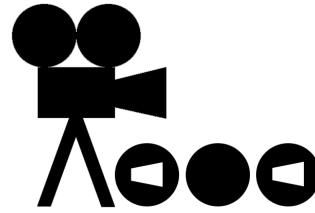


Agog Films Productions  
Rm W, 12/F, Everest Industrial Ctr, 396 Kwun Tong Rd,  
Kwun Tong, Kowloon, HONG KONG  
+852-9418-6674

**For More Information**

Ingrid Lim  
Associate Producer  
+852-9834-1122  
info@agogfilms.com



*Be amazed. Be agog. Agog Films.*

**To be released on 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2010**

**Transformers Director joins Fanboy's Finalized Dream Team for 3D Mecha Epic**

**SUMMARY INFORMATION**

SAN DIEGO – 23 July 2010 – Fanboys/fangirls at this week's world-biggest Comic Con in San Diego should be ecstatic to hear today's torrent of news updates concerning award-winning British movie producer and self-described fanboy, Guy Orlebar's, new 3D sci-fi live-action mecha epic FUTURE FIGHTERS ([www.FutureFightersMovie.com](http://www.FutureFightersMovie.com)). First and foremost, it was announced today that Korean director/producer of the original 1986 animated Transformers movie NELSON SHIN will be directing this project, with Hong Kong director KEN SIU (*"The Forbidden Kingdom"*, *"Fearless"*, *"Rush Hour"*) joining as Assistant Director. In addition, multi-Oscar-winning New Zealand-based WETA WORKSHOP (*"Avatar"*, *"District 9"*, *"Lord of the Rings"*) confirmed its desire to be involved, and Japan's female black-belt karate action star RINA TAKEDA (*"Highkick Girl"*) will join the previously announced cast lineup of Comic Con favorites Ray Park (*"Heroes"*, *"G.I. Joe"*), and Reuben Langdon (*"Devil May Cry"*, *"Avatar"*), and also Eriko Sato (*"Cutie Honey"*), Gordon Liu (*"Kill Bill 1&2"*) and Yasuaki Kurata (*"Blood: The Last Vampire"*). Also relevant to Comic Con itself is today's further news that long-time Transformers comic writer SIMON FURMAN will be writing the movie's graphic novel with Transformers comic illustrator, and this movie's production designer, GUIDO GUIDI (*"Fantastic Four"*, *"X-Men"*) providing the artwork.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Nelson Shin can be contacted through his Akom Production Company at fax +82-2-406-8950. Ken Siu can be contacted through Future Fighter's movie producer Mike Leader at [bigmike@screenops.com](mailto:bigmike@screenops.com). Weta Workshop can be contacted via its website at <http://www.wetanz.com/contact/>. Rina Takeda's agent can be contacted via the Sony Music Artists website at <http://www.sma.co.jp>. Simon Furman can be contacted through his official blog <http://simonfurman.wordpress.com/about/>, and Guido Guidi on [guido.guidi.arts@gmail.com](mailto:guido.guidi.arts@gmail.com). Producer Guy Orlebar can be contacted on [info@agogfilms.com](mailto:info@agogfilms.com).

**DETAILED INFORMATION**

Combining the best of Hollywood, Chinese and Japanese cinema and being billed as "*a relationship - charged, action - packed, mecha fest*" Future Fighters is a new English-language, US\$10 million budget, fully 3D, live-action science fiction movie to "*put the science back into science fiction*" which features a band of freedom fighters and their mechanized warriors in the 22nd Century defending the solar system from a formidable enemy. Green-screen shooting is expected to begin in Mainland China from early 2011 and the producers are currently seeking suitable distribution partners for a global 3D theatrical release around late 2011/early 2012.

32-year-old Guy Orlebar describes how the cast and crew came about: "*We have a fantastic mix of industry veterans and young talent coming together for Future Fighters. For example, I wanted, and have fortunately been able, to reach out to those certain artists, such as Nelson Shin, or Simon Furman, whose work I've particularly admired and followed over the past twenty-something years, to be able to create something special, something different. And the support all these talented individuals and organizations have shown for this project and their willingness to be involved is phenomenal.*"

*"We're now currently thrashing out the finer details of our movie's US\$10 million budget breakdown before presenting it to investors. The great news is, with the involvement of one of our previously announced China partners, Crystal CG, it is strongly likely our movie can be shown theatrically in China as a local domestic movie, effectively ensuing investors will see their return and making this virtually a risk-free investment, with considerable upside in all other markets. For example, our novelist Alan [Dean] Foster [of "Alien" trilogy, "Star Trek", "Star Wars", "Terminator Salvation", "Transformers 1&2" fame] is kindly helping to promote Future Fighters at this week's Comic Con, so we're hoping to see significant interest from studio reps here, as well as from various other investors in Asia".*

