



SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS AND ORION PICTURES ACQUIRE IAN OLD'S AWARD-WINNING MYSTERY BURN COUNTRY

LOS ANGELES (September 8, 2016) – Samuel Goldwyn Films and Orion Pictures announced today that they have acquired the acclaimed mystery thriller *BURN COUNTRY* directed by Ian Olds and written by Paul Felten and Olds. The film, formerly known as *THE FIXER*, stars Dominic Rains in a breakout performance winning him the Best Actor prize at the Tribeca Film Festival in the US Narrative Competition. Also starring Melissa Leo, James Franco, Rachel Brosnahan and Thomas Jay Ryan, *BURN COUNTRY* will be released theatrically and on VOD in the United States on December 9th. Mongrel International will be selling the film internationally at the Toronto International Film Festival this week.

In *BURN COUNTRY*, Osman (Dominic Rains) leaves behind his life as a fixer for Western journalists reporting on the war in Afghanistan. He lands in a small bohemian town in Northern California, living on the couch of his friend's mother (Melissa Leo) and working as a crime reporter for the local newspaper. Restless and eager to penetrate the mysteries of his new home, he strikes out on his own, befriending the unstable hot tub craftsman Lindsay (James Franco) and an elusive local actress Sandra (Rachel Brosnahan). But when Lindsay goes missing under troubling circumstances and Osman goes after her, he is drawn deep into the backwoods of this small town. As things take a dangerous turn and an unfamiliar form of violence ignites around him, Osman is forced to confront the increasingly untenable reality of his new life.

Peter Goldwyn, President of Samuel Goldwyn Films said, "Ian Olds' take on the crime thriller is utterly original and suspenseful. Dominic Rains is absolutely enthralling on screen. We are thrilled to be working with the filmmaking team to get this out into the world."

Caroline von Kuhn, Producer said, "Samuel Goldwyn and Orion Pictures' pedigree and passion for Ian Olds' unique vision in *BURN COUNTRY* made them a perfect fit for us. We couldn't have found better partners."

The film was produced by Caroline von Kuhn's ACE Productions, in association with Night & Day Pictures, Rabbit Bandini Productions, Gigi Films, Amphora Pictures, Green Street Film Company, Heart-Headed Productions, RAA Ventures and Relic Pictures. The deal was negotiated on behalf of the filmmakers by CAA.

ABOUT SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS

Samuel Goldwyn Films is a major, independently owned and operated motion-picture company that develops, produces and distributes innovative feature films and documentaries. The

company is dedicated to working with both world-renowned and emerging writers/filmmakers and committed to filmed entertainment that offers original voices in uniquely told stories. This is best exemplified by the Academy Award® nominated THE SQUID AND THE WHALE and SUPER SIZE ME, AMAZING GRACE and Julie Delpy's hit comedy 2 DAYS IN PARIS. Past Goldwyn titles include: HARRY BROWN starring Michael Caine, the box office smash FIREPROOF and the 2010 independent hit MAO'S LAST DANCER. Samuel Goldwyn Films also released THE WHISTLEBLOWER, a powerful, ripped-from-the-headlines thriller starring Academy Award® winner Rachel Weisz, and the 2012 critics' darling ROBOT & FRANK, starring Academy Award® nominee Frank Langella and Academy Award® winner Susan Sarandon. Additional Samuel Goldwyn Films releases include: DIANA VREELAND: THE EYE HAS TO TRAVEL; Gilles Bourdos' RENOIR, the lush film about the famous painter's later years and France's official submission for the 2014 Academy Awards®; Jason Wise's cult-hit film SOMM; 2015 Academy Foreign Language Film Award® nominee TANGERINES; the Israeli dark comedy THE FAREWELL PARTY; Sacha Jenkins' FRESH DRESSED; the Sundance cult-hit LILA AND EVE starring Viola Davis and Jennifer Lopez; Damon Gameau's eye-opening THAT SUGAR FILM which takes on the sugar industry; and Morgan Matthews compelling drama A BRILLIANT YOUNG MIND. Current Samuel Goldwyn Films releases include: Chris Bell's expose PRESCRIPTION THUGS; Andrew Renzi's Tribeca Film Festival favorite THE BENEFACTOR starring Richard Gere; the widely anticipated Jason Wise follow-up SOMM: INTO THE BOTTLE; Toronto Film Festival's Gala Presentation HYENA ROAD directed by Paul Gross; Bent-Jorgen Perlmutter's octave-fueled documentary HAVANA MOTOR CLUB; Los Angeles Film Festival 2015 Audience Award recipient HOSTILE BORDER by co-Directors Michael Dyer & Kaitlin McLaughlin and Mark Sawer's sci-fi mockumentary NO MEN BEYOND THIS POINT. Upcoming films include Ted Balaker's docu CAN WE TAKE A JOKE? in which comedy and outrage collide and TRANSPECOS, the directorial debut and 2016 SXSW Audience Award Winner by Greg Kwedar.

ABOUT ORION RELEASING

Orion Releasing, a distribution arm of MGM, is focused on distributing films theatrically and via television and video on demand services.

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