

## Magical Tales from the East

The timeless Persian stories spun by the clever storyteller Sheherezade (Shahrazad) in *1001 Nights* have inspired a fantastic new animated series produced by Vancouver-based **Big Bad Boo Studios** (*Mixed Nutz*). "My father used to tell me stories from this book when I was a little girl in Iran and would always leave the endings off!" recalls the show's producer and creator **Shabnam Rezaei**. "It was very frustrating, worse than a commercial break, because you have to wait until the next day to find out what happens next! Famous animated characters such as Aladdin and Sinbad were originally part of these tales."

Along with studio founder and co-producer Aly Jetha, Rezaei set out to make her version of the story more irreverent and perfect for the six- to nine-year-old demographic. "The show is primarily a fast-paced comedy that is edgy and has the same kind of humor you'd find in *The Princess Bride*."

Rezaei says a team of 70 dedicated professionals are busy working on the show at the studio right now. "We are very lucky to have Randy Rogel, three-time Emmy Award winner from *Animaniacs* and *Batman* fame, to be our head story editor," she adds. "Chad Van De Keere (*Being Ian*) is our director, along with Charmaine Lazaro as line producer. Not to mention the other talented artists, designers and animators who are working very hard on the show." We have a feeling there's a happy ending in sight when the show is ready for delivery in April 2010.



## Popular Wordplay

Manchester and London-based media company **TV-Loonland** will begin distributing the acclaimed preschool series **WordWorld** at this year's market. The Emmy-winning show will be available as a 74 x 11 series, 8 music clips and 52 Build-a-Word

Songs. TV-Loonland, which also distributes animated shows such as *Raymond*, *Leon*,

*Little Princess* and *Pat and Stan*

will handle TV, home entertainment and new media rights for Western and Eastern Europe including Russia, Africa and South Africa and Israel.

Created by visual artist **Don Moody**,

*WordWorld* helps children learn English using unique characters and storytelling! Each episode is a fun narrative built around a wacky troupe of WordFriends who are made up of the letters that spell their names. "We are delighted to expand the show's viewership across the globe with TV-Loonland as a key partner," says Moody. For more info, visit [www.wordworld.com](http://www.wordworld.com).



## Three Siblings in One Body

Burbank-based **Lincoln Butterfield Animation** is coming to the market with several new dynamic concepts. The latest offering from the creative geniuses at the indie outfit is a comedy aimed at tweens called **When Whinn Situation**. Described as a new take on the timeless *Freaky Friday* concept, the show follows the misadventures of 12-year-old Windsor Whinn who ends up sharing his body with his two siblings—17-year-old superjock Simon and precocious seven-year-old Stephanie—as the result of their grandpa's disastrous scientific experience! The fact that toon was created by *Phineas and Ferb* director Robert Hughes and developed by Mitch Schauer (*The Angry Beavers*) makes us think that this one is definitely a toon to keep an eye on.

