

The Film Business Academy
Short Course Programme



SCREEN DAILY STORIES [mail story to a friend](#)

Lionsgate International reports monster sales business at Cannes

Jeremy Kay in Los Angeles

19 June 2006 04:00

Lionsgate International has joined the list of US sales agencies reporting an unprecedented volume of business at Cannes last month, led by monster sales on *Saw III* and the recently announced vampire project *Daybreak*.

Saw III inspired a flurry of deals on the Croisette as rights went to: Japan (Asmik Ace), Germany (Kinowelt), Australia and New Zealand (Hoyts), France (Metropolitan), Italy (RAI), South Korea (Showtime/Asia), Scandinavia (Scanbox), Benelux (Films De L'Elysee), Taiwan (CMC), EEAP (CIS, Baltics, Ukraine, Poland, former Yugoslavia), Switzerland (Ascot Elite), South Africa (Ster Kinekor), Turkey (FIDA), and Greece (Village Roadshow).

Further deals on the third episode in Lionsgate's smash horror franchise were concluded in: the Middle East (Eagle Films), Portugal (LNK), Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra), the Czech and Slovak republics (Hollywood Classic), Bulgaria and Romania (New Films), Hungary (Budapest Films), Malaysia (Grand Brilliance), Iceland (Myndform), and Thailand (Rose). Lionsgate will release the horror picture domestically on Oct 27.

Daybreak deals closed in: Japan (Artport); Spain (Dea Planeta); France (Metropolitan); Brazil (Europa); Scandinavia (Nordisk); Mexico and Central America (Gussi); Benelux (DFW); Taiwan (CMC); Portugal (LNK); the Middle East (Eagle); Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra); Turkey (FIDA); Greece (Spentzos); Eastern Europe (EEAP); the Philippines (Pioneer); and Thailand (M Pictures).

Lionsgate will release *Daybreak* in the US and UK. President of acquisitions and co-productions Peter Block and senior vice president of acquisitions and co-productions and Jason Constantine will oversee production for the studio. Australian Chris Brown of Pictures In Paradise and LA-based Sean and Bryan Furst are producing.

Sales on the upcoming comedy *Employee Of The Month* starring Jessica Simpson, Dane Cook and Dax Shepard closed in: Australia and New Zealand (Hoyts); France (Metropolitan); Mexico (Quality Films); Benelux (DFW); Brazil (Europa); South Africa (Ster Kinekor); Scandinavia (Nordisk); Portugal (LNK); CIS (21st Entertainment Corp); Turkey (FIDA); the Middle East (Eagle); Bulgaria and Romania (New Films); and Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra).

Rights also sold to: Greece (Spentzos); Venezuela (C Blancica); Poland (Vision); the former Yugoslavia (Blitz); Iceland (Myndform); Thailand (M Pictures); Vietnam (BHD); the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary (Modus Vivendi); and the Philippines (Pioneer). *Employee Of The Month* will open through Lionsgate in North America on Sept 29, and Lionsgate UK will release in the UK.

The Lucy Liu heist thriller *Devil To Pay*, currently in pre-production for Lionsgate, sold to: Germany (ZDF); Spain (Dea Planeta); France (Metropolitan); Benelux (RCV); Scandinavia (Nordisk); Brazil (Paris Films); Russia (Lizard); Romania and the Baltics (EEAP); the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland (SPI); Israel (Forum); Malaysia and India (PT Parkit); and Portugal (LNK).

Deals also closed in: Turkey (FIDA); the Middle East (Eagle); the former Yugoslavia (Blitz); Iceland (Myndform); Greece (Spentzos); Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra); the Philippines (Viva); Thailand (Rose); Bulgaria (Alexandra); and Hong Kong and China (Panorama).

The dirty bomb thriller *Right At Your Door*, which Lionsgate picked up for the world following its world premiere in Sundance, went to: Germany (Senator); France (Metropolitan); Spain (Filmax); Italy (RAI); Benelux (RCV); Mexico and Central America (Gussi); Brazil (Europa); Turkey (FIDA); Israel (Forum); Portugal (LNK); Iceland (Myndform); India (PT Parkit); Argentina and Chile (Bazuca); and Greece (Spentzos).

Right At Your Door deals also closed in: Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra); the Philippines (Viva); Thailand (Rose); the Middle East (Eagle); the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, and Poland (SPI); Venezuela (C Blancica); Russia, Romania and the Baltic States (EEAP); the former Yugoslavia (Blitz); and Peru (Delta). Lionsgate will release in the US in 2007 and in the UK his autumn.

The first international sales concluded on the horror title and recent US release *See No Evil*. Deals closed in: Japan (Toshiba); Germany (Kinowelt); Spain (Filmax); France (Metropolitan); Italy (Mediafilm); South Korea (Daisy); Mexico and Central America (Gussi); Russia (West); Benelux (RCV); Scandinavia (Nordisk); Brazil (Europa); South Africa (Ster Kinekor); and Portugal (LNK).

Further sales went to: Greece (Spentzos); Argentina (Alfa); Venezuela (C. Blancica); Iceland (Myndform); the Philippines (Viva); Thailand (Rose); Malaysia and India (PT Parkit); Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra); Taiwan (Pandasia); Peru (Delta); the Middle East (Eagle); Turkey (FIDA); Bulgaria (Alexandra); the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland (SPI); the former Yugoslavia (Blitz); Romania and the Baltics (EEAP); and the West Indies (ATM Films).

President of international Nick Meyer reported major sales on Lionsgate's crime thriller *Borderland*, which is currently in post-production and is based on the true story of college graduates who stumble upon a terrifying ancient Mexican cult while on a road trip. Rights to *Borderland* have gone to: the UK and Spain (Momentum); Germany (Tiberius); France (Metropolitan); Russia and the Baltic states (Central Partnership); Portugal (LNK); Iceland (Myndform); Benelux (Paradiso); Greece (Spentzos); and Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra).

Sales also closed in: the Philippines (Viva); Thailand (Major Cinepictures); the Middle East (Eagle); Turkey (FIDA); the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland (SPI); Romania (ProRom); Serbia/Croatia (Blitz); Malaysia (PT Parkit); and Bulgaria (Alexandra). "In addition to being the perfect fit for the Lionsgate slate with our current line-up of gritty thrillers, the buyer response to *Borderland* has confirmed our instincts that there's a growing global market for Latino films with universal appeal," Meyer said. The picture will open through Lionsgate in North America on Sept 29.

Final sales were tied up on the action thriller *Rogue* starring Jet Li and Jason Statham. Rights went to Australia and New Zealand (Hoyts); Russia (Lizard); Taiwan (CMC); Hong Kong and China (Panorama); and South Africa (Ster Kinekor).

William Friedkin's thriller *Bug*, which won the FIPRESCI Prize following its world premiere in the Directors' Fortnight programme and stars Ashley Judd and Harry Connick Jr, sold to a number of markets led by France (Metropolitan), and Mexico and Central America (Gussi).

The picture also went to: Scandinavia (Scanbox); CIS (21 Entertainment Corp); Argentina and Chile (Alfa Films); the Middle East (Eagle); Turkey (FIDA); Portugal (LNK); Poland (Monolith); the former Yugoslavia (Blitz); Indonesia (PT Amero Mitra); Greece (Spentzos); the Czech and Slovak republics (Hollywood Classic); Iceland (Myndform); the Philippines (Pioneer); and Bulgaria and Romania (New Films). Lionsgate will release *Bug* in North America in December.