



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS TAKES WORLDWIDE RIGHTS TO BENT-JORGEN PERLMUTT'S UNDERGROUND DRAG RACING FILM *HAVANA MOTOR CLUB***

Los Angeles, CA (November 3, 2015) – Samuel Goldwyn Films announced today that the company has acquired worldwide rights to Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt's (co-director, *Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel*) ***HAVANA MOTOR CLUB***, a pulse-pounding film about underground drag racers in Cuba and their pursuit to hold the first official car race since the 1959 Revolution. ***HAVANA MOTOR CLUB*** had its world premiere at the 2015 Tribeca Film Festival. Samuel Goldwyn Films is planning a 2016 release.

***HAVANA MOTOR CLUB*** tells a personal, character-driven story about Cuba's vibrant community of underground drag racers and their quest to hold Cuba's first official car race since shortly after the 1959 Revolution. It tackles how Cuba's recent reforms — the owning of property, allowance of small businesses, and greater exchange between Cubans, Cuban Americans, tourists, and other foreigners — have affected the lives of these racers and their families. One racer enlists the help of a Cuban American patron in Miami to bring in parts for his modern Porsche. His main competitor is a renowned mechanic who uses ingenuity rather than resources to create a racing machine out of his 1955 Chevy Bel Air. Another racer ponders whether he will participate in the race or sell his motor — one that he recovered on the ocean floor from a ship used to smuggle Cubans off the island — in order to flee Cuba on a raft headed to Florida. Meanwhile, the race itself is in jeopardy of coming to fruition due to factors ranging from its status as an elitist sport to the arrival of the Pope in Cuba. Through the experiences of these racers and their community, ***HAVANA MOTOR CLUB*** explores how Cuba is changing today, and also what its future holds in light of Obama's recent move to normalize relations with the island nation.

According to Peter Goldwyn of Samuel Goldwyn Films: "Bent offers a fascinating glimpse at the underground community of drag racers in Cuba. He is able to capture both the excitement and competitive spirit of this community and also captures a nation at a crossroads. I am thrilled to work with Bent again following our collaboration on the release of *Diana Vreeland*."

Filmmaker Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt stated: "After spending almost four years working on ***HAVANA MOTOR CLUB***, I couldn't be more excited to be partnering up again with Samuel Goldwyn Films. I know that Peter and his team will connect the film with a wide audience of motor racing fans, vintage car lovers, and anyone who wants to experience Cuba today through the unique perspective of Havana's most daring and innovative drag racers."

***HAVANA MOTOR CLUB*** is written and directed by Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt and produced by Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt, Zelmira Gainza, and Magnus Andersson. Executive produced by Magnus Andersson, Raja Sethuraman, and Dan Cogan and co-produced by Laura Duarte Gómez, Marcel Piedra, Jenny Raskin, and Esther de Rothschild. Cast includes Armando Lorenzo Munnet, Reynaldo López García, Reinaldo López Fernández, Eduardo Hernández, Carlos Alvarez, Saul Garcia, Jose Antonio Madera, and Milton Díaz Cánter.

The deal was negotiated by Peter Goldwyn of Samuel Goldwyn Films, and by Josh Braun of Submarine Entertainment and Rosalind Lichter of The Law Firm of Rosalind Lichter on behalf of the filmmakers.

### **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. Upcoming Samuel Goldwyn Films releases include: Rock Bajjnauth's surreal look at the world of coffee competitions BARISTA; 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 Midnight Madness favorite and legendary director Takashi Miike's YAKUZA APOCALYPSE; Paul Gross' modern day war thriller HYENA ROAD; and Mark Sawers sci-fi mockumentary NO MEN BEYOND THIS POINT.

###

### **For further information, please contact:**

Veronica Van Pelt  
Samuel Goldwyn Films  
[veronica@idpfilm.com](mailto:veronica@idpfilm.com)  
Ph. (212) 367-8937