



Newmarket Picks Up Amenábar's AGORA

Los Angeles, CA (November 17th, 2009) – Exclusive Media Group (EMG) Co-Chairmen Chris Ball and Nigel Sinclair jointly announced today that Newmarket Films has acquired the provocative and romantic historical epic AGORA, directed by Alejandro Amenábar (The Sea Inside, The Others). The film was written by Amenábar and Mateo Gil, and stars Academy Award winner Rachel Weisz (The Constant Gardener), Oscar Isaac (star of Zack Snyder's upcoming film Sucker Punch) and Max Minghella (Syriana). The film recently held its North American premiere at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival. Newmarket will release the film in the first half of 2010. The deal was negotiated by Cinetic Media on behalf of the filmmakers and by Ball on behalf of Newmarket. AGORA was produced by MOD Productions, Himenoptero and Telecinco Cinema, with the participation of Canal + Spain. This is the first acquisition by Newmarket since the company was acquired this month by EMG.

Set in ancient Egypt under Roman rule, AGORA follows the brilliant and beautiful astronomer Hypatia (Weisz) who leads a group of disciples fighting to save the wisdom of the Ancient World, as violent religious upheaval spills into the streets of Alexandria. Among these disciples are two men competing for her heart: the witty, privileged Orestes (Isaac) and Davus (Minghella), Hypatia's young slave, who is torn between his secret love for her and the freedom he knows can be his if he chooses to join the unstoppable surge of the Christians.

"Alejandro Amenábar has crafted a film that not only offers a visual spectacle but also deals with religious intolerance in a way that makes this film feel modern and relevant even though it is set centuries ago," says Ball. "We are proud to be the ones taking this film to US audiences who will find that this film offers epic storytelling at its finest."

Ghislain Barrois, CEO of Telecinco Cinema said "We are thrilled with this agreement. Agora couldn't be in better or more capable hands."

AGORA scored Spain's highest opening of the year so far, grossing \$7.9 million in its first three days, and has remained atop the Spanish box office for four weeks now. Cumulative box office in Spain is approximately \$30 million. The film is on its way to becoming one of the highest grossing films of the year in Spain, topping the charts along with UP and ICE AGE 3.

Newmarket has tackled films with a religious theme in the past having been the studio that brought Mel Gibson's THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST to US audiences. Newmarket also recently acquired Jon Amiel's CREATION starring Jennifer Connelly and Paul Bettany, which tells the story of Charles Darwin's struggle to reconcile his love for his deeply religious wife with his own growing belief in evolution. Newmarket will release CREATION in January 2010.

ABOUT NEWMARKET FILMS

Newmarket was founded in 1994 by William Tyrer and Chris Ball and has been engaged ever since in the financing, production, distribution and ownership of independent motion pictures. Newmarket's daring taste and handcrafted distribution approach set an industry standard with the production and theatrical distribution of Christopher Nolan's MEMENTO in 2000. The company followed up the release of MEMENTO with a surprising string of critical and box office successes that include: DONNIE DARKO, WHALE RIDER, MONSTER, DOWNFALL and THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST. In addition to MEMENTO, Newmarket has produced such films as CRUEL INTENTIONS, THE MEXICAN and THE PRESTIGE. The company owns a library of films that consists of interests in more than 250 titles. Newmarket is owned by Exclusive Media Group.

ABOUT EXCLUSIVE MEDIA GROUP (EMG)

Formed by strategic investment group Cyrte Investments in May 2008, Exclusive Media Group (EMG) (www.exclusivemedia.com) is the parent company of Spitfire Pictures, Hammer Films and the newly acquired Newmarket Films. The company is run by Co-Chairmen Nigel Sinclair, Chris Ball and Guy East, with Sinclair serving as group CEO. East is also Chairman of Exclusive Film Distribution (EFD). Simon Oakes serves as Vice-Chairman of the EMG Board as well as President and CEO of Hammer.

Under EMG, Spitfire and Hammer operate as two separate production entities with offices both in London and Los Angeles. EMG has an active development slate and intends to produce and finance 3-4 motion pictures a year under its production brands, Hammer Films and Spitfire Pictures, together with producing approximately 2 iconic titles through its Spitfire Documentary Films label. Furthermore, EMG plans to acquire further films for international distribution via its London based subsidiary Exclusive Film Distribution, and for US theatrical distribution via its Newmarket Films subsidiary. The group also develops projects for television and digital platforms.

EMG has over 500 titles in the combined Hammer, Spitfire and Newmarket libraries and pursues an aggressive library acquisition policy. The Hammer library is noted for its remake potential and the company is in discussions with A-list writers and directors to revive and re-imagine some of its highly touted titles.

ABOUT CYRTE

Cyrte Investments ("Cyrte") is a Netherlands based investment firm and manages several private investment funds, with investments in both listed and non-listed companies and has traditionally focused on companies in the media, entertainment, telecom and technology sectors. Cyrte is part of Delta Lloyd Asset Management, one of the Netherlands major asset managers.

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