

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS ACQUIRES U.S. AND LATIN AMERICAN RIGHTS TO ARI FOLMAN'S POPULAR ANIMATED FEATURE "WALTZ WITH BASHIR"

New York. 27 May 2008. It was confirmed today that Sony Pictures and The Match Factory agreed on U.S. and Latin American rights to Ari Folman's powerful animated feature "Waltz with Bashir."

The film had a tremendous response receiving unanimous critical praise after screening in competition at the Cannes Film Festival. In "Waltz with Bashir," Ari Folman, a former Israeli soldier attempts to decipher the horror he witnessed in a 1982 massacre of thousands in Lebanon.

Michael Weber from The Match Factory commented, "We are truly excited to work with Michael, Tom and Dylan and the whole team at Sony Pictures Classics on O'HORTEN by Bent Hamer and WALTZ WITH BASHIR by Ari Folman. They have proven so many times in the past their ability to successfully release high quality films and they share our passion and enthusiasm for both titles."

Michael Barker, co-president of Sony Pictures Classics stated, "The experience of watching "Waltz with Bashir" reminds me of what it was like when we saw "The Battle of Algiers" for the very first time. It is one of the great anti-war movies told in a new way, this time with ingenious animation. It is overwhelming. Our past success with Triplets of Bellville and Persepolis has shown that there is a substantial audience out there with an insatiable appetite for high quality animated features for adults. Ari Folman's "Waltz With Bashir" will shake people up and reaches for the stars with its bold ambition."