

THREE NEW WARNER BROS FILMS TO BE MADE AT ANIMAL LOGIC'S STUDIOS IN SYDNEY

The NSW Government has helped attract three major Hollywood animated feature film productions to Sydney, Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade & Investment and Minister for the Arts, Troy Grant announced today.

Mr Grant said the award-winning Sydney animation studio Animal Logic will make *The LEGO Batman Movie*, along with LEGO spinoff, *Ninjago*, and a third exciting animated feature that will be announced in due course for Hollywood studio giant, Warner Bros.

The NSW Government helped secure the productions through NSW Trade & Investment's State Investment Attraction Scheme.

"The combined production expenditure in NSW for these films will be more than \$200 million, expected to create over 550 highly skilled jobs in the dynamic area of animation and digital visual effects," Mr Grant said.

"NSW's inaugural Creative Laureate, Animal Logic, who collaborated so successfully with Warner Bros on the first *The LEGO Movie*, will be responsible for production of all three films, with additional work expected to be undertaken by a number of other NSW providers.

"With the worldwide success and technical brilliance of films such as *The LEGO Movie* and *Happy Feet* and *The Great Gatsby* Animal Logic and other NSW digital film production companies have shown that they are equal to the very best in the world."

The Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts said the Government was proud of the belief that Warner Bros' had shown in NSW's screen industry.

"Congratulations to Animal Logic on securing these productions, ably supported by Screen NSW," Mr Grant said.

"The decision by Warner Bros to bring three major titles to Sydney is further evidence that we are considered one of the world's great filmmaking cities."

Zareh Nalbandian, CEO at Animal Logic said, 'We are pleased to be collaborating with Warner Bros. again on such an exciting slate of animated feature films made possible with the ongoing support of the NSW Government. Their ongoing support is a testament to their commitment to the incredible talent and artistry we have here in Australia.'

Production has begun on *Ninjago*, with *The LEGO Batman Movie* scheduled to begin production in later this year and the third animation project to follow after.

Warner Bros estimates that *The LEGO Batman Movie* will generate more than \$74 million in production expenditure in NSW. Animal Logic expects to create an additional 125 NSW jobs for this project.

Ninjago is expected to generate over \$54 million in production expenditure in NSW. Animal Logic anticipates that it will require an additional 189 NSW staff for the the project. The estimated budget for the third animation project is more than \$80 million in NSW and expected total employment of 369 NSW crew at Animal Logic, including an additional 244 NSW staff.

Animal Logic was named the inaugural NSW Creative Laureate in May 2014, and Zareh Nalbandian, CEO was awarded the title of 2014 Ambassador for NSW Creative Industries to help promote NSW as a global creative centre. The company was also awarded the 2013 Premier's Exporter of the Year Award and was announced the winner in the Creative Industries category at the 51st Australian Export Awards.

For more information on Screen NSW's support for the State's screen industry, visit www.screen.nsw.gov.au

Media contact:

Animal Logic: Lisa Santo-Buchler - +61 2 9383 4800