



Cannes 2004

RENEGADE ON WARPATH AT CANNES 2004

By Crystal Sky

There's a new film company in town and it's coming to Cannes 2004. Renegade Worldwide is a film production, acquisition, financing and sales company that will handle projects with budgets under 20 million dollars. The company will focus solely on producing and acquiring high-end genre movies with breakout potential that will appeal to a worldwide audience. The company will be headed by Executive VP of development and production, Patrick Ewald, and VP of Sales and Acquisitions, Nadine de Barros. Both will be reporting to Steven Paul, President of Crystal Sky, the parent company of Renegade.

Renegade, only three months old, has already acquired several new films for the market, one of which is *DEAD DOLL*, a unique horror movie. The film, which stars Goran Dukic and Romi Koch, is about a realistic looking sex doll which is possessed by an evil spirit. The completed film was directed by Adam Sherman.

Notes Ewald: "There are an incredible amount of fantastic independent genre projects floating around that are looking for the right home. We recognize the need to establish an independent artist-friendly company that writers, actors and directors can bring their projects to and have a great experience getting them made."

Renegade will also be selling the CGI packed psychological-thriller, *DEADLY COURSE*, starring Academy Award winner, Jon Voight. The film, budgeted at \$8.5 million and currently in post, is about a college professor who is seemingly framed for murder and his misfit class of students who must fight to discover the incredible truth.

Renegade will also be doing pre-sales on a couple of bigger budgeted titles. The first project is the supernatural thriller, *SOLO*, written by Carl Binder (*POCAHONTAS* and Executive Producer of *DR. QUINN: MEDICINE WOMAN*). The film will be directed by Josef Rusnak (Columbia Pictures *THE THIRTEENTH FLOOR*). In *SOLO*, a young couple's daughter is kidnapped and they must embark on a supernatural journey to uncover the answer to her disappearance. Another project, *NECROSCOPE*, written by Tyro scribe Vlady Pildysh, is the terrifying story of a group of graduate students who discover a mystical telescope which can see into the world of the dead.

In addition, Renegade will serve as the sales agent for a portion of the library titles produced and acquired for Crystal Sky. Genres range from action, suspense, horror, and family adventure. A few of the titles include: the sci-fi action, *BOMBSHELL*, starring Henry Thomas, Frank Whaley and Brion James; the action-thriller, *HOURLASS*, starring C. Thomas Howell, Anthony Clark, Ed Begley, Jr. with cameos by Lou Diamond Phillips and Kiefer Sutherland; and the comedy, *SHE'S IN LOVE*, starring Edward James Olmos, Maria Conchita Alonso and Pauly Shore.

Nadine De Barros recently joined Renegade to focus on sales and acquisitions for the company. Prior to joining Crystal Sky, Nadine spent 3 years at Dream Entertainment as their VP sales and acquisitions. Nadine also previously worked at Summit Entertainment, and in acquisitions and distribution in France.



Over the past several years, Nadine negotiated the acquisitions of such films as *NINE LIVES* starring Paris Hilton (to be released domestically through Lions Gate), *PREY FOR ROCK N ROLL* starring Gina Gershon, the recent Sundance indie *SECOND BEST* starring Joe Pantiliano and Jennifer Tilly, and cult horror *THE MANSON FAMILY*.

States De Barros: “I am thrilled to be joining Renegade for this exciting launch. We have an amazing slate for Cannes. It is an honor to be working for Steven (Paul) who is a veteran of this business. He is a true maverick and film maven and has been able to achieve great success in this business over his distinguished career. I am also thrilled to working with Patrick (Ewald) who brings a great vision for discovering new talent and material.”

Adds Ewald: “Steven and I are honored to be working with Nadine. I know that this will be the beginning of a great relationship.”

Patrick Ewald will expand his duties as Executive Vice-President, Development & Production, for Jon Voight Entertainment and Crystal Sky, LLC. A six year veteran of Crystal Sky, Mr. Ewald oversees a combined slate of more than twenty projects. Mr. Ewald has produced or co-produced eight films which include: *DARK ASYLUM*, *THE PRINCESS & THE BARRIO BOY*, *ADDRESS UNKNOWN*, *LITTLE INSECTS*, *CHARLIE’S GHOST STORY*, *ARTHUR’S QUEST*, *THE PRINCE AND THE SURFER* and *THE MILLION DOLLAR KID*.

Crystal Sky maintains a first look deal with Paramount Pictures, for the co-financing of theatrical motion pictures with budgets between 20-80 million. Together, Crystal Sky and Marvel Comics are currently in pre-production on three films including: *GHOST RIDER* with Nicolas Cage, a project with Columbia Pictures to be directed by Mark Steven Johnson of *DAREDEVIL*; *DEATHLOK* a \$70 million dollar project with Paramount Pictures; and *WEREWOLF BY NIGHT*, a \$40 million dollar project with Dimension Pictures.

Also in development are the live-action adaptations of *PAC-MAN* and *TEKKEN*, two of the most popular video games of all time. Both films are a co-production with Namco and Gaga Communications. Crystal Sky is also developing *LOSING MY VIRGINITY*, the true and incredible life adventure of billionaire entrepreneur, Richard Branson, the man responsible for the enormous success of the Virgin label.

This year Crystal Sky will release two theatrical pictures: *THE KARATE DOG* and *SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2*. An unusual buddy action-comedy, *THE KARATE DOG* stars Academy Award winner Jon Voight, Simon Rex (“Scary Movie 3”, “The Forsaken”, and former MTV vj), Jaime Pressley (“Torque”, “Not Another Teen Movie”, TV’s “Jack & Jill”), Pat Morita (“The Karate Kid”), with the voice of Chevy Chase as “Cho Cho”. *SUPERBABIES: BABY GENIUSES 2* is the sequel to the original film, *BABY GENIUSES*, which was released through TriStar Pictures. The movie stars Jon Voight, Scott Baio, Vanessa Angel and rising star, Skyler Shaye. *SUPERBABIES* tells the story of “The Kahuna,” an ageless baby James Bond who must stop the world from the clutches of evil Tycoon “Bill Biscane” and his plan to control the minds of babies everywhere.