

As international sellers arrive at the European Film Market with projects in all stages of production, Screen highlights some of the hottest titles from around the world

BUZZ

NORTH AMERICA

By Jeremy Kay

Lionsgate and Participant Media kick off their sales relationship with an untitled Entebbe project starring Rosamund Pike and Daniel Brühl, and produced by Working Title Films. Lionsgate co-chairman Patrick Wachsberger and his team are expected to show footage from Jose Padilha's film about the 1976 hijack of a passenger jet by pro-Palestinian forces and the subsequent rescue by Israeli commandos.

FilmNation arrives with sales rights to Amazon Studios' *Suspiria* remake from Luca Guadagnino, who is red-hot after the Sundance premiere of his *Call Me By Your Name*. Tilda Swinton, Dakota Johnson and Chloe Grace Moretz star in the horror feature.

Voltage Pictures is screening the Tupac Shakur drama *All Eyez On Me*, which Lionsgate will release in the US on June 16 through its Summit label. The film recounts the late rapper's life and stars Demetrius Shipp Jr as Shakur. Benny Boom directs from a script by Ed Gonzalez and Jeremy Haft.

Bloom Media is in Berlin with one of the most unique titles in the market, Woody Harrelson's *Lost In London*. The project shot in a single take in the UK capital last month, while being simultaneously beamed to audiences in the UK and US. Harrelson plays himself and

produces with Bloom partner and Waypoint Entertainment founder Ken Kao. CAA is reprising US rights.

Sierra/Affinity's Nick Meyer, Jonathan Kier and the sales team are launching talks on the Ethan Hawke and Noomi Rapace thriller *Stockholm*, based on a real 1973 Swedish bank robbery during which the hostages bonded with their captors. The event coined the term for the psychological condition Stockholm Syndrome. Shooting is expected to begin in April. Productivity Media is financing and Jason Blum is among the producers.

IM Global is launching pre-sales on *Serenity*, a noir thriller it is fully financing. Matthew McConaughey and Anne Hathaway are in talks to star, and Steven Knight will direct from his own screenplay. It is about a fisherman whose past is about to catch up with him. Production is scheduled for the summer on what will be IM Global's third collaboration with Knight following *Locke* and *Redemption*.

Good Universe is in town to talk up *Burden*, in which Garrett Hedlund tackles another racism story following his noted turn in Sundance world premiere *Mudbound*. Hedlund plays a man who battles his family's ties to the Ku Klux Klan when his lover urges him to choose a better life. Forest Whitaker,

Andrea Riseborough and Tom Wilkinson round out the key cast and Robbie Brenner of *Dallas Buyers Club* produces. *Burden* is now in post.

Content Media is hoping to cause a stir with its well-received Sundance documentary *Cries From Syria* by Oscar-nominated Evgeny Afineevsky. The film chronicles the Middle Eastern country's civil war and draws on hundreds of hours of war footage and testimony from children, survivors and army officers who have defected from government ranks. HBO will air the film on March 13.

Mongrel International is at the EFM with completed Australian coming-of-age mystery *Jasper Jones*. Toni Collette and Hugo Weaving star in Rachel Perkins' drama about a teenage boy who sets out to confront racism and find a killer in the course of an eventful summer in 1968.

Visit Films has boarded international sales on *Columbus*, a completed drama about a woman who forms a close bond with a man visiting his dying father. John Cho, Haley Lu Richardson, Parker Posey, Rory Culkin and Michelle Forbes star. It is the directorial debut of South Korean-born filmmaker and film writer Kogonada. Cinetic represents US rights.

Mundial's Cristina Garza is jetting into town with Generation 14Plus selection *Don't*

(Pictured above from left) Mongrel International's Jasper Jones, Voltage Pictures' All Eyez On Me and Mundial's Don't Swallow My Heart Alligator Girl!

Swallow My Heart Alligator Girl! from Brazil's Felipe Braganca. The Sundance premiere is an epic love story about a Brazilian boy and a Guarani girl from across the Apa river in Paraguay.

Adam Brody and *The Book Thief*'s Sophie Nélisse star in *The Kid Detective*, a Myriad Pictures sales title produced by Vancouver-based Brightlight Pictures. The satirical murder mystery follows a down-at-heel former child detective who gets a shot at his first 'adult' case. Brightlight, Myriad and UTA Independent Film Group jointly arranged financing and the latter two are handling US rights.

XYZ Films has international rights to recent Sundance premiere *Bushwick*, which just sold to RLJ Entertainment for the US and stars Dave Bautista and Brittany Snow. The action thriller takes place as civil war breaks out in the US and a former soldier helps a young woman survive.

Premiere Entertainment is talking to buyers about *You Were Never Here*, a thriller starring Mireille Enos, Sam Shepard and Goran Visnjic. Camille Thoman directs and produces the film, about an artist who suspects she is being stalked. The film screens in the market.

Raven Banner is in town with *Darkness Rising*, a sci-fi horror directed by Austin Reading about the lone survivor»



You Were Never Here

of a family massacre who revisits her childhood home on the eve of its destruction. Katrina Law, Bryce Johnson, Tara Holt and horror stalwart Ted Raimi star in the project from Storyboard Entertainment and Compass Entertainment.

The Exchange is showcasing *We're Just Married*, from director Rodrigo Garcia. Lily Rabe, Sam Rockwell and Chris Messina are attached to star. The comedy drama is set in the early 1970s and presents a portrait of a romantic triangle.

