folimage. He also writes detective stories published by Gallimard, Cherche Midi and Le Passeur.

Jean-Loup Felicioli was born in 1960 in Albertville, France. After studying at the schools of fine arts in Annecy, Strasbourg, Perpignan and Valence, he was hired by the Folimage animation studio as an animator.

Starting in 1996, Alain and Jean-Loup began to produce short films, including “*Les Tragédies minuscules*” (*Tiny Tragedies*), a 10-episode series for French TV channels Canal+ and Arte.

A Cat in Paris, their first feature-length film, was released in 2010. The film premiered at the Berlin Film Festival before moving onwards and upwards to Hollywood, where it received an Academy Award nomination for Best Animated Feature in 2012.

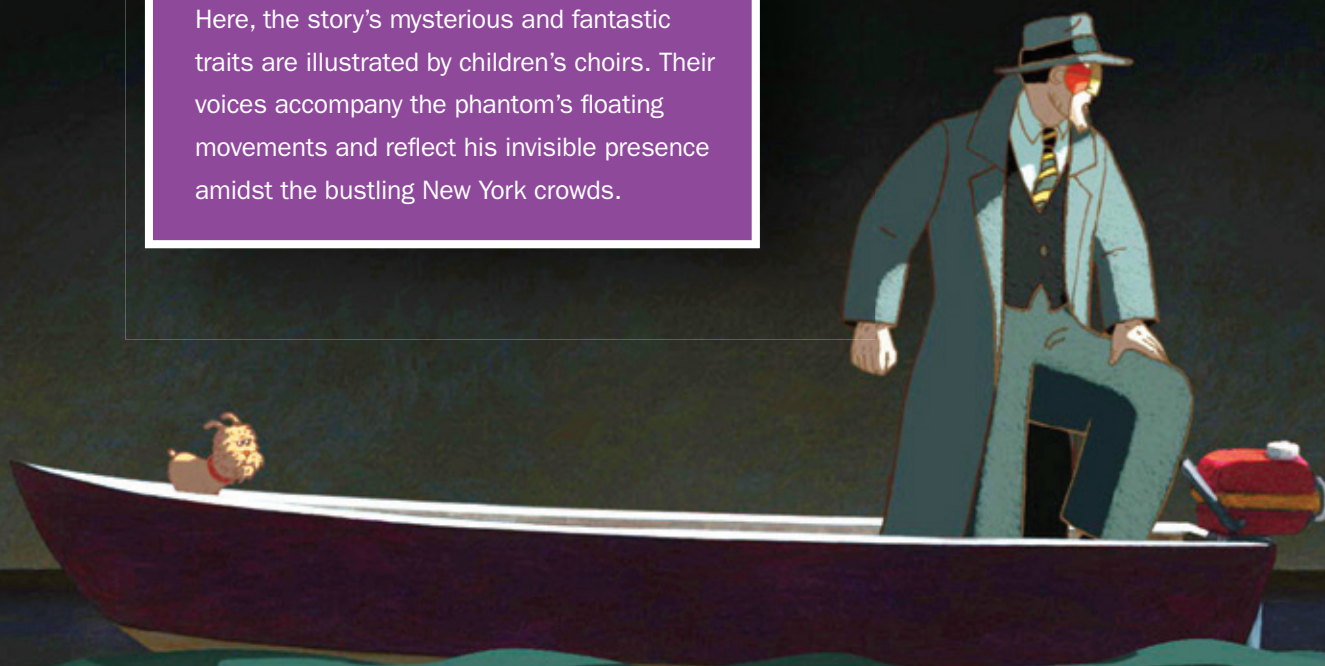
GKIDS





THE MUSIC

With his abilities for adaptation and his precise knowledge of the constraints inherent in animation, composer Serge Besset manages to set the right tone for each film. In *A Cat In Paris*, his music had echoes of jazz to describe Paris at night. While giving weight to symphonic music to carry the audience, the score for *Phantom Boy* explores another path. Here, the story's mysterious and fantastic traits are illustrated by children's choirs. Their voices accompany the phantom's floating movements and reflect his invisible presence amidst the bustling New York crowds.





ABOUT GKIDS

GKIDS is a distributor of award-winning feature animation for both adult and family audiences. The company has scored eight Best Animated Feature Academy Award® nominations – the most for an independent distributor – with these acclaimed films:

The Secret of Kells (2010)

A Cat in Paris (2012)

Chico & Rita (2012)

Ernest & Celestine (2014)

The Tale of The Princess Kaguya (2015)

Song of the Sea (2015)

Boy and the World (2016)

When Marnie Was There (2016)

GKIDS also handles North American theatrical distribution for the Studio Ghibli library of films, one of the world's most coveted animation collections with titles *Spirited Away*, *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Princess Mononoke*, *Grave of the Fireflies* and others.

www.gkidsfilms.com

CONTACTS:

Julianne Feller, 42West | Julianne.Feller@42West.net | 212.277.7555

Annalee Paulo, 42West | Annalee.Paulo@42West.net | 310.477.4442

Matt Hirsch, Bond Influence and Strategy | matth@bondinfluence.com | 212.354.2118

Hannah Rimm, GKIDS | hannah@gkids.com | 212.528.0500

