LAYALINA PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

Ben & Izzy

PRESS KIT
Synopsis, Press Release, Bios, Photos, Film Credits, Contact info & Poster

SYNOPSIS

Ben & Izzy is an animated children's series that follows the budding friendship of two young boys, one from Jordan and the other from the United States. After discovering a time machine, the boys travel through time together, learning about each other's rich cultural heritage and meeting key historical figures. Throughout their adventures, Ben and Izzy work together to overcome incredible difficulties and grow to appreciate each other and their respective cultures. The series crosses cultural barriers and relates to viewers on a universal level, as the characters' friendship serves as a metaphor for acceptance and tolerance. The lesson from each episode is, "we don't have to be the same to get along!"

Ben & Izzy premiered in primetime in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in 2008 and has attracted millions of viewers during its multiple re-airings. The premiere broadcast on the Middle East Broadcast Centre (MBC) children's channel, MBC3, took place during the first two weeks of the month of Ramadan, when television viewership reaches its yearly peak.

Ben & Izzy is a Rubicon production in association with Layalina Productions. It is executive produced by Randa Ayoubi and is directed by Glenn Chaika. The series was created and written by Jymn Magon.

http://www.layalina.tv/films/ben-izzy/

PRESS RELEASE

World Premiere: Ben & Issam airs on MBC3 during Ramadan

Groundbreaking Children's animation series reaches millions in primetime

WASHINGTON, DC, September 8, 2008 -- *Ben & Issam,* Layalina Productions' sponsored state of the art computer-animated children's series had its world premiere broadcast in primetime on September 1 on MBC3, the most watched and most credible pan-Arab free-to-air satellite broadcaster in the Arab world.

The 13-episode action, comedy, and adventure series is a groundbreaking 3D cartoon produced by Jordan's Rubicon, a pioneering and award winning entertainment company in the Middle East and North Africa. Ben & Issam is sponsored in part by Layalina Productions, Inc. through a generous grant from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation of California.

In each 30-minute episode, Ben and Issam travel through time, history and rich cultural heritages, meeting key historical figures and learning about the past and its values. Moreover, they learn how to cross cultural barriers and speak a universal humanitarian language of appreciating cultures and personal heritage, making "Ben & Issam" role models for new generations.

"We are delighted with the premiere of Ben & Issam on MBC3, and celebrate the success of Rubicon, our world-class Jordanian partner. We are pleased that MBC Group, the most credible and most watched pan-Arab free-to-air satellite broadcaster is airing this groundbreaking cross-cultural series during Ramadan. All of us at Layalina thank The Hewlett Foundation for their support of *Ben & Issam*," said Ambassador Richard Fairbanks, Layalina's Founder and Chairman of the Board.

http://www.layalina.tv/films/ben-izzy/

PHOTOS

Click here to download High-Res versions of the *Ben & Izzy* photos.

CREDITS

Written by
Jymn Magon

Directed by
Glenn Chaika

Executive Produced by
Randa Ayoubi
David Pritchard
Natasha Abrahams

Starring
Lucy Liu
Anne Mumolo
Kath Soucie
Mark Hamil
Brian Cummings
Clancy Brown
Phil Proctor

Character Design by
Bill Schwab

Animation by
Oliver Guse
Ala'a Abu Hanish
Mohannad Al Ratroot

Film Editing by
Robert David Sanders
Peter Tomaszewicz

Music by
Scott Cochran

Sound by
Robert David Sanders

Visual Effects by
Sami Nikki
Sam Sarraf

http://www.layalina.tv/films/ben-izzy/

CONTACT

Leon Shahabian
President & Executive Producer
Lshahabi@Layalina.tv

Facebook: /LayalinaProductions
Twitter: @LayalinaTV
Instagram: @LayalinaTV
www.Layalina.tV

LAYALINA PRODUCTIONS

1666 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite #240
Washington, DC 20009
information@Layalina.tv
Office: 202-776-7761

POSTER

Click here to download a High-Res version of the *Ben & Izzy* poster.