Double Dutch International has *Heidi: Queen Of The Mountain*, starring Bill Nighy. Bhavna Talwar directs the feature, based on the celebrated tales of the Swiss mountain girl. It is anticipated as the first in a family trilogy.

AMBI Distribution is selling worldwide rights to *Beyond The Edge*, in which a team of paranormal crooks plan a bank heist. Antonio Banderas stars in the film, which is co-directed by Aleksandr Boguslavskiy and Francesco Cinquemani.

VMI Worldwide has picked up sales on and is screening *Nightworld* by Chilean horror master Patricio Valladares. Jason London and Robert Englund star in the film about a security guard at an old apartment building in Eastern Europe possessed by a malevolent force.

Shoreline Entertainment is handling sales on *Tatu And Patu*, a completed project based on the Finnish family bestseller about brother inventors who visit the city at Christmas with their best friend.

Electric Entertainment is showing footage of company owner Dean Devlin's *Bad Samaritan* with David Tennant and Robert Sheehan, about two burglars who stumble on a captive woman during a break-in. Electric has worldwide rights.

MPI Media Group is showcasing *It Stains The Sands Red*, a zombie apocalypse story about a woman who is pursued through the desert by an undead creature. Brittany Allen and Juan Riedinger star. Dark Sky Films has US rights.

Nu Image is at the EFM to tempt buyers with Nicolas Cage in the Millennium Films thriller *#211*, about a teenager who is caught up in a heist and tries to record the action on his phone. Production is set to begin in Bulgaria in March.

Cinema Entertainment Group is starting talks on Peruvian animation *Ainbo*. The 3D CGI feature from Tunche Films is scheduled to begin production this year. It focuses on an Amazonian girl who must protect her community from an evil spirit.

Buenos Aires-based **FilmSharks** is kicking off sales on *You Are Killing Me Susana*, a darkly comic story about a Mexican man desperate to win back his love after she relocates to Iowa. Gael Garcia Bernal stars alongside Veronica Echegui.

Bleiberg Entertainment is introducing *Queen Of Spades*, a drama about the feisty



Columbus



You Are Killing Me Susana



Cries From Syria

relationship between a singer and her protégé that won the audience award at Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival.

Little Film Company is talking up *Bad Blood*, a thriller starring Xavier Samuel from *Fury* and *Love & Friendship*, about a romantic weekend at a mountain resort that turns into a terrifying ordeal.

Seville International has boarded sales on *Hochelaga*, *Land Of Souls*. Vincent Perez stars in Francois Girard's historical drama weaving together five stories over 750 years. The film is now shooting in Montreal.

Octane Entertainment has acquired worldwide rights to *Carter & June*, an action title in post about a New Orleans con artist who gets in over his head when he tries to pay off his debts.

Film Sales Company has worldwide rights to Berlin Critics' Week selection *California Dreams* from Mike Ott. The comedy-documentary feature centres on five unique individuals in pursuit of fame and fortune in Hollywood.

Hyde Park International is launching sales on *The Female Brain*, a romantic comedy in post that marks the directorial debut of comedian Whitney Cummings, who stars alongside Sofia Vergara, James Marsden, Lucy Punch

and Toby Kebbell.

Canadian outfit **Attraction Distribution** is here at the Berlinale with a selection of European titles that include Simone van Dusseldorp's family film *Owls And Mice*, produced by Dutch outfit Lemming, which is screening in Generation Kplus. Attraction is also handling Nathalie Teirlinck's *Past Imperfect*, a drama produced by Belgium's Savage Film, and crime series *13 Commandments*, produced by Menuet of Belgium.

Also from Canada, Jan Rofekamp's **Films Transit** is screening Sundance documentary *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked The World*, which looks at the key role of Native Americans in US popular music history.

IFT launches sales on *Dick Move* starring Olivia Munn as an artist who starts seeing phallic imagery in her paintings.

Archstone Distribution arrives with *On Wings Of Eagles* starring Joseph Fiennes. The unofficial *Chariots Of Fire* sequel screens on Friday.

Mimi Steinbauer's **Radiant Films International** will be talking up *The Price Of Admission*, a part-dramedy, part-existential thriller to star Michael Sheen as a playwright in the throes of a midlife crisis.

UNITED KINGDOM

By Andreas Wiseman

David Garrett's **Mister Smith** is launching sales on Terrence Malick's Second World War drama *Radegund*, the true story of Franz Jägerstätter, a conscientious objector who refused to fight for the Nazis. The film marks Malick's return to the period following acclaimed 1998 drama *The Thin Red Line*. August Diehl, Valerie Pachner, Matthias Schoenaerts and Bruno Ganz star.

HanWay Films is back in business with *Brooklyn* star Saoirse Ronan on the drama *Sweetness In The Belly*, based on Camilla Gibb's novel about a white Muslim woman raised in Africa who goes on to be employed by the UK's National Health Service. Ethiopia-born Zeresenay Mehari, whose 2014 film *Difret* won an audience award at Sundance, is directing the film, which is produced by Sienna Films and Parallel Films.

Protagonist Pictures is in Berlin with period biopic *Vita And Virginia*, about literary icons Vita Sackville-West and Virginia Woolf. Gemma Arterton is set to star as the former and Eva Green as the latter. The film marks the second feature of Chanya Button (*Burn Burn Burn*) and is due to shoot in the spring.

