



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS ACQUIRES NORTH AMERICAN  
& LATIN AMERICAN RIGHTS TO QUINN SHEPHARD'S  
DIRECTORIAL DEBUT *BLAME***

Los Angeles, CA (August 15, 2017) – Samuel Goldwyn Films announced today the acquisition of the teen drama *BLAME* after its highly reviewed world premiere at Tribeca Film Festival. The film stars, writer and director, Quinn Shephard (TV's "Hostages"), Nadia Alexander (TV's "The Sinner"), Triste Kelly Dunn (UNITED 93), Marcia DeBonis (SULLY), Tessa Albertson (3 Generations), Sarah Messanotte (TV's "The Interestings"), Owen Campbell (AS YOU ARE), Luke Slattery (TWO FOR ONE), with Tate Donovan (SHOOTER), and Chris Messina (ARGO). The company has acquired North American and Latin American rights. The film is slated to release in theaters, on demand, and digital this winter.

*BLAME* is written by, directed by, and stars Quinn Shephard. The film is produced by Laurie Shephard and Quinn Shephard.

It's the start of a new year at a small suburban high school. Abigail (Quinn Shephard) is an outcast who seeks solace in the worlds of the characters she reads about, much to the amusement of her manipulative classmate, Melissa (Nadia Alexander). When an intriguing new drama teacher (Chris Messina) casts Abigail over Melissa in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, Abigail's confidence blooms, and soon her relationship with Jeremy begins to move beyond just fantasy. Melissa, fueled by vengeful jealousy, begins to spiral out of control and concocts a plot against Abigail. This triggers a chain of events that will come to affect everyone around them, as well as reveal some dark truths.

"One of our strategies is to work with emerging filmmakers," says Ben Feingold, Chief Executive of Samuel Goldwyn Films. "Quinn not only fits the bill, but has written, produced, directed, and starred in an extraordinarily impressive first feature film. She is the real deal, and I believe she will become a major talent in the industry."

"Blame is the result of years of hard work -- is so special and personal to my mom and I, and we couldn't be happier to have the opportunity to share it with a wider audience through Samuel Goldwyn Films. I feel the message of the film is so important, both for its adult audience and for a younger generation of moviegoers."

The deal was negotiated by Peter Goldwyn of Samuel Goldwyn Films and Josh Braun of Submarine 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*, *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: 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 films SOMM & SOMM: Into the Bottle; 2015 Academy Foreign Language Film Award® nominee TANGERINES; the Sundance cult-hit LILA AND EVE starring Academy Award® winner Viola Davis and Jennifer Lopez; and Morgan Matthews compelling drama A BRILLIANT YOUNG MIND. Current Samuel Goldwyn Films releases include: festival favorite CHICKEN PEOPLE, directed by Nicole Lucas Haimés about three show chicken competitors; Carles Torrens' physiological thriller PET starring Dominic Monaghan; YOUTH IN OREGON, the dramatic comedy of a 3,000 mile journey about life with Academy Award® nominated Frank Langella, Billy Crudup, Christina Applegate, Mary Kay Place, and Josh Lucas; the contemporary fairy tale THIS BEAUTIFUL FANTASTIC starring Jessica Brown Findlay, Academy Award® nominated Tom Wilkinson, Andrew Scott, and Jeremy Irvine; Avi Nesher's Israeli box office hit PAST LIFE; and the British children's classic SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS. Upcoming films include Justin Chon's racially charged GOOK; SXSW winner MOST BEAUTIFUL ISLAND directed by and starring Ana Asensio; and the Norwegian WWII drama THE KING'S CHOICE .

[www.samuelgoldwynfilms.com](http://www.samuelgoldwynfilms.com)

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