

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Cinebook to publish 8 new series, 46 titles by Mediatoon in English in 2009**

**Canterbury, Kent, 26 January, 2009** – For many English-speaking readers, knowledge of European comic books is limited to the popular characters Tintin and Asterix.

Since the end of 2005, Cinebook has worked to become the premier publisher of the Franco-Belgian Ninth Art in English in markets dominated by American superhero comics and Japanese manga.

Olivier Cadic, editor and creator of the publishing house based in Canterbury, England and in Northern California, has announced that it will further develop the Cinebook catalogue in 2009 with the addition of eight new series: “Billy and Buddy,” “Buck Danny,” “The Chimpanzee Complex,” “Insiders,” “The Bellybuttons,” “Orbital,” “Pandora’s Box” and “Spirou & Fantasio.” They join the series “Lucky Luke,” “Iznogoud,” “Blake & Mortimer,” “Thorgal,” “Largo Winch,” “Aldebaran,” “Alpha,” “IR\$,” “Lady S,” “Scorpion,” “Biggles,” “Cedric,” “Clifton,” “Ducoboo,” “Melusine,” “Papyrus,” “The Bluecoats,” “Yakari” and “Yoko Tsuno,” already being published by Cinebook. All of the series, 46 Dargaud-Dupuis-Lombard titles and one Casterman title, will be published in new English editions in 2009 by Cinebook.

“We’re investing to introduce to the Anglo-Saxon world the numerous European talents of the Ninth Art,” declares Cadic. In 2008, almost half of Cinebook’s album sales were in Europe (46%) and one-third in North America (31%). Cinebook, which is present throughout the world, also sells in the South Sea Islands (10%), Asia (10%) and Africa/the Middle East (3%).

The foreign rights of publishers Dargaud-Dupuis-Lombard are marketed by Mediatoon Distribution. At the beginning of January 2009, Mediatoon and Cinebook signed a new five-year contract for each of the 27 anticipated series, providing for publication of one to six albums per year by series.

For Sophie Castille, director of Mediatoon’s Foreign rights, this agreement constitutes the most important partnership between a publisher of Franco-Belgian *bandes dessinées* (BD) and an English-language publisher: “In three years, Cinebook has emerged as the premier worldwide publisher of Franco-Belgian BD in the English language. Mediatoon is delighted to be associated with the emergence of a big, new international name in BD.”

These and other Cinebook titles are distributed:

In North America, by National Book Network Distribution, Inc. (NBN), [www.nbnbooks.com](http://www.nbnbooks.com).

In Europe (except France & Benelux), by Turnaround Publisher Services, [www.turnaround-psl.com](http://www.turnaround-psl.com)

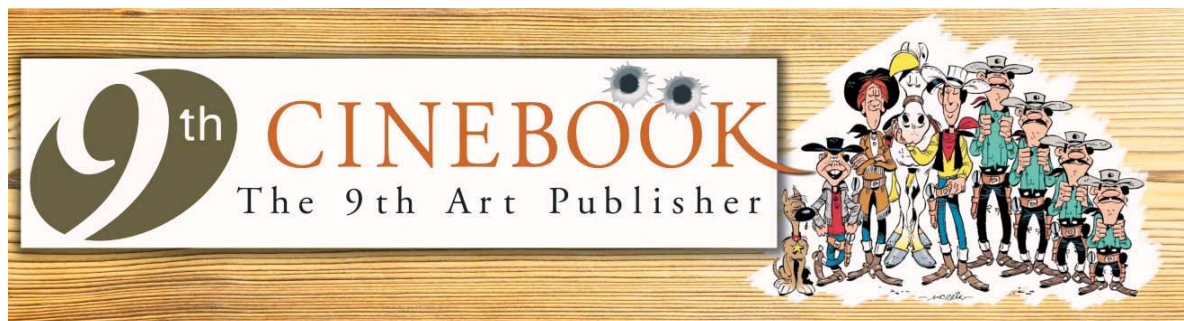
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## Cinebook — CONTINUED —

### EDITORS

To schedule an interview with Olivier Cadic, to request a review copy of one of Cinebook's 2009 publications, or for additional information regarding the company, please email Erica Jeffrey (North America) at [e.jeffrey@comcast.net](mailto:e.jeffrey@comcast.net) or Olivier Cadic (United Kingdom) at [olivier@cinebook.co.uk](mailto:olivier@cinebook.co.uk), T.+44(0)1227 731368.

To read more about the company or to view Cinebook's catalogue, visit <http://www.cinebook.com>.