Thorsten Schumacher's **Rocket Science** is at the EFM with Kristin Scott Thomas's directorial debut about a couple whose marriage is in crisis. Scott Thomas will play the woman in the troubled relationship and Mark Strong is in talks to play her husband.

Altitude Film Sales recently secured world sales rights to *Mary And The Witch's Flower*, the first feature from Studio Ponoc, the Japanese animation house founded by former Studio Ghibli producer Yoshiaki Nishimura. He will be working on the film with director Hiro-masa 'Maro' Yonebayashi.

Cornerstone Films is in town with Adam Shankman's *The Chocolate Money*, based on the novel of the same name by Ashley Prentice Norton. It chronicles the relationship between a wealthy confectionery heiress and her precocious young daughter. Kate Beckinsale will star as the eccentric mother.

Embankment Films' slate includes *McQueen*, about the rise of celebrated UK fashion designer Alexander McQueen, who committed suicide in 2010. Salon Pictures (*Churchill*) produces alongside London outfit Misfits Entertainment.

Bankside Films comes to market with a promo of UK horror film *Possum*, starring Sean Harris as a disgraced children's puppeteer who returns to his childhood home and is forced to »



AUX



Journey's End



Happy Family

confront the secrets that have tortured him his entire life.

WestEnd Films is handling sales on Georgian-Russian Panorama title *Hos-tages*, from *Ida* producer Ewa Puszczyńska. The film is based on the true story of a young couple who enact a dangerous plot to escape the Soviet Union.

Metro International is showing footage of First World War feature *Journey's End*. Sam Claflin, Paul Bettany, Stephen Graham, Asa Butterfield, Toby Jones and Tom Sturridge star in the drama adapted from the classic play of the same name.

Great Point Media is selling Sally Potter's Berlin Competition title *The Party*. The tragi-comedy is set during one eventful night in London and stars Patricia Clarkson, Bruno Ganz, Kristin Scott Thomas, Emily Mortimer, Cillian Murphy, Timothy Spall and Cherry Jones.

Independent Film Company is hoping to seal further deals on Michael Winterbottom's documentary-fiction feature *On The Road*, which opens the Generation strand. The film about UK indie band Wolf Alice will have its US festival launch at SXSW.

Simon Crowe's **SC Films International** comes to market with animation *Pachamama*. The film is about an Andean boy who dreams of becoming a shaman. It marks the first 3D CGI animation to be produced by Didier and Damien Brunner's Folivari.

Goldercrest Films is showcasing BBC Earth Films and SMG Pictures' nature documentary *Earth: One Amazing Day*, the sequel to *Earth*, the 2007 box-office hit that grossed more than \$110m worldwide. Peter Webber (*The Girl With The Pearl Earring*) and Richard Dale (*The Human Body*) co-direct.

Film Constellation is screening first footage from New York-set romantic comedy *Permission*, starring Rebecca Hall and Dan Stevens, which is written and directed by Brian Cranon. Hall is making her producing debut on the film.



The Party

Fledgling outfit **AMP International** is at its first market with UK comedy *Songbird*, starring Cobie Smulders and Noel Clarke. Clarke also produces the feature, which is about the lead singer of a 1990s Britpop band whose star has faded.

Kaleidoscope is screening horror title *Nails*. Shauna Macdonald (*The Descent*) and comedian Ross Noble (*Stitches*) star in the story of a paralysed woman, trapped in her own body, who becomes convinced she is being stalked by a malevolent spirit in her hospital room.

Celsius brings Isabel Coixet's *The Bookshop*, which is in post-production. Emily Mortimer, Bill Nighy and Patricia Clarkson star in the adaptation of Penelope Fitzgerald's 1950s novel about a woman who decides, against polite but ruthless local opposition, to open a bookshop.

Cinestaan is in Berlin with *Bombay Rose*, the first feature by Indian animator Gitanjali Rao. The Bollywood-inspired love story, set on the streets of Mumbai, is produced by Les Films d'Ici's Serge Lalou, whose credits include *Waltz With Bashir*, alongside Clara Mahieu.

Timeless Films has a market premiere screening of 3D animation *Happy Fam-*

ily, featuring the voices of Emily Watson, Jason Isaacs, Nick Frost, Catherine Tate and Jessica Brown Findlay. The film follows the Wishbone clan, who must pull together to battle real-life beasts.

GFM Films will be talking to buyers about animation *Duck Duck Goose* featuring Stephen Fry among its voice cast. *Home* producer Christopher Jenkins co-wrote and directs the story about a loner goose who rescues two ducklings.

GSP Studios is in post-production on writer-director Carl Strathie's debut sci-fi thriller *Solis*. Steven Ogg, best known for roles in *The Walking Dead* and *Westworld*, stars as a man trapped aboard an escape pod hurtling toward the sun.

The Works is giving a market screening to Danny Huston's *The Last Photograph*, in which Huston plays a man whose life is thrown into a tailspin following a random act of theft. Sarita Choudhury, Stacy Martin and newcomer Jonah Hauer-King co-star.

Truffle Pictures is at the EFM with Justin Edgar's noir-thriller *The Marker* starring Frederick Schmidt, John Hannah and Ana Ularu in a story of a criminal seeking redemption.

Carnaby International is selling com-

edy road movie *The Young Offenders*, the Irish box-office hit inspired by the true story of Ireland's biggest cocaine seizure in 2007.

Genre specialist **Jinga Films** has boarded Norbert Keil's sci-fi horror *Replace*, starring Rebecca Forsythe as a woman afflicted by a strange disease. Richard Stanley co-wrote the screenplay.

