



## PRESS RELEASE

# PTI to arrive with four market premieres and the first presentation of its co-production and distribution project **NUMBER 13** at AFM

Berlin, 22 October 2013 – The international sales and production outfit **Picture Tree International (PTI)** is heading to the **American Film Market (AFM)**, 6-13 November 2013, Los Angeles), the largest film market in the world, with a total of four premieres. The company will also present its co-production and distribution project **NUMBER 13** (aka HUMAN) in L.A. for the first time.

**Highlights of this year's PTI line-up: Victor "Young" Perez, Number 13, Mary Queen of Scots, Metalhead, Silent Summer, Los Angeles**

The majority French production **VICTOR "YOUNG" PEREZ** recently enjoyed its US premiere at the Hamptons International Film Festival and will be released in France on 20 November 2013 by Océan Film (French Theatrical Trailer: <http://tinyurl.com/lnvpr9s>). The movie tells the heart-rending true story of the Tunisian-Jewish world boxing champion Victor Perez leading up and during the Second World War.

PTI will also begin the international marketing for the Canadian-Finnish-German co-production **NUMBER 13** at the AFM. The company will present a director's 'vision promo' and the screenplay of this supernatural thriller.

**MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS** is a stunning cinematic portrait of the life and times of Maria Stuart. Directed by Thomas Imbach and based on the novel by Stefan Zweig, the film will be screened at the AFI FILM FESTIVAL taking place simultaneously to the AFM. The director and lead actress Camille Rutherford will be on hand at the screening. The film is scheduled for release in Switzerland by PATHE SUISSE in November.

**METALHEAD** directed by Iceland's Ragnar Bragason is moving drama that blends dark humour with heavy metal music. The film will enjoy its US festival premiere next year and stars Thora Bjorg Helga, who was most recently seen in Baltasar Kormákur's film THE DEEP.

The German production **SILENT SUMMER** from director Nana Neul (TO FARO) is a poetic and humorous comedy that explores the confusions and conflicting perspectives of a long marriage. The film will be released in Germany in the spring of next year.

Also new in the PTI portfolio is the drama **LOS ÁNGELES** directed by Damian John Harper and shot in Mexico. The film is currently in post-production and scheduled for completion in early 2014. **LOS ÁNGELES** is about a young man from Mexico pressured to carry out a murder on behalf of the gang in his home village – all so that he can buy his way to Los Angeles. The film's first promo will be shown at the AFM.

### Film plots:

The supernatural thriller **NUMBER 13** (in production) was developed under the title **HUMAN**. Finnish veteran AJ Annala (JADE WARRIOR, SAUNA) is set to direct based on the script that he also co-wrote. Among the names behind this co-production project are IRON SKY producer Tero Kaukomaa (Blind Spot Pictures, Finland) and Dean English (Perfect Circle Productions, Canada). Andreas Rothbauer and Alec Schulmann (Picture Tree International) are the German co-production partners.

**VICTOR "YOUNG" PEREZ** tells the true and moving story of a Tunisian-Jewish boxer, Victor Perez, who became the youngest world champion in boxing history in 1931 and 1932. Perez's older brother, Benjamin "Kid" Perez, also a boxer, was responsible for bringing him to boxing. In 1943, Perez was deported to Auschwitz, where he was forced to participate in a number of brutal and degrading boxing matches – all for the entertainment of the guards. The role of Victor Perez is played by Brahim Asloum, a French citizen of Algerian origin and also a former professional boxer, winner of Olympic gold medals in the lightweight category in Sydney 2001 and WBS world boxing champion in 2008. Other roles are played by Bruce Payne (PASSENGER 57) and Isabella Orsini (REMEMBER ME, MY LOVE). The film is a French-Israeli-Bulgarian co-production from Noé Productions and Mazel Productions in co-production with Transfax Films (Israel), Pierantoni and Partners (Bulgaria) and Greenhouse Media Investment



**MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS** tells the fascinating story of the famous Scottish queen, portrayed here by the young French actress Camille Rutherford. **MARY** is directed by Thomas Imbach, the multiple award-winning Swiss director of such films as **LENZ**, **DAY IS DONE** and **WELL DONE**. The film is an in-depth psychological study and already ran in competition at **Locarno** as well as in the "Special Presentation" category at the **Toronto International Film Festival**. Imbach wrote the screenplay together with Andrea Staka, recipient of the Golden Leopard in Locarno for her film **FRÄULEIN**, and Eduard Habsburg-Lothringen, a descendant of Maria Stuart. The film's cinematographer, Rainer Klausmann, has worked on a number of films including **DOWNFALL**, **THE EXPERIMENT** and **HEAD-ON**. **MARY, QUEEN OF SCOTS** is a Swiss production involving Okofilm Productions, SRF Swiss Television and ARTE.

The emotional drama **METALHEAD** begins in 1970, the year that marked the birth of both Hera Karlsdottir and heavy metal music itself – as represented by the release of Black Sabbath's first album. When Hera's brother dies in a tragic accident, she feels responsible. In an attempt to flee her feelings of guilt and mourning, Hera dives deeper into the world of heavy metal music, which she finds in her brother's still untouched room. In both the music and her dreams, she finds solace, sanctuary and a way to express her deepest emotions – and also a way to bond with her brother. **METALHEAD** celebrated its world premiere in **Toronto**. Director Ragnar Bragason (**CHILDREN**, **PARENTS**) is one of Iceland's most important contemporary directors. He has already received the EDDA national film award 24 times along with many other international festival awards. **METALHEAD**'s renowned editor, Valdís Óskarsdóttir, has worked on the Dogma film **Mífune**, on the Oscar-nominated **THE MONGOL** and also received a BAFTA for best editing for **ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND** starring Jim Carey and Kate Winslet in 2004. **METALHEAD** is a production of Mystery Production and Hummelfilm.

**SILENT SOMMER**, which will be brought to German cinemas in the spring of 2014 by Zorro Film, is a charming film with surprising plot twists that examines a long-standing marriage and its confusions and complications. Art historian Kristine (Dagmar Manzel) loses her voice suddenly and withdraws to the family holiday home in the south of France to recover. There she joins her daughter Anna, who is meeting her lover Franck, who in turn feels drawn to the mother from the very first moment. When Kristine begins a secret affair with Franck, the easygoing summer atmosphere goes array within the small community of French natives and German emigrants. Kristine's husband Herbert, who is also at the holiday home, tries to see past the missteps of his wife. However, it's hard to hide anything in such a small village and Herbert, too, is forced to begin a completely new life after being confronted with the many lies and deceptions he thought were long since buried. The film from 2Pilots Filmproduktion is a co-production with SWR.

**BLITZ PATROLLIE** is an irreverent, fast-paced comedy starring David Kau, the multiple award-winning South African comedy talent, and the South African comedian, author and actor Joe Rasdien. The film follows the hair-raising adventures of two policemen, Rummy Augustine (Joey Rasdien) and Ace Dikolobe (David Kau). The two truly make a mess of things after they accidentally get involved in a huge drug deal and are forced to do business with one of the worst criminals of the city.

**Picture Tree International at the American Film Market in Los Angeles:**

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**About Picture Tree International:**

**Picture Tree International** is an integrated distribution and production company with a clear international alignment. **Picture Tree International's** core business focuses on the worldwide licensing of film rights and the co-production of international feature films using an integrated business model that links distribution with production. The company was co-founded in early 2013 by Andreas Rothbauer and Alec Schulmann, who first worked together in 2005 on the Oscar-nominated film "Mongol: The Rise of Genghis Khan" (2007).

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