



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Aniplex of America Announces English Dub for March comes in like a lion and Hosts Open Auditions with Bang Zoom! Entertainment at Anime Central 2017



March comes in like a lion

© Chica Umino, HAKUSENSHA/March comes in like a lion Animation Committee

Heartwarming Series Green-lit for English Dub with Veteran Director, Wendee Lee

SANTA MONICA, CA (May 19, 2017) – Attendees at Bang Zoom! Entertainment's panel were thrilled as Aniplex of America announced their plans to produce the English dub for the celebrated TV series *March comes in like a lion* at Anime Central in Rosemont, Illinois. The news was met with much fanfare as Bang Zoom! Entertainment partnered with Aniplex of America to bring the Open Auditions for the series to the Midwest for the first time.

This will be the fifth year Aniplex of America and Bang Zoom! Entertainment have teamed up to host the Open Auditions, where fans test out their skills as a voice actor for a once in a lifetime opportunity to be featured in an anime series. Participants receive a special pin for auditioning as well. Past winners of the Open Auditions have been involved on the English dub for shows including *Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic, Magi: The Kingdom of Magic, ALDNOAH.ZERO, Asterisk War*, and *Your lie in April*. While Bang Zoom! Entertainment's Open Audition at Anime Central was announced a month prior on the Anime Central Facebook page, the project for the auditions had been kept tightly under wraps.

*March comes in like a lion* is by Chica Umino, who is best known as the creator of *Honey and Clover*. The series is based on an award winning manga, which boasts an impressive list of prestigious accolades

in Japan including the grand prize for the Tezuka Osamu Cultural Prize. Originally simulcast last fall, the anime series features a notable creative team from studio SHAFT led by Director Akiyuki Shimbou (BAKEMONOGATARI, Puella Magi Madoka Magica, KIZUMONOGATARI) and Character Designer Nobuhiro Sugiyama (NISEKOI, BAKEMONOGATARI, HANAMONOGATARI). Rounding out this all-star production team is the multi-talented and seasoned veteran, Wendee Lee (Cowboy BeBop, Blue Exorcist, Your lie in April) as the Voice Director for the English dub.

"I'm very excited and thankful for this opportunity to give aspiring actors who live outside of the Los Angeles area a chance to audition and be a part of an actual anime series!" says Mami Okada, Casting Director at Bang Zoom! Entertainment. "My deepest gratitude to ACEN and Aniplex of America for fully supporting this life changing experience! I look forward to meeting & working with many talented actors!"

Bang Zoom! Entertainment will be holding Open Auditions Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 12:15 pm at Anime Central with call back auditions in the afternoon of the same day. They will also be hosting "Anime Live! A Presentation of Real Time Professional Dubbing" on Saturday and Sunday.

## About *March comes in like a lion*:

Seventeen-year-old professional shogi player, Rei Kiriyama, lost his family in an accident during his childhood and lives still burdened by a profound sense of loneliness. One day, while living alone in downtown Tokyo, Rei meets three sisters named Akari, Hinata, and Momo. Little by little, things begin to change.

*March comes in like a lion* is a heartfelt tale about various people recovering that "something" they have lost as they discover that life is both a journey and a battlefield.

For details on *March comes in like a lion*, please visit: http://www.3lion-usa.com/

## **About Aniplex of America Inc.**

Aniplex of America Inc. (Santa Monica, California) is a subsidiary of Aniplex Inc. (headquartered in Tokyo, Japan), a group of Sony Music Entertainment (Japan) Inc. and a leading provider of anime content and music production and distribution in Japan. Aniplex of America has launched fan-favorite Blu-ray and DVD releases including Fate/stay night [Unlimited Blade Works], Fate/Zero, the Sword Art Online series, Your lie in April, KILL la KILL, Bakemonogatari, Puella Magi Madoka Magica, Blue Exorcist, NISEKOI, the OREIMO series, DURARARA!!×2, Magi series, Expelled From Paradise, The irregular at magic high school, and ALDNOAH.ZERO. The company's ever-growing line-up of shows includes our most recent titles: March comes in like a lion, Blue Exorcist: Kyoto Saga, ERASED, The Asterisk War, OWARIMONOGATARI, KIZUMONOGATARI, Charlotte, WAGNARIA!!3, GOD EATER, HAIFURI (High School Fleet), GRANBLUE FANTASY, and Eromanga Sensei.

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