



## **VALENCIA, EPICENTRE OF THE INTERNATIONAL YOUNG TALENT IN ANIMATION DURING SOME DAYS THANKS TO BRIDGING THE GAP**

From Monday July 18th and until Saturday 23rd, the international animation lab Bridging the Gap (BTG) celebrated its second edition in the venue of the school Barreira Arte + Diseño in Valencia (Spain) with the participation of fourteen talents from all over the world.

The fourteen participants, selected by the organization after an open call, are talents from all over the world that attend to the Spanish city with their projects of animated series or feature film in development. Among them, young talents from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Philippines, France, Lithuania, United Kingdom and Siria, as well as several Spanish talents participated.



A total of 13 projects have been selected to participate in Bridging the Gap 2016: the feature films 'The Other Shape' by Diego Felipe Guzmán (Colombia), 'Wings' by Tim Argall – preliminar director – (Lithuania), 'Faery' by Angcoy Crisologo (Philippines), 'ALMI' by Tewodros Kifle (Ethiopia) and 'Elsewhere' by Ward Saleh (France/Siria); and the series 'Jail' by Catalina Vásquez (Colombia), 'Chakay, Crossing the Bridge' by Daniel Jacome (Ecuador), 'Dinosaurs in the sky' by Amanda Richardson (United Kingdom/Brazil), 'My name is Peligro' by Juan Valbuena (Venezuela/Panama), 'Raffi' by Santiago O'Ryan & Ricardo Villavicencio (Chile), 'Berks' by Javier de la Chica (Spain), 'Villains Campus' by David Colomer (Spain) and 'The Wind-ups' by Irene Chica (Spain).

The five projects which received the BTG scholarships were 'Chakay, Crossing the Bridge' by Daniel Jacome (Ecuador), 'The Other Shape' by Diego Felipe Guzmán (Colombia), 'Faery' by Angcoy Crisologo (Philippines), 'ALMI' by Tewodros Kifle (Ethiopia) and 'Jail' by Catalina Vásquez (Colombia).

'Elsewhere' by Ward Saleh (France/Siria) received the Institut Français Espagne scholarship to the Best French Project; besides 'Dinosaurs in the sky' by Amanda Richardson (United Kingdom/Brazil) has received the Creative UK Network – British Council scholarship; "The Wind-ups" by Irene Chica (Spain) it has been awarded the 3D Wirescholarship to the Best Spanish Project; and 'Villains Campus' by David Colomer and 'Berks' by Javier de la Chica were selected with scholarships from the schools Barreira Arte + Diseño and U-tad, respectively, addressed to one of their students.

The participants received masterclass and consulting meetings by experts of the industry, among we could find the founder of the Belgium production company Walking de Dog, Eric Goossens; the creator of "Pocoyo", Guillermo García Carsí; the Movistar + Spain's head of short films acquisitions department, Guadalupe Arensburg; the creative director of Walt Disney Europe, Shamik Majumdar; the producer of the Oscar-winner short film "Logorama", Nicolas Schmerkin; the producer of the transmedia project "The reward", Charlotte De La Gournerie; the Director of 3D Wire, Jose Luis Farias; or the Spanish producer Manuel Cristóbal ("Wrinkles"). Besides, there were the consultants Paco Rodríguez and Belli Ramírez, co-founder of Mr.Cohl

and line producer of Zinkia Entertainment; and the young Valencian animation studio Silly Walks.

Furthermore, Saturday 23rd, final pitch day, the experts panel integrated as well the head of acquisitions of the distribution company Pack Magic, Alfred Sesma; and the director and executive producer of Rokyn Animation, Manuel Sicilia and Francesca Nicoll, among others. With the aim of encourage the meeting the local industry, the organization invited to the sector to participate in the final pitch of selected projects, Saturday 23rd at the school Barreira, Arte + Diseño. During the activity, the professionals were invited to give feedback to the selected talents, with whom could speak in the paella that closed this day.

