

Strategic Partners 2016 introduces first slate of Spotlight Country projects, promising ‘exceptional content’

July 21, 2016 (Halifax, NS) – Projects announced today for Strategic Partners 2016 come attached to some heavy hitters, including Oscar Award-winning Producers and A-list Actors, Writers and Directors.

For those looking to partner or invest in high-level feature film and television fiction content, the event will feature a stellar slate of projects, producers and financiers.

Taking place in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Strategic Partners 2016 – presented by the Atlantic Film Festival from Sept. 15-17 – has assembled an influential international delegation of broadcasters, distributors, financiers, sales agents and funding agencies, all looking to invest in the selected projects.

Thus far, two projects have been selected for the Dramatic Television Incubator, a second-year initiative. The program’s goal is to aid senior-level producers with dramatic series in development, and a broadcaster attached, looking for International partners.

Projects slated for the Dramatic Television Incubator include:

Fridthjof Film, Ronnie Fridthjof (Armadillo, Heartless, Sjit Happens) Selected project: The Specialists (TV Series) (33% financing attached) – in development with Channel 5 (Discovery Networks), Danish Film Institute

Rob Heydon Holdings, Rob Heydon (The Pinkertons, Midnight Sun). Selected project: Last Rituals (TV Series, literary adaptation) (75% financing attached) Writer: Will Pascoe (Bitten, Orphan Black) Co-producer, Palomar Pictures, Joni Sighvattson. (Twin Peaks, Beverly Hills 90210, 100 Yr. Old Man Who Jumped Out the Window and Disappeared).

“The caliber of projects selected for Strategic Partners this year, both foreign and domestic, sets the bar high given our move to a project-focused market,” says Program Manager Laura Mackenzie. “The delegation we have lined up to attend embodies the great potential for forging strong, creative partnerships – exactly what we set out to achieve when we made that change.”

There are more than 100 projects selected to participate from 60 producers, with delegates hailing from 19 countries around the world, including those from this year’s spotlight countries, the Nordic region and the USA.

A snapshot of the Nordic producers and projects slated for Strategic Partners 2016 include:

Denmark Producers:

M&M Productions, four-time Oscar-winner, Tivi Magnusson (The New Tenants (short), Adam's Apples, Men and Chicken)

Sequoia Global Alliance, Janni Helleskov (Fidibus, Mørke, Lulu et Leon). Selected project: Sin Flood (TV Series, political drama). Head writer attached: Lolita Bellstar (Lulu & Leon, The Legacy). TAP Producer.

Profile Pictures, Jacob Jarek (Only God Forgives, When Animals Dream, Rams). Selected project: We Watched the Sun (Feature Film, thriller). Director: Jonas Arnby (When Animals Dream).

Fridthjof Film A/S, Miriam Nørgaard (Mercy Mercy - Adoptionens pris, The Arms Drop). Selected project: The Exception (22% financing attached, Feature Film, thriller). Scriptwriters attached: Christoffer Boe (When Animals Dream), Simon Pasternak (Sex, Drugs & Taxation).

Space Rocket Nation ApS, Lene Børglum (Dogville, Only God Forgives, Valhalla Rising). Selected project: Exit (Feature Film). Director: Bo Mikkelsen (What We Become).

Finland Producers:

Luminoir Oy, Pauli Pentti (Naked Harbour, Boy Upside Down). Selected project: Studio (50% financing attached, TV Series, crime). Scriptwriters attached: David Joss Buckley (Casualty) and Karin Arrhenius (The Girl). Talent attached: Krista Kosonen (The Midwife) and Laura Birn (Purge).

Lucy Loves Drama, Oskari Huttu (Summertime, Reunion). Selected project: White Hunger (TV Series - Literary Adaptation. Based on the best-selling, Man Booker nominee novel By Aki Ollikainen) Director: Mikko Kuparinen (2 Nights Till Morning)

Iceland Producers:

Compass Films/Spier Films, Heather Millard (Of Good Report, Future of Hope). Selected project: The Long Friday (25% financing attached, Feature Film - Literary Adaptation)

Pegasus Pictures, Snorri Thorisson (Game of Thrones, Shackleton). Selected project: The Falcons (10% financing attached, Feature Film - Literary Adaptation)

Norway Producers:

Filmhuset TV, Trond Berg-Nilssenn (Hotel Ceasar, Maria, Lillyhammer). Selected project: Sirens (TV Series, thriller), Spiritual Detective (TV Series, procedural crime).

“With the talent behind, and scope of the projects flowing from Nordic countries, now is the time to consider the potential for creative exchange between international producers and the Nordic region,” says Mackenzie. “These projects, and their potential, are brimming with possibility.”

A snapshot of the US producers and projects slated for Strategic Partners 2016 include:

Dodgeville Films, Mayuran Tiruchelvam (To Be Takei, The Girl is in Trouble). Selected project: The White Company (TV Series, Literary Adaptation)

Infinitum Productions, Shrihari Sathe (It Felt Like Love, Ek Hazarachi Note). Selected project: The Sweet Requiem (13.5% Financing attached, Feature Film). Director: Ritu Sarin & Tenzing Sonam. Talent attached: Tenzin Dolkar, Jampa Kalsang

Parris Pictures, Krista Parris (A Birder’s Guide to Everything, The Fly Room). Selected project: MOVIE NO. 1 (60% Financing attached, Feature Film, Drama). Director: Josephine Decker (Thou Wast Mild and Lovely)

Smaglik LLC, Matthew Smaglik (Diverge, Florence, Yesterday). Selected Project: Room Service (25% Financing Attached, Feature Film, Thriller). Director: Yedidia Gorsetman (Jammed). TAP Producer

Southern Fried Films, Trevite Willis (Children of God, Cargo) Selected Project: Orb (Feature Film, Horror). Director: Richard LeMay (Naked As We Came, The Dark Rite)

The Community, Daniel L. Blanc (Chronically Metropolitan, The Drowning). Selected project: Gale (Feature Film). Talent attached: Renee Zellweger

With a focus on dramatic feature film and television fiction content for new and existing platforms, Strategic Partners 2016, the co-production and co-financing market known globally for its ease and effectiveness, is a business-to-business event held in Halifax, Nova Scotia immediately following TIFF. This year the event has switched to a project-based slate, a move that has attracted an even stronger line-up of projects, producers and financiers. It will include 50+ producers from around the globe, representing a ‘best-in-class’ roster of officially selected feature film and television projects.

This year’s event will highlight the Nordic region as well as the United States.

About Strategic Partners

Founded in 1998, and set against the backdrop of the Atlantic Film Festival in Halifax, Strategic Partners is a one-stop shop for projects looking for partners. A global trendsetter, the event attracts producers whose projects represent fresh and innovative ways to tell stories, across all platforms. Priority is given to projects considered to have both commercial and international appeal. Strategic Partners provides a full agenda of 25-minute, pre-scheduled 1-2-1 meetings with investors/broadcasters/distributors/sales agents, participation in investor and co-production focused roundtable sessions, cutting-edge panels and visionary keynote speakers. The event's two-day linear program is designed to provide unparalleled access to international co-production/ co-financing possibilities.

Strategic Partners is part of the Atlantic Film Festival family of programs. Today's Atlantic Film Festival is a year-round celebration, growing beyond the eight-day cornerstone event in September to include: ViewFinders: Atlantic Film Festival for Youth, the AFF Outdoor Film Experience, Reel East Coast (REC) and Strategic Partners. Receive the most up-to-date information about Strategic Partners and the Atlantic Film Festival, including sneak peeks and festival highlights via:

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