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Nelson Shin, whose original theatrically released animated 1986 *"The Transformers The Movie"* feature film is still held in the highest esteem by many in the Transformer fan community and included the voice talents of Leonard Nimoy (*"Star Trek"*), Eric Idle (*"Monty Python"*) and the final performance of film great Orson Welles (*"Citizen Kane"*), is also responsible for the original Star Wars lightsaber special effect, as well as, through his Seoul-based Akom Productions company, every series of *"The Simpsons"* and many other hit US cartoon shows. Future Fighters represents his first live action project, as well as his many fans' long-awaited and highly anticipated directorial return of over twenty years to Western theatrical cinema. Nelson says: *"Guy first reached out to me in the middle of last year, and then again earlier this year. After meeting me in Seoul last month and explaining in depth to me about his project, I could feel my heart pounding with excitement again, like it used to when I worked on the original Transformers show. With today's technology, there's so much more that can be done with the giant robot genre, that we simply couldn't do twenty years back then. So once again we look forward to bringing to you something 'beyond your wildest imagination'."*

Ken Siu, also known as Kenneth Siao Wai Keung 蕭偉強, is both assistant director to movies like Jet Li's *"Fearless"*, and *"The Forbidden Kingdom"*, as well as a distinguished director in his own right. Future Fighters co-producer and casting director Mike Leeder comments: *"With animation director Nelson Shin onboard, our goal of creating a fantastic live-action anime is assured. And by bringing Ken, who I've known for a long while, to the project, we can complement Nelson's extraordinary technical and visual and detailed approach with Ken's many years of hands-on experience of directing real actors in big productions. It should be the perfect combination."*

Weta Workshop is the multi-Oscar-winning one-stop design and manufacturing workshop servicing the world's creative industries behind such major blockbuster hits as *"Avatar"*, *"District 9"*, *"The Chronicles of Narnia"*, *"King Kong"*, *"The Lord of the Rings"* trilogy as well as the forthcoming Steven Spielberg/Peter Jackson *"Tintin"* collaboration. Weta Workshop co-founder and creative director Richard Taylor says: *"We really appreciate the producers of Future Fighters reaching out to us directly when I was in Hong Kong last March. It's an exciting project and ensemble of people that Guy [Orlebar] has put together and, schedules permitting, we certainly would love to be involved. We very much hope that Weta Workshop can be complementary to this ambitious project."* Future Fighters co-producer and line producer Ricky Wong adds: *"Weta Workshop is top in its field in everything it does, be it concept or production design, armor, weapons, makeup effects, miniatures, vehicles, you name it. So these area would all be opportunities for us to have Weta Workshop make a really difference to our project and help our story's future universe come alive. Naturally, we very much look forward to getting this project greenlit shortly and collaborating with Weta Workshop fully in due course."*

Japanese actress Rina Takeda 武田 梨奈, currently aged 19, holds a black belt in karate which she began learning when only 10 after witnessing her father's defeat in a tournament and vowing revenge. Her Japanese career was launched with the lead role in last year's *"Highkick Girl"*, where she is represented by Sony Music Artists, and Future Fighters provides an ideal opportunity to showcase her acting and fighting prowess to international action fans, playing an important character who provides the answers to many of the other characters' questions within the movie. Rina explains her interest in this project: *"I know, martial arts runs deep in my family, so naturally I'm a big fan of Hong Kong kung fu and other action movies. Having the opportunity to act*

*alongside my action heroes like [Yasuaki] Kurata-sensei, [Gordon] Liu-sensei and Ray Park is awesome... a real honor."*

Briton Simon Furman is one of the longest running and most prolific Transformers comic writers of all time, beginning with writing stories for the UK Transformers comic before also taking over the US Transformers comic run in the mid-eighties, and now one of the major writers for IDW Publishing's chart-topping line of Transformers comics. Outside Transformers, his work includes writing for licenses "Doctor Who", "Judge Dredd", "Robocop", "Terminator 2", and "Thundercats". Simon adds: *"In past interviews I've described Nelson Shin's original Transformers movie as 'fantastic', so would I be very interested in working on the graphic novel adaptation of his Future Fighters? You betcha!"*

Italy-based illustrator Guido Guidi was announced as the movie's concept and production designer at last year's Comic Con where he said *"Like [producer] Guy, I'm a big fan of the aesthetics from the good old Japanese anime mecha series of the '80s. Future Fighters gives us the chance to take those fantastic, sleek retro designs, which we all loved and grew up with, and really bring them alive... in fantastic 3D live-action."* With respect to the graphic novel, Guy adds *"Given it's Guido's amazing designs that all our mecha are based on, it just seemed to make totally sense to ask him to handle the graphic novel artwork as well. No-one lives and breathes these robotic designs as well as he does."*

\*\*\*

Founded in 2007, Agog Films Productions is one of Hong Kong's newest and most dynamic film production houses, specializing in quality independent movie-making with the freshest global talents.

Be amazed. Be agog. Agog Films.