

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Cinebook, Publishing Best-selling European Comic Books and Graphic Novels,
at the London Book Fair 20-22 April 2009**

Canterbury, Kent, 16 April 2009 –

Cinebook is pleased to announce its presence at the London Book Fair for the fourth consecutive year. The leading British publisher of European comic books and graphic novels will be on stand B495, in the Children's section.

Bandes dessinées, as our neighbours across the Channel in France, Belgium and beyond call them, play a crucial role in helping European children learn to read and enjoy books. The habit has become ingrained in many teenagers and adults of all ages, so much so that one in eight books sold in France is now a comic book or graphic novel. Many specialist shops and conventions cater to an ever-eager readership, while bandes dessinées—translated literally as “drawn strips” and considered the 9th art in France—are indeed a staple of the arts pages in newspapers and cultural shows on television throughout continental Europe.

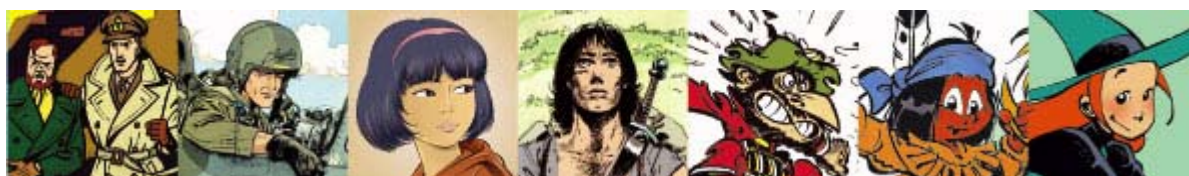
Since its launch at the end of 2005, Cinebook has worked hard to become the premier publisher of bandes dessinées originating from France and Belgium and translated into English. In 2008, Cinebook's sales in the UK more than doubled year on year, both in sterling and in the number of books sold.

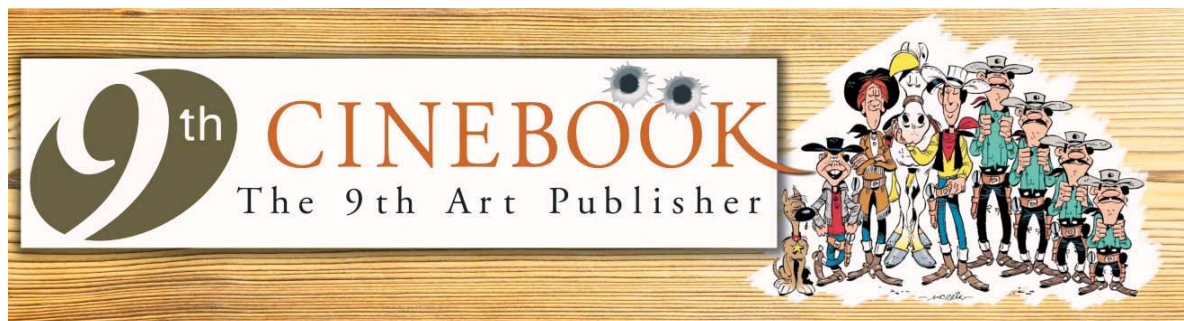
“We're investing in order to introduce the Anglo-Saxon world to the numerous European talents of the 9th art,” declares Cadic. “We were confident that readers would find these top-selling titles just as great in English as the rest of the world finds them in French, Spanish, and numerous other languages.” By the end of 2009, the Cinebook catalogue will comprise 108 titles.

The Borders chain recently acknowledged the growing demand for Cinebook titles in the British Isles and is now stocking in each of its 51 stores the fifteen volumes of the ever popular Lucky Luke books and three Iznougoud as well as five Blake & Mortimer and one Biggles title.

Seven new series—Billy & Buddy, Buck Danny, The Chimpanzee Complex, The Bellybuttons, Orbital, Pandora's Box and Spirou & Fantasio—have joined Lucky Luke, Iznougoud, Blake & Mortimer, Thorgal, Largo Winch, Aldebaran, Alpha, IR\$, Lady S, Scorpion, Biggles, Cedric, Clifton, Ducoboo, Melusine, Papyrus, The Bluecoats, Yakari and Yoko Tsuno to become part of Cinebook's ever-growing portfolio.

The adventures of American pilot **Buck Danny** mix fact and fiction. Illustrator Francis Bergèse revived the iconic character at the end of the 1970s and is now writing the scripts as well as drawing the stories. *Night of the Serpent*, Cinebook's first volume, went on sale in April.





Created by Québec-born comic writer Maryse Dubuc, **The Bellybuttons** is ‘chick lit’ in graphic novel format and features two super-catty girls many readers will recognize. *Who Do You Think You Are?*, the first instalment, is out on 7th May 2009.

An ideal read for sci-fi fans, **Orbital** teams up an interspecies pair of special agents charged with keeping the intergalactic peace. Sylvain Runberg writes the scripts, while illustrator Serge Pellé creates a dense and detailed universe. *Scars*, the first volume of their adventures, is out on 7th May 2009.

Belgian artist Jean Roba created the heart-warming series **Billy & Buddy**, or “Boule et Bill” as they are known in the original language, for *Spirou* magazine in 1959. The adventures of the little boy and his gifted cocker spaniel have sold 25 million copies and are perfect for younger readers. *Remember This, Buddy?*, the first volume, is out on 4th June 2009.

Comic books and graphic novels instil in children the joy of reading from a young age and help them form a lasting relationship with the written word.

In the United Kingdom, Cinebook titles are distributed by Turnaround Publisher Services, on the Web at <http://www.turnaround-psl.com>.

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 Olivier Cadic at 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 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 business owners. 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. An avowed “history fanatic,” Cadic co-authored 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.