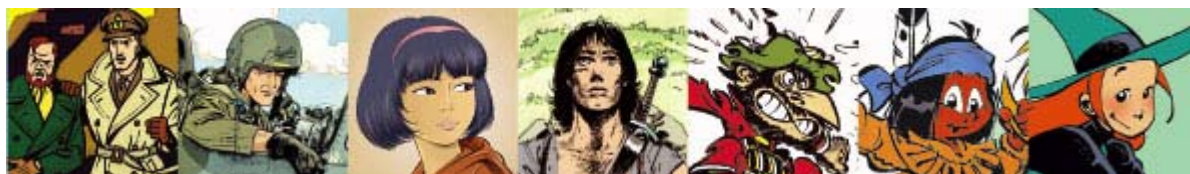
### Brief personal profile of Olivier Cadic:

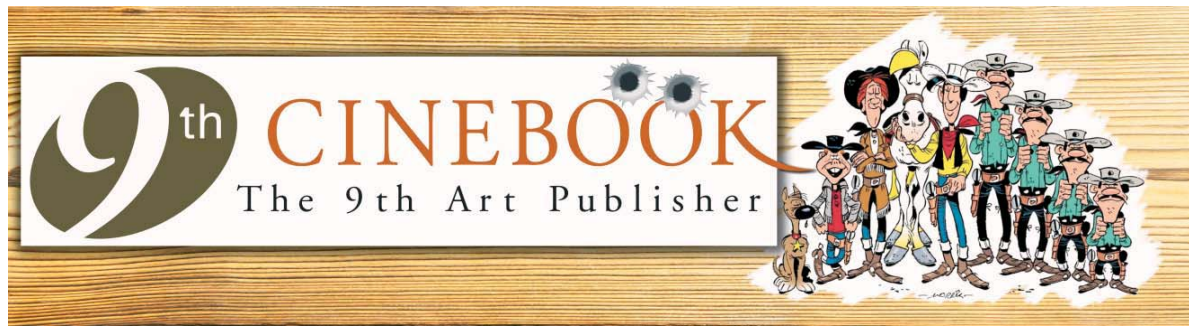
In 1982, at age 20, Olivier Cadic started electronics firm Info Elec in Paris. In 1996, he transferred the company's business offices to England, where he founded the association *La France libre . . . d'entreprendre* ("Free France . . . free enterprise") to assist other French businessowners. In 1999, Cadic raised €10 million in funding and created PCB007.com, the first global Internet marketplace for printed circuits. In 2003, observing the electronics market trend toward Asian production, Cadic began systematically divesting his activities in this domain. At the end of 2005, with the founding of his publishing firm Cinebook Ltd, Cadic began to promote Franco-Belgian comic strips to the English-speaking world. He has published approximately 20 series in English, including "Lucky Luke," "Blake & Mortimer," "Largo Winch" and "Thorgal." A self-described "history fanatic," Cadic coauthored the award-winning "Queen Margot" series, Cinebook's only original graphic novel line to date.

With the support of current French president Nicolas Sarkozy, Cadic was elected in 2006 to the A.F.E. (the assembly of French nationals living abroad) to represent French citizens living in the United Kingdom. In the order of protocol, he is third in line after the French Ambassador and the French General Consul.

MEDIATOON DISTRIBUTION : Media-Participations, the European leader in comics publishing and in animated cartoon production, has created Mediatoon to oversee the group's various business activities outside the sphere of comic-book editing and animation production. Mediatoon, managed by Jean-Christophe Delpierre, includes four divisions:

- MEDIATOON Foreign Rights, managed by Sophie Castille, is responsible for selling publishing rights to the comics to international publishers, magazines, and newspapers. These comics include those published by Dargaud, Dupuis, Lombard, Lucky Comics and Kana, as well as by several independent publishers, such as Tabary. Over 1.5 million comic albums in foreign languages are sold under license every year, in over 40 countries and in more than 30 languages.
- The Licensing department, managed by Jérôme Leclercq, licenses rights to the characters and series owned by the Group, such as Spirou, Lucky Luke, Boule et Bill, and Kid Paddle, as well as characters





and series outside the Group such as Naruto, Keroro, Full Metal Alchemist, and others.

- Mediatoon International Distribution, managed by Marie-Pierre Moulinjeune, is responsible for the sale of audiovisual programs to television channels and video publishers worldwide. Mediatoon International Distribution owns a catalog of more than 1 400 hours of children's programming.

- The Mediatoon Interactive department, managed by Isabelle Denis, develops new opportunities for all the Group's properties across the new media platforms, such as IPTV, PCs, and mobile telephone systems, and new methods of accessing our content, such as VOD, SVOD, free VOD, permanent downloading, etc. Mediatoon Interactive also centralizes and publishes content on the new and emerging digital platforms of operators, ISPs and service providers

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