

# MOVING PICTURES AROUND THE WORLD

Countries that have made their mark in animation.

Many of your favourite cartoons come from close to home. **Disney**, **Pixar** and **DreamWorks** are just a few of the studios that make animated movies in the U.S. Canada's own **Nelvana** produces favourites like *Ruby Gloom* and *Grossology*. But did you know that overseas countries also produce great cartoons and animated movies? Here's a taste of what they have to offer.



**Anime is popular not only in Japan but also all over the world!**



## JAPAN

Japan is famous for **anime**, a style of animation that dates back from about 1917. **Robot anime** is very popular, called "**mecha**" outside of Japan, with walking vehicles controlled by a pilot. **Human anime** characters often have large eyes to show emotion and body parts not in proportion with the rest of their body. Some of the most popular anime series are *Bleach*, about a high school kid who can see, touch and talk to ghosts, and *Naruto*, about an aspiring ninja-to-be who wants to be recognized by his village.



India has been making a name for itself with home-grown animated films.



## INDIA

This country's animation houses are very busy with work that has been outsourced (or sent over) from U.S.-based companies like Walt Disney, Warner Bros Studios and MGM. However, when Indian film houses make **original movies**, the results are often very touching. Some popular animated movies are *Krishna*, based on the adventures of one of **Hinduism's most revered Gods**, and *Bal Ganesh*, the story of an elephant god, who is a bit of a prankster.



## FRANCE

Émile Cohl created *Fantasmagorie* in 1908, most likely

the first real animated cartoon. France also brought classic stories like the *Tintin* series and *The Little Prince* to the animated screen in the 70s. More recently, *Persepolis*, based on a graphic novel of the same name, got rave reviews as a coming of age story about a girl during the Iranian revolution.



## CHINA

Animation in China was started by the **Wan brothers (Lai-Ming, Gu-Chan, Chao-Chen and Di-Huan)**, in 1926, with the black and white film *The Camel's Dance*. Chinese animation suffered serious setbacks during the cultural revolution in 1966, when many animators were forced to quit the industry. Only in the 90s did the industry begin growing again. Popular Chinese cartoons include *Century Sonny*, about a prince on an extra-galactic planet and *Black Cat Detective*, which shows a motorcycle-riding feline detective clashing with mice.