Moviehouse Entertainment is talking to buyers about feature documentary *Here To Be Heard: The Story Of The Slits*, about the UK all-female punk band formed in 1976. Now in post-production, the film is due to be completed this autumn.

Dogwoof hopes to tempt buyers with Sundance title *78/52*, about the famous shower scene in *Psycho*. The film features interviews with Guillermo del Toro, Bret Easton Ellis, Karyn Kusama, Eli Roth, Walter Murch and Peter Bogdanovich.

Former IM Global executive Tim Grohne's **Primal Screen** is selling Beatles film *It Was Fifty Years Ago Today... Sgt Pepper And Beyond*, which marks the 50th anniversary of the band's seminal album.

Parkland Pictures has a market screening of thriller *Us And Them*, in which a disillusioned young man holds a banker and his family hostage and forces him to gamble for their lives. Jack Roth stars.

Devilworks is launching sci-fi thriller *Incontrol* from director Kurtis David Harder. Starring Levi Meaden and Rory J Saper, the film tells the story of a group of students who discover a device that allows them to control other people.

Evolutionary Films is hoping to do well with its own production, action horror *AUX*. The film, starring John Rhys-Davies, is about what happens when two young boys playing in the woods discover the hidden entrance to an underground military bunker.

Anna Krupnova's **Reason8** is selling US crime-thriller *Dark Meridian*, about a New Orleans detective who is caught up in a fight between two rival criminal factions while on a stakeout. »

FRANCE

By Melanie Goodfellow

Doc & Film International is flying in Bruno Dumont for a presentation of his second season of mini-series *Li'l Quinquin*, entitled *Coincoin And The Extrahumans*. Further titles include Nicolas Philibert's next documentary, the details of which are under wraps, as well as Frederick Wiseman's *Ex Libris* — *New York Public Library*.

In addition to Berlinale opener *Django* and out of Competition title *Viceroy's House*, **Pathé International** is handling market premieres of Guillaume Canet's midlife crisis comedy *Rock'n Roll* and Dany Boon's *RAID: Special Unit*, which just drew 1.2 million spectators over five days in France, Belgium and Switzerland. Pathé is also showing first footage of Eric Barbier's *Promise At Dawn*, which stars Pierre Niney as colourful French writer Romain Gary opposite Charlotte Gainsbourg as his mother. In addition, Pathé will showcase Abdellatif Kechiche's coming-of-age-story *Mektoub Is Mektoub* and Xavier Beauvois' Second World War drama *Les Gardiennes*.

New **Wild Bunch** titles include Cannes hopefuls *K.O.*, a drama by Fabrice Gobert that stars Laurent Lafitte as a man who awakes from a coma with very changed fortunes, and Christian Carion's kidnap drama *My Son* starring Guillaume Canet. Projects due for late 2017/early 2018 delivery include Jean-Luc Godard's exploration of the Arab world *Image Et Parole*, Pierre Godeau's Sempé adaptation *Raoul Taburin* and Omar Sy vehicle *YAO*.

Gaumont is launching sales on *Belle And Sebastian: Friends For Life*, the third and final instalment in the family franchise. It is also showcasing Mathieu Amalric's biopic *Barbara*, about the late French chanteuse, and *Bright Weakness*, the second film by Guillaume Gallienne.

WTFilms is kicking off sales on Canadian director Sook-Yin Lee's *Octavio Is Dead*, starring Sarah Gadon as a woman who escapes the clutches of an overbearing mother, played by Rosanna Arquette, and reconnects with her dead father. Raoul Trujillo co-stars. It will also show first footage of Paris zombie invasion picture *The Night That Eats The World* and same-sex romantic comedy *Kiss Me!*

Bac Films is screening the first footage of Paolo Virzi's *The Leisure Seeker*, zombie drama *The Third Wave* and Babak Jalali's Native American reservation-set *Land*. Bac is also launching sales on French-language feature *Ava*, about a teenage girl rebelliously coming to terms with impending blindness.

Memento Films International is han-



Barrage



House In The Fields



The Third Way

dling China's animated Golden Bear contender *Have A Nice Day*, as well as Cate Shortland's *Berlin Syndrome* (which screens in Panorama) and Martin Provost's *The Midwife* (out of Competition). In the market it is talking to buyers about Xavier Giannoli's *The Apparition*, starring Vincent Lindon as a journalist investigating a series of saintly visions.

Upside Distribution is screening a promo-reel of *Roc: The World's Greatest Con Artist*, about the alleged 'conman of the stars' Christophe Rocancourt. The film is directed by Olivier Megaton, best known for *Taken 2*.

Alma Cinema is launching Milad Alami's cultural identity drama *The Charmer* and English-language thriller *A Bluebird In My Heart*. The latter stars Roland Moller as an ex-con drawn into a gangland feud. Alma is also selling Guillaume Nicloux's Indochina war-set drama *To The Ends Of The Earth*, which starts shooting this March in Vietnam.

Versatile is unveiling Jean Luc Herbutol's urban thriller *Döner*, set in a Paris kebab shop and starring Hugo Becker and Grégory Gadebois.

TF1 Studio is launching sales on Italian director Andrea Pallaoro's *The Whale*, starring Charlotte Rampling as a woman suffering from an identity crisis. The company is also screening new promo reels of romantic comedy *Nobody's Perfect*, starring Gérard Depardieu and Catherine Deneuve, and the thriller *All That Divides Us*, starring Deneuve and Diane Kruger as a mother and daughter caught up in the drugs world.

