
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS ACQUIRES HUNGARIAN FILM THE NOTEBOOK

NEW YORK (January 2, 2014) - Sony Pictures Classics announced today that they have acquired the North American rights to THE NOTEBOOK, the Hungarian entry for Best Foreign Language Film. The film is directed by Janos Szasz (WOYZECH, THE WITMAN BOYS, OPIUM/DIARY OF A MADWOMAN), shot by Academy Award® nominated Christian Berger (WHITE RIBBON, CACHE) and is produced by Intuit Pictures, in co-production with Hunnia Filmstudio, Amour Fou and Dolce Vita Films. THE NOTEBOOK, adapted from Agota Kristof's bestselling novel of the same name, received The Grand Prix Crystal Globe, the top prize at the 2013 Karlovy Vary Film Festival, where it had its world premiere. The film also received The Europa Cinemas Labels Award, which supports theatrical exhibition in Europe, and had its North American premiere at the 2013 Toronto Film Festival.

Sony Pictures Classics acquired the film from Beta Cinema.

Set on the onset of WWII, THE NOTEBOOK, which stars Ulrich Thomsen (THE CELEBRATION) and Ulrich Matthes (DOWNFALL), tells the story of thirteen year old twins abandoned by their parents and forced to live with their cruel grandmother in a village on the Hungarian border. Studying the evil surrounding them, the twins learn to rely on their loyalty to one another, ultimately surviving in the face of challenging circumstances.

"To make this movie was a wonderful and a painful journey for me, like a time machine, took me back into the war time. The jungle of fear and immorality," said Director Janos Szasz.

Sony Pictures Classics stated, "We have wanted to buy this film following its successful showings at the Toronto Film Festival. We have never really seen a movie quite like this. Based on a famous European novel, The Notebook portrays the World War II experience as a Grimm fairy tale brimming with darkness and foreboding evil. It is fresh, brilliantly told by director Janos Szasz with stunning cinematography by the great Christian

Berger. It is great to collaborate again with Dirk Schuerhoff and Beta Cinema with whom we have shared success in the past (THE LIVES OF OTHERS, THE COUNTERFEITORS, IN DARKNESS).

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 have released prestigious films that have won 31 Academy Awards® (27 of those at Sony Pictures Classics) and have garnered 135 Academy Award® nominations (109 at Sony Pictures Classics) including Best Picture nominations for AMOUR, MIDNIGHT IN PARIS, AN EDUCATION, CAPOTE, HOWARDS END, AND CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON.

ABOUT SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America, a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation. SPE's global operations encompass motion picture production and distribution; television production and distribution; home entertainment acquisition and distribution; a global channel network; digital content creation and distribution; operation of studio facilities; development of new entertainment products, services and technologies; and distribution of entertainment in more than 142 countries. For additional information, go to <http://www.sonypictures.com/>.