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**SONY PICTURES CLASSICS ACQUIRES THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL CLOSING NIGHT  
FILM COCO CHANEL & IGOR STRAVINSKY**

**NEW YORK, NY (May 13, 2009)** – Sony Pictures Classics (SPC) announced today that they have acquired all rights for the U.S. and English Canada from sales agent Wild Bunch for the Cannes title, *COCO CHANEL & IGOR STRAVINSKY*. The film is directed by acclaimed French filmmaker Jan Kounen, whose past credits include *BLUEBERRY* (released as *RENEGADE* in the U.S.) and *99 FRANCS*.

The film is set in 1920's Paris where Coco Chanel has established herself in the world of fashion and Igor Stravinsky, displaced by the Russian Revolution, is living destitute in Paris with his family and suffering from a disastrous reaction to an early production of his ballet. The pair is introduced and the attraction is immediate - the two embark on a passionate affair, which results in a period of great artistic achievement for both artists.

"Jan Kounen's exceptional independent film is about the nature of inspiration and the havoc surrounding the great art it creates. We are so pleased to be involved in bringing this film to audiences in America and it is a pleasure to be back in business with Claudie Ossard and our friends at Wild Bunch," said Sony Pictures Classics co-Presidents Michael Barker and Tom Bernard.

Based on the book *Coco and Igor* by Chris Greenhalgh, the film stars Chanel model Anna Mouglalis, who also stars in the upcoming film about the life of Serge Gainsbourg, *SERGE GAINSBOURG: VIE HEROIQUE*, and Danish actor Mads Mikkelsen, star of *CASINO ROYALE*, *QUANTUM OF SOLACE*, and the upcoming *CLASH OF THE TITANS*.

*COCO AND IGOR* was produced by Claudie Ossard, producer of the Academy Award nominated *AMELIE* and *PARIS JE T'AIME*. SPC and Ossard first collaborated on directors Marc Caro and Jean-Pierre Jeunet's 1995 film, *THE CITY OF LOST CHILDREN*. *COCO AND IGOR* will mark their second collaboration. The film was also produced by Chris Bolzli. Gabriel Yared (*THE LIVES OF OTHERS*, *THE ENGLISH PATIENT*, *THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY*) wrote the score and Karl Lagerfeld assisted with the costumes.

SPC and The Wild Bunch have recently worked together on Woody Allen's *WHATEVER WORKS*, which opened the 2009 Tribeca Film Festival and which Sony Pictures Classics releases in the United States on June 19.

**ABOUT SONY PICTURES CLASSICS**

Michael Barker and Tom Bernard serve as co-presidents of Sony Pictures Classics—an autonomous division of Sony Pictures Entertainment they founded with Marcie Bloom in January 1992, which distributes, produces, and acquires independent films from around the world.

Barker and Bernard's films are among the most prestigious films of all time. They have produced 24 Academy Award® winners (21 of those at Sony Pictures Classics) and have garnered over 100 Academy Award® nominations (72 at Sony Pictures Classics) including Best Picture nominations for *Capote*, *Howards End*, and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

Over the years, Barker and Bernard fostered relationships with many of the world's finest independent filmmakers including Robert Altman, Ang Lee, Richard Linklater, Guillermo del Toro, Francois Truffaut, David Cronenberg, Jonathan Demme, Woody Allen, Walter Salles, Todd Haynes, Nicole Holofcener, Errol Morris, Zhang Yimou, Wong Kar Wai, Ingmar Bergman, Neil Jordan, Francis Ford Coppola, and David Mamet.

Additional honors include “The Honors Award” from the Director's Guild of America, the “Chevalier Order of Arts and Letters” from the French government, the Gotham Industry Lifetime Achievement Award (IFP), the FINDIE Award (IFP/West Spirit Awards), and the GLAAD Media Award. At Sony Corporation’s global management conference, SPC received the “Distinguished Special Recognition” award two years in a row for their successful business operation.

### **ABOUT SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT**

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America (SCA), a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation. SPE's global operations encompass motion picture production and distribution; television production and distribution; digital content creation and distribution; worldwide channel investments; home entertainment acquisition and distribution; operation of studio facilities; development of new entertainment products, services, and technologies; and distribution of filmed entertainment in more than 100 countries. Sony Pictures Entertainment can be found at <http://www.sonypictures.com>.