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Posted: Sat., Nov. 7, 2009, 7:14pm PT

AFM news briefs

Deals for Emilio Estevez among many others

By PAMELA MCCLINTOCK

Cinema Management Group has signed with Liddell Entertainment to represent international sales rights to Chris Rock's docu "Good Hair." Icon Entertainment Intl. has picked up domestic and most foreign rights to "The Way," directed by Emilio Estevez and toplining Martin Sheen. IEI Deal excludes Spain and Portugal, where Filmax has all rights.

Arclight Films has made multiple pre-sales in major territories for shark thriller "Bait 3D." Pic shoots in Queensland in April.

Helmer Russell Mulcahy said the film "will be the first Australia horror-genre thriller to be shot in 3D."

Territories sold include Australia (Paramount), Spain (Arena), Italy (Medusa), Brazil (Paris), Benelux (Dutch Film Works), Portugal (Lusomundo), South Africa (Videovision), Mexico (Gussi), Turkey (Aqua Pinema), Indonesia (Amero Mitra), Philippines (Pioneer), Thailand, India, Vietnam (Soundspace), Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay (Alfa), Colombia (Cine Colombia), Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador (Delta), Middle East (Ballistic), Eastern Europe (Modus Vivendi), and ex-Yugoslavia (Arena).

Visit Films closed deals on several titles. U.S. and Canadian rights to South African drama "Shirley Adams" sold to the Global Film Initiative. Fashion docu "Picture Me" sold to France (Eurozoom) and Australia/New Zealand (Vendetta). U.S. and Canadian rights to North Korean human rights docu "Kimjongilia" sold to Lorber HT Digital; docu also made deals in South Korea (Peter Pen) and a TV pact in Poland with TVP. Cannes' Directors' Fortnight title "Here" closed in France (Floris). The Duplass brothers' "Baghead" sold to Accent for Australia/New Zealand.

We Distribution inked deals on Cinema Popular's \$23 million action thriller "Bodyguards and Assassins." Pic sold to U.K. and Canada (E1 Entertainment), South Korea (CJ Entertainment) and Middle East (Gulf Films). Pic, directed by Teddy Chen, will be released across Asia in December: in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan (Applause Entertainment), Singapore (MediaCorp Raintree Pictures and Festive Films), Malaysia (RAM Entertainment), Thailand (United Home Entertainment and UIP), Indonesia (PT Teguh Bakti) and Vietnam (Parkit Films).

SEOUL -- Korean action fantasy "Woochi" has been pre-sold to several territories at AFM.

Set to be released nationwide at Christmas, pic has been picked up by Viscom Suraya for Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brunei and by Splendid for Germany and Benelux.

Deals were jointly handled by United Pictures and M-Line Distribution, with an exclusive five-minute

promo, which was unveiled for the first time.

Locally distributed by CJ Entertainment, the film is helmed by Choi Dong-hoon ("Tazza") and produced by Eugene Lee's Zip Cinema. Kim Yoon-suk ("The Chaser") and Lim Soo-jung ("I'm a Cyborg but That's OK") are attached to the fantasy actioner.

SEOUL -- Korean box office hit "Take Off" has been sold to Amuse Soft Entertainment for Japan and to several other Asian territories.

Pic's sales representative, Showbox, announced that the film was picked up by One Dollar Distribution for China, Hong Kong and Malaysia. Showbox also sealed deals with Taiwan's Catchplay and Turkey's Horizon Intl.

Starring Ha Jung-woo ("The Chaser"), movie has grossed \$60 million on 8.5 million admissions since its local release July 30.

Showbox also sealed deals for its horror title "Possessed," a critically acclaimed debut feature.

It was picked up by Innoform Media for Singapore, Hwa Yea for Malaysia and Catchplay for Taiwan.

Image Entertainment has acquired North American rights to "Accidents Happen," starring Geena Davis.

Director Andrew Lancaster's dark comedy about a mother and son bowed at the Tribeca Film Festival in April.

Harrison Gilbertson ("What's Wrong With Virginia") co-stars.

Anthony Anderson ("Somersault") produced via his Red Carpet Prods.

A U.S. theatrical release is slated for the first quarter next year.

The deal was announced at the American Film Market, where CMG will be licensing the film.

Docu about hairstyles in the African-American community has cumed \$3.6 million domestically.

CMG is headed by sales and distribution exec Edward Noeltner.

Madmen Entertainment will handle rights in Australia and New Zealand.

Liddell and Roadside Attractions are in charge of U.S. distribution.

Indie distrib Artist View Entertainment will handle worldwide distribution for thriller "31 North 62 East," starring John Rhys-Davies, as well as "Chicago Overcoat" and "The Other Side of the Tracks."

Todd Slater, who launched his Slater Brothers Entertainment shingle this year, serves as exec producer.

Pics will screen during AFM.

Film, which is presently lensing in Spain and across the Pyrenees, follows a Californian

ophthalmologist who travels to France to reclaim the body of his estranged son, who died in a storm in the Pyrenees.

Canadian thesp Deborah Kara Unger ("88 Minutes," "Crash") and the U.K.'s James Nesbitt ("Bloody Sunday," "Match Point") also star. Other thesps include Spain's Angela Molina ("Broken Embraces"), Simon Andreu ("The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian"), Eusebio Lazaro ("Pan's Labyrinth") and Carlos Leal ("Broken Embraces").

"The Way," Estevez's fourth feature as a writer-director, is produced by Filmax chairman Julio Fernandez, Estevez and Elixir Films' David Alexanian.

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