Alfama Films is starting sales on Robert Schwentke's long-awaited Second

World War adventure tale *The Captain*, which starts shooting this month. Titles in post-production include family secrets melodrama *Sunbeat* by former Berlinale Talent alumnus Clara Laperousaz and her sister Laura, and Brigitte Sy's *Happiness Is Tomorrow*, starring her daughter Esther Garrel as a woman involved with a violent drugs dealer.

Still Moving is selling Panorama title *Pendular*, a hybrid work capturing the intricate and intense relationship between two artists.

The Bureau Sales is showcasing Peter Mackie Burns' London-set drama *Daphne*, which debuted at IFFR to good reviews. The company is also showing the first footage of *Lean On Pete*, which it is selling with Celluloid Dreams.

Indie Sales is talking to buyers about Julien Hallard's comedy *Let The Girls Play*, about France's first all-female football team, and *The Price Of Success* starring Tahar Rahim as a stand-up comedian dealing with the pressures of fame.

Loco Films is selling Generation titles *Little Harbour*, about a neglected 10-year-old who cares for abandoned twins, and Brazilian father-and-daughter drama *Nalu On The Border*.

Alpha Violet is in town to kick off sales on Italian directors Silvia Luzi and Luca Bellino's hybrid work *The Crater*, about a young singer at the mercy of an

ambitious father, and Tala Hadid's Forum title *House In The Fields*, about two teenage girls living in a remote Moroccan mountain village.

France TV is re-entering film sales with Jean Becker's *Le Collier Rouge*, starring Nicolas Duvauchelle as a First World War hero mysteriously jailed on his return from the western front. The cast also includes Francois Cluzet.

New EFM films for **Wide Management** include IFFR titles *The Last Painting*, black comedy *Secret Ingredient* by Macedonian Berlinale Talent alumnus Gjorce Stavreski, and Italian director Adriano Giotti's award-winning *Sex Cowboys*.

Studiocanal is launching sales on *Hard Powder*, starring Liam Neeson as a quiet snowplough driver in the Rocky Mountains seeking revenge on the drugs kingpin who ordered the killing of his son.

Luxbox is selling Forum title *Barrage*, starring Lolita Chammah and her mother Isabelle Huppert. Further titles include Sharunas Bartas' aid convoy drama *Frost*, starring Vanessa Paradis, and Bruno Dumont's Cannes hopeful *Jeannette*.

Marie-Pierre Macia's **MPM** is selling Elise Girard's misfits romance *Strange Birds*, starring Lolita Chammah, which is also screening in Forum.

Pyramide International is starting sales on Paolo and Vittorio Taviani's Second World War drama *Rainbow*, and is showing a promo reel of Tonie Marshall's drama *Numero One*. It is also talking to buyers about Cyril Mennequin's *La Consolation*, which reunites the director with Corinne Masiero, star of his critically acclaimed 2011 title *Louise Wimmer*.

In addition to Raoul Peck's Berlinale Special Gala screener *The Young Karl Marx*, **Films Distribution's** slate includes survivalist thriller *Killing Ground* and *Handle With Care*, which stars Norway's Kristoffer Joner as a widower who heads to Colombia in search of his adopted son's biological mother. It is also screening a promo reel of Erick Zonca's *Le Fleuve Noir*, starring Vincent Cassel as a disillusioned policeman, and Pablo Berger's dark comedy *Abracadabra*.

SND has the market premiere of *With Open Arms*, the latest culture-clash comedy from *Serial (Bad) Weddings* director Philippe de Chauveron, reuniting him again with Christian Clavier. It is also handling Eric Valette's terrorist-on-the-run thriller

Thousand Cuts and Nicolas Boukhrief's *The Confession* starring Marine Vacth as a woman who embarks on an affair with a priest.

Le Pacte is market premiering Lucas Belvaux's political drama »



Berlin Syndrome

This Is Our Land and Nicolas Bedos' period romance *Mr & Mrs Adelman*. Further projects include Thomas Lilti's *The Freshman*, which revisits the medical world of his previous two films.

Jour 2 Fete is handling Alain Gomis' Golden Bear contender *Félicité*, about a Kinshasa singer's bid to raise money for her son's operation. It is also kicking off sales on Tunisian director Kaouther Ben Hania's *Beauty And The Dogs*, about a young woman's fight for justice after she is raped by police officers.

Les Films Du Losange is presenting Barbet Schroeder's *The Venerable W*, examining Islamophobia within Buddhism, and has the market premiere of Jean-Stéphane Bron's documentary *The Paris Opera*. The company has also taken on sales of ensemble drama *I Still Hide To Smoke*, about a group of women who discuss their lives at the local hammam.

Celluloid Dreams is kicking off sales on André Téchiné's drama *Golden Years*, as well as daring Iranian animation *Tehran Taboo*, which explores how people express their sexuality against the backdrop of strict prohibitions. Celluloid's slate also includes Xavier Legrand's family drama *Custody*.

MK2 is splitting sales on Pawel Pawlikowski's *Cold War* with the UK's Protagonist Pictures. The love story is set in the 1950s in Poland, Berlin, Yugoslavia and Paris.

New titles from **Urban Distribution International** include *Good Manners*, the latest film from Juliana Rojas and Marco Dutra after the award-winning 2011 film *Hard Labor*, and Cristina Pinheiro's *Menina*. It is also selling Panorama documentary *Ghost Hunting*.

