

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Cinebook Again Bringing Its Best-selling European Comic Books and Graphic Novels to BookExpo America, May 29-31

Canterbury, Kent, UK, May 5, 2009 –

Despite the economy, there's no slowing down for publisher Cinebook. The leading British publisher of European comic books and graphic novels is once again bringing its line of English-language translations to North American book show BookExpo America later this month in New York City. Cinebook will exhibit in booth 645, in Children's Books, Level One, in the Jacob K. Javits Center.

Bandes dessinées, as they are called in France and Belgium, 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 a comic book or graphic novel. Many specialty shops and conventions cater to an ever-eager readership, while *bandes dessinées*—translated literally “drawn strips” and considered the 9th art in France—are 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 BDs originating from France and Belgium and translated into English. In 2008, Cinebook's sales in North America tripled year on year.

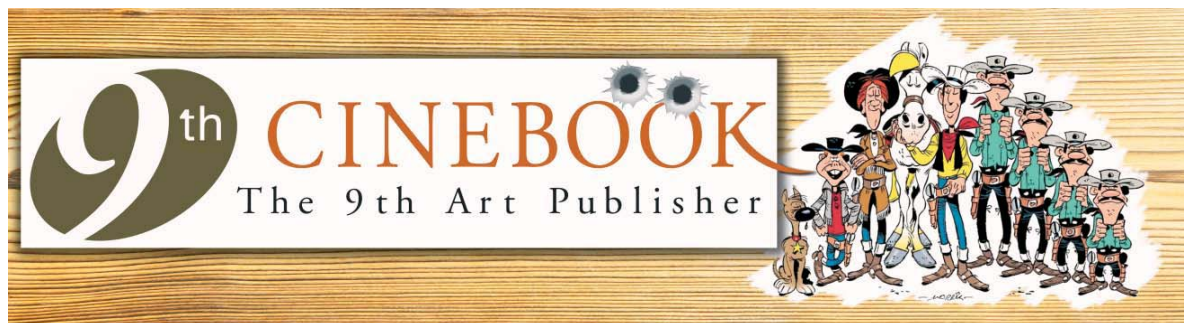
“We're investing in order to introduce the Anglo-Saxon world to the numerous European talents of the 9th Art,” declares Cadic. “We were confident that readers would find these top-selling titles just as great in English as the rest of the world finds them in French, Spanish, and numerous other languages.”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

Seven new series – “Billy & Buddy,” “Buck Danny,” “The Chimpanzee Complex,” “The Bellybuttons,” “Orbital,” “Pandora's Box” and “Spirou & Fantasio”—have joined “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” to become part of Cinebook's ever-growing portfolio.

Pandora's Box, written by Alcante and illustrated by Radovanovic, combines ancient Greek mythology motifs with contemporary themes and events to create morality tales about how modern technology, when ill-used, can debase humanity.

Long popular in Europe and elsewhere, **The Bluecoats** features Sergeant Chesterfield and Corporal Blutch, soldiers in the Union army during the American Civil War. With more than 50 separate titles, the series provides fascinating historical context while delivering a pacifist message through the humorous characters.





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Created by Québec-born comic writer Maryse Dubuc, **The Bellybuttons** is “chick lit” in graphic novel format and features two catty girls many readers will recognize. *Who Do You Think You Are?*, the first installment, is out on May 7 this year.

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 also due out on May 7.

Belgian artist Jean Roba created the heart-warming series **Billy & Buddy**, or “Boule et Bill” as they are known in the original French, 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 June 4 this year.

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

Visit Cinebook at Book Expo America, May 29-31, in **booth 645**.

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.

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.

