

Manga Productions from Saudi Arabia appoints Kobun Shizuno as the director to its upcoming full feature animated film in collaboration with Toei Animation

Manga Productions (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) and Toei Animation Co., Ltd. (Tokyo) have started their second collaboration to produce a cinematic animation movie by appointing Kobun Shizuno as the film director and Atsuhiko Tomioka as the screenwriter. Mr. Shizuno is a highly acclaimed director known for his work on “Detective Conan” and "Godzilla Monster Planet", and Mr. Tomioka is famous for screenwriting Pokemon, Yu Gi Oh and Inazuma Eleven animation series.



This movie production was initiated by the partnership agreement which was concluded between Manga Productions and Toei Animation at "Misk Global Forum" held in Riyadh in November, 2017. The Japan-Saudi team is currently working on the story development which to be followed by location hunt in Saudi Arabia. Other collaborations between the two entities include "The Woodcutter's Treasure" animation episode which has already been completed and is awaiting launch in the Arab world and Japan.

The director and the screenwriter comment on this collaboration was as follows:

■ Director Kobun Shizuno: "Currently, Manga Productions and Toei Animation are diligently working on the production of a splendid animated film. This movie contains different level of expressions and art styles than what I have delivered in my career until now. Even the scenario and the music have been designed and composed to surprise everyone, so I really hope you will get the chance to watch and enjoy it"

■ Scriptwriter Atsuhiko Tomioka: "Both Mr. Shizuno and I endeavor to achieve innovative and radically new visual art style and storyline expressions. I am fully confident that we will deliver you a very exciting story and film experience which we hope that you look forward to it"

■ Dr. Bukhary Essam, CEO of Manga Productions: "I am very delighted to have this opportunity to initiate this collaboration with Director Shizuno and Mr. Tomioka. Local artists and talents from Saudi Arabia will join the production team in Toei animation to create this movie. This collaboration work between the two countries is an important milestone in the history of the creative contents industry in Saudi Arabia. We look forward to learning and transferring the technology and knowhow from the leading Japanese filmmakers"



The running time of the animation film is 100 minutes. It will be released in movie theaters in Japan, Saudi Arabia and worldwide.

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