Cercamon is handling the fast-selling Thailand-set *Pop Aye*, about a disillusioned architect who sets off on a road trip with his pet elephant. It also has the market premiere of *Katie Says Goodbye*.

Wide House highlights include Oscar-contender *I Am Not Your Negro*, which is playing in Panorama, and the Forum title *For Ahkeem*, which explores the struggles of disadvantaged black teens in the US.

Reel Suspects is market premiering Spanish time-travel thriller *Black Hollow Cage* and Philippine drama *Purgatoryro*.

The top titles for **Stray Dogs** include *Mansfield 66/67*, an experimental feature documentary about the last two years in the life of screen siren Jayne Mansfield.

Other Angle is continuing sales on comedies *In And Out*, *Grounded* and *Just Divorced*.

The top sales priority for **EuropaCorp** is Thomas Vinterberg's Russian nuclear submarine drama *Kursk*, which is due to start shooting on April 18 with Matthias Schoenaerts, Colin Firth and Léa Seydoux in the cast.

GERMANY

By Geoffrey Macnab

Beta Cinema is at the EFM with one of its most varied selections in recent years, including seven titles in Berlinale official selection. Among its Competition films is Beta's first ever feature documentary *Beuys*, from Andres Veiel, about legendary German artist Joseph Beuys. It is also handling Agnieszka Holland's darkly humorous drama *Spoor*. Also on its slate are *The King's Choice*, one of the biggest Norwegian hits of all time, as well as Chris Kraus's comedy *The Bloom Of Yesterday* and Stefan Ruzowitzky's genre film *Cold Hell*.

The Match Factory has the latest Aki Kaurismaki movie *The Other Side Of Hope*, which is screening in Competition. It is also selling Thomas Arslan's *Bright Nights* and Josef Hader's *Wild Mouse*, both Competition titles. Further films likely to intrigue buyers include Tarek Saleh's *The Nile Hilton Incident*, which comes to the EFM fresh from winning the world cinema grand jury prize at Sundance; and Sam Garbariski's latest feature, *Bye Bye Germany*, starring Moritz Bleibtreu and set just after the Second World War. The drama is screening in the Special Gala section.

Arri Media is talking to buyers about *In Love With Lou — A Philosopher's Life*, its biopic of female German psychoanalyst Lou Andreas-Salomé. Wild Bunch released the movie in German cinemas and it premiered at Shanghai International Film Festival. Arri also has family drama *Mountain Miracle — An Unexpected Friendship*, scripted by Natja Brunckhorst (who starred as a child in harrowing drugs drama *Christiane F*). The film is screening in Generation Kplus. Arri is also showing the first trailer of Oliver Kienle's psychological thriller *Four Hands*.

Picture Tree International is introducing international buyers to Simon Verhoeven's immigration-themed comedy *Welcome To Germany*, one of the runaway



Cold Hell



The Misandrists

hits at the German box office last year. Further titles include Jakob Lass's *Tiger Girl*, the joint-opening film of Panorama Special, as well as action comedy *Hot Dog*, starring Til Schweiger and Matthias Schweighöfer, which is in production.

Films Boutique has several films in official selection, including Competition title *Joaquim* by Brazilian director Marcelo Gomes, Berlinale Special Gala choice *La Libertad Del Diablo* by Everardo Gonzalez and *Vazante* by Daniela Thomas, which co-opens Panorama Special. The company is also

handling *Insyriated*, directed by Philippe Van Leeuw and starring Hiam Abbass, which is screening in Panorama.

M-Appeal has a packed Berlinale slate including, among others, Daan Bakker's *Quality Time*, one of the most admired films in Rotterdam's recent Tiger competition, Brazilian title *Body*

Electric by Marcelo Caetano, Generation 14plus entry *Butterfly Kisses*, Bruce LaBruce's latest *The Misandrists* and Turkish feature *Inflame* by Ceylan Ozgun Ozcelik.

Global Screen is beginning pre-sales on high-end 3D animated feature *My Fairy Troublemaker & Me*. The company is also handling *Richard The Stork*, a world premiere in Generation Kplus, and will be holding a market premiere of *The Death And Life Of Otto Bloom*, directed by Australia's Cris Jones and starring Xavier Samuel. Global Screen is also presenting children's film *Capt'n Sharky*, from director Hubert Weiland, and giving a market debut to Max Kestner's time-travel drama *Man Divided*.

Family fare specialist **Sola Media** has three new Scandinavian titles on its slate: Norwegian animation *Elias*, Danish family adventure *Iqbal And The Superchip* and, also from Norway, Eva Dahr's drama *Trio — The Hunt For The Holy Shrine*.

Ida Martins' **Media Luna** is presenting Euros Lyn's Wales-set thriller *The Library Suicides*, which premiered at Edinburgh International Film Festival last year.

(Left) Mountain Miracle — An Unexpected Friendship



ITALY

By Gabriele Niola

True Colors is kickstarting sales on Fabio Meira's drama *Two Irenes*, as well as Cristina Comencini's comedy *Something New* and Luca Miniero's *Messy Christmas*. The latter is about Islamic and Christian communities coming together to overcome their differences. The company is also selling *The Invisible Boy 2*, the sequel to Gabriele Salvatores' young-adult superhero movie. The film is now in post.

Fandango is selling Karlovy Vary Crystal Globe winner *It's Not The Time Of My Life*, a family drama directed by Szabolcs Hajdu. The company is also showcasing the second and third films in the action-comedy saga *I Can Quit Whenever I Want*; part two is completed, with the third in post. Fandango is also talking to buyers about Francesca Comencini's intense romantic drama *Stories Of Love That Cannot Belong To This World*, which will be ready later this year.

Rai Com is here with *There Is A Light*, a love story starring Italian rising star Luca Marinelli. It is also screening *At War With Love*, a romantic comedy set during the Second World War, and *The War Of The Yokels*, the narrative feature debut of documentary filmmakers Davide Barletti and Lorenzo Conte.

Minerva Pictures is selling gritty police drama *Falchi* from Toni D'Angelo, starring Fortunato Cerlino, best known for TV series *Gomorra*.

Intramovies is showcasing drama *The Furlough*, directed by and starring Claudio Amendola, with Luca Argentero, Giacomo Ferrara and Valentina Belle.

The Open Reel is handling feature documentary *William, The New Judo Master*, which premiered in Rotterdam's Bright Future section, together with Giada Colagrande's *Padre*, starring Willem Dafoe, Marina Abramovic and Franco Battiato.

A new, as-yet-untitled project starring Italian-German actor Terence Hill headlines **Adriana Chiesa's** slate.

Coccinelle is talking to buyers about Eitan Anner's *A Quiet Heart*, the winner of the Grand Prix at Tallinn Black Nights last December. The Israeli drama stars *Game Of Thrones'* Ania Bukstein. Coccinelle is also handling *Like Shooting Stars*, a comedy starring Maribel Verdu and Miki Manojlovic.



A Quiet Heart

NORDIC REGION

By Wendy Mitchell

Scandi powerhouse **TrustNordisk** is introducing *The Quake*, which is in pre-production. The film marks a return to the disaster genre for Fantefilm, producers of hit *The Wave*, this time inspired by a 1904 earthquake in Oslo. Also in pre-production is the new Lars von Trier film, 1970s-set serial-killer story *The House That Jack Built*. For the first time, the company is also screening scenes from *3 Things*, Jens Dahl's feature debut starring *Game Of Thrones* actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau. The taut thriller is about the negotiations over the terms of a tricky witness protection deal. Dahl previously wrote Nicolas Winding Refn's *Pusher* as well as working in TV. TrustNordisk is also looking to finalise deals on Danish box-office hit *Darkland*, Fenar Ahmad's thriller about a surgeon who avenges his brother's death in Copenhagen's criminal underworld. The film will have a first market screening for buyers only. Satirical comedy *DRIB*, which will world premiere at South by Southwest, will also have a buyers-only screening. Further titles include Icelandic thriller *I Remember You* and Norwegian fantasy adventure *The Ash Lad*, which was presented as a work-in-progress at Goteborg.

Sweden-based **SF Studios** is hosting the first market screenings of Danish comedy drama *Swinger*, directed by Mikkel Munch-Fals and described as similar in tone to the works of Woody Allen. Also screening is Rotterdam and Goteborg selection *The Man* by Charlotte Sieling, whose recent TV credits include *Homeland*. *The Man* stars Soren Malling and Jakob Oftebro in a story of an egotistical art-world superstar unnerved by a visit from his estranged son. SF is also showcasing thriller *Kings Bay*, based on a Norwegian political scandal in the 1960s; Janus Metz's sports drama *Borg/McEnroe*, which is now in post; and family titles *Bamse And The Witch's Daughter* and *In The Forest Of Huckybucky*.

LevelK is introducing Jussi Hiltunen's Finnish action drama *Law Of The Land*, about a policeman in Lapland who is nearing retirement when he is caught between two men trying to kill each other. The company is also handling two Generation titles: New Zealand drama *The Inland Road* (in Generation 14plus)



Garden Lane



The Man



3 Things



The Dissidents

and Norwegian family film *Oskar's America* (in Kplus), as well as Czech family animation *Oddssockeaters*. Also on its slate is the lauded Venice and Toronto drama *Sami Blood*.

For the first time **Eyewell** is screening Jaak Kilmi's Estonian comedy *The Dissidents*, from Taska Film producer Kristian Taska, who also worked with Eyewell on drama *1944*. *The Dissidents* is about three men who escape Soviet Estonia in the 1980s in the belief their new lives will be like *Miami Vice* and *Knight Rider*. Eyewell is also introducing buyers to *Love & Fury*, a drama from Finland's Solar Films. Alli Haapasalo directs the adaptation of Anja Snellman's novel *Autumn Prince*, about two young writers who fall in love in 1980s Helsinki. The cast is led

by Lauri Tilkänen (*The Midwife*) and Laura Birn (*The Ones Below*).

The Yellow Affair has first market screenings of Olof Spaak's Swedish drama *Garden Lane*, starring 2017 EFP Shooting Star Karin Franz Korlof and Simon J Berger; and Olaf Kraemer's German thriller *5 Women*, about five friends who meet for a getaway in France and are caught up in unexpected violence. The company is screening Viktor Ericsson's *Strawberry Days*, a love story about a Swedish strawberry farmer's daughter and a Polish worker, and is talking to buyers about Eric Styles' *Bach*, which is in development as a UK-Germany co-production. It is also handling Tony Simpson's family holiday story *Kiwi Christmas*, which is in pre-production.



The Bar

SPAIN

By Elisabet Cabeza

Film Factory Entertainment is at the EFM with a line-up that includes two titles in the Berlinale festival programme. Alex de la Iglesia's black comedy *The Bar* is screening in Competition and features Blanca Suarez and Mario Casas, who were both in de la Iglesias' *My Big Night*. They are part of an ensemble cast playing a group of strangers trapped in a Madrid bar after somebody is shot outside. The film is produced by de la Iglesias' Pokeepsie Films, also behind Eduardo Casanova's directorial debut *Skins* (with Nadie Es Perfecto) that screens in Panorama. *Skins* is a comedy about society's attitudes towards people's appearance. The cast includes Jon Kortajarena and Carmen Machi.

Latido Films is in town with Catherine Gund and Daresha Kyi's documentary *Chavela*, screening in Panorama Dokumente. The film focuses on the life and work of Mexican singer Chavela Vargas, talking to friends and admirers including Pedro Almodovar, who has often used Vargas' music in his films. Latido is also handling *Rescue Under Fire*, the debut feature from Adolfo Martinez. The war drama is about a mission to rescue medical personnel after a helicopter accident in Afghanistan. Ariadna Gil, Ingrid Garcia Jonsson and Roberto Alamo star.

Filmix International is talking to buyers about Jaime Balaguero's supernatural thriller *Muse*. Filmix is also co-producing the English-language film with Ireland's Fantastic Films, Belgium's Frakas Prods and France's The Jokers Films. The cast includes Elliot Cowan, Franka Potente, Ana Ularu, Manuela Vellés and Leonor Watling. Filmix is also selling comedy *The Tunnel Gang*, the directorial debut of writer Pepon Montero, which was released in Spain in January.



Attraction

REST OF THE WORLD

By Geoffrey Macnab

From Russia, Planeta Inform is presenting several projects signed just before the market. These include Nikita Argunov's sci-fi thriller *The Coma* and Yavor Gyrddev's dystopian sci-fi drama *Icaria*. Also on its slate is Svyatoslav Podgayevskiy's box-office hit horror film *The Bride and Andrey Volgin's* action title *Dance To Death*. Planeta is also showing new footage from Rustam Mosafir's period action title *The Scythian*.

Central Partnership is launching sales on two ballet-themed films: Valery Todorovskiy's *The Bolshoi* is about a provincial girl struggling to become a prima ballerina at Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre. Ballerina Margarita Simonova stars, and the film was shot partly in the Bolshoi Theatre itself. Anna Matison's *After You're Gone* is about a bad-tempered ballet genius with a debilitating injury who hopes to stage one final production but cannot find dancers who meet his standards.

Art Pictures is hoping to close US and UK deals on Fedor Bondarchuk's apocalyptic sci-fi film *Attraction*, which had a strong opening in Russian cinemas in late January, taking close to \$7m during its first weekend. Also on Art Pictures' slate is Pavel Lungin's thriller *Queen Of Spades* and Oleg Trofim's romantic drama *Ice*.

Moscow-based Cinema Production Center is pre-selling *Sobibor*, a drama based on the Sobibor revolt of 1943, and Andrey Sokolov's spy film *Survivor*.

Russian World Vision is introducing buyers to Dmitry Suvorov's outrageous comedy *Superbad*.

Benelux distributor Be For Films has picked up Marie Dumora's French documentary *Belinda*, which opens Panorama Dokumente. The company is also showcasing Greg Zglinski's Forum title



Crash & Burn



The Longing



Animals

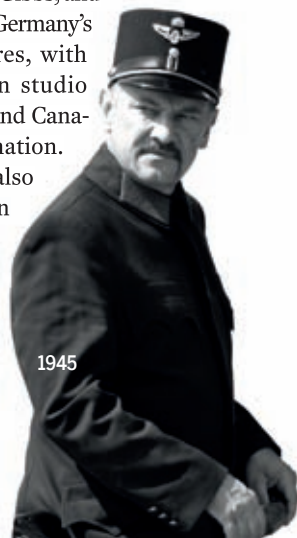
Animals after Be For Films' principal Pamela Leu spotted the film at Polish Days in Wroclaw last summer. A further Polish title on its slate is Maria Sadowska's box-office hit *The Art Of Loving*, which was spotted by Leu at Warsaw Film Festival last October and will receive a market premiere.

Hungarian National Film Fund is handling international sales on Ferenc Török's *1945*, which is screening in Panorama (Menemsha has sales rights in North America), and Arpad Sopsits' market title *Strangled*.

Austrian documentary specialist Autlook is giving a market premiere to *Crash & Burn*, Sean O Cualain's documentary about the brilliant but wayward and self-destructive Irish racing driver Tommy Byrne.

From the Netherlands, Pim van Collem's outfit Dutch Features Entertainment is continuing pre-sales on thriller *Swagger* by much-feted directing duo Adil El Arbi and Bilal Fallah, the team behind *Black*. It is also handling sales on Joram Lursen's *The Longing* and Ineke Houtman's family drama *The Fantastic Family Hotel*.

Australia's Odin's Eye Entertainment is heading to the EFM to begin pre-sales on \$16m 3D animation *Hump*. Based on an original screenplay by Sundance audience-award winners Amin Matalqa and Matt Antonelli, *Hump* is to be directed by Disney/Pixar veteran director and story artist Rob Gibbs, and will be produced by Germany's MovieBrats Pictures, with Belgian animation studio Walking The Dog and Canada's Tangent Animation. OEE's EFM slate also includes live-action thriller *Cage Dive* and animated films *Foodiverse*, *Throne Of Elves*, *Bad Cat* and *Arkie*. **S**



1945