



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS ACQUIRES NORTH AMERICAN RIGHTS TO WARWICK THORNTON'S *SWEET COUNTRY*

Los Angeles, CA (September 21, 2017) – Samuel Goldwyn Films announced today that the company has acquired North American rights to Warwick Thornton's **SWEET COUNTRY**. The film stars Bryan Brown (*AUSTRALIA*), Hamilton Morris ("Gideon"), Thomas M. Wright (*EVEREST*), Ewen Leslie (*THE DAUGHTER*), Natassia Gorey-Furber, Gibson John, Matt Day ("Rake"), Anni Finsterer (*TEENAGE KICKS*), Treymayne Doolan, Trevon Doolan, and Sam Neill (*JURASSIC PARK*).

Sam, a middle-aged Aboriginal man, works for a preacher in the outback of Australia's Northern Territory. When Harry, a bitter war veteran, moves into a neighbouring outpost, the preacher sends Sam and his family to help Harry renovate his cattle yards. But Sam's relationship with the cruel and ill-tempered Harry quickly deteriorates, culminating in a violent shootout in which Sam kills Harry in self-defence. As a result, Sam becomes a wanted criminal for the murder of a white man, and is forced to flee with his wife across the deadly outback, through glorious but harsh desert country. A hunting party led by the local lawman Sergeant Fletcher is formed to track Sam down. But as the true details of the killing start to surface, the community begins to question whether justice is really being served.

"Warwick's film is beautiful even when it is brutal. We are very excited to work on a film that showcases this great rising talent," says Peter Goldwyn, President of Samuel Goldwyn Films.

"That landscape around Alice Springs is sacred. The Macdonell ranges are always in my mind from growing up there with my family. So, **SWEET COUNTRY** is a film about the land and our family and what happened when the missionaries and pastoralists arrived." says Warwick Thornton, the film's director.

"We are very excited to be working with Samuel Goldwyn for the US release of **SWEET COUNTRY** with their focus on quality films. Sweet Country is a frontier western with a powerful story about justice and humanity that we believe US audiences will embrace." says David Jowsey and Greer Simpkin, the film's producers.

SWEET COUNTRY is directed by Warwick Thornton. The film is produced by Greer Simpkin, David Jowsey. The film was written by David Tranter and Steven McGregor.

The deal was negotiated by Peter Goldwyn of Samuel Goldwyn Films and Emilie Georges of Memento Film 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: 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 Haines 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; the British children's classic SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS; and Justin Chon's racially charged GOOK. Upcoming films include SXSW winner MOST BEAUTIFUL ISLAND directed by and starring Ana Asensio; the Norwegian WWII drama THE KING'S CHOICE; the teen drama BLAME; the LGBTQ musical drama SATURDAY CHURCH; and MAD TO BE NORMAL starring David Tennant and Emmy winner Elisabeth Moss.

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