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Cher and Sir Bob Geldof in Talks to Board Animated Feature *Fly Squad – First Strike!*

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA – June 12, 2026 – Australian animated feature *Fly Squad – First Strike!* is in discussions with Academy Award-winning actor and music icon Cher and Live Aid founder Sir Bob Geldof for key voice roles as international packaging advances.

Cher is in talks to voice the mother of the film's central protagonist, while Geldof is in talks for the role of a legendary insect rock star and organizer of "Insect Aid." Negotiations for both artists are being handled by talent manager Mark Cowne of London-based Kruger Cowne Management.

"From our first introduction to *Fly Squad – First Strike!* we recognized its strong commercial potential and unique creative vision," said Cowne. "We're delighted to be involved as the project continues to build momentum. Not only is it a strong creative concept but it also does a lot to highlight critically important ecological issues to a young audience."

Written and produced by Australia's Anthony Maley, *Fly Squad – First Strike!* follows three unlikely insect heroes who infiltrate a vast human chemical fortress in search of an antidote to a toxin threatening the survival of their world.

The independently developed animated comedy feature is positioned as a studio-level, premium theatrical property with franchising across film, streaming and consumer products. The production will leverage Australia's federal and state production incentive framework in partnership with Entertainment Partners' Liberty Warr.

The announcement follows a recent series of meetings in Los Angeles and Northern California with industry leading U.S. production and post-production vendors as the project advances international packaging.

"We developed *Fly Squad – First Strike!* as a theatrical property designed for global audiences," said Maley. "The calibre of talent and production partners engaging with the project has exceeded our expectations and reinforces our belief that there is significant demand for original animated franchises capable of competing on the world stage."

About Pepper, No! Productions: Pepper, No! Productions is a Brisbane-based independent production company focused on the development of original feature films, television and franchise entertainment properties for international audiences.

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