



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS ACQUIRES US RIGHTS TO WIM WENDERS SUBMERGENCE STARRING JAMES MCAVOY AND ALICIA VIKANDER

Los Angeles – November 14, 2017 — Samuel Goldwyn Films announced today that the company has secured the US rights to Oscar-nominated Wim Wender’s **SUBMERGENCE**, based on the novel by former war correspondent J.M. Ledgard. The film stars James McAvoy (*X-MEN: First Class, Wanted, and Split*), Alicia Vikander (*A Royal Affair, Ex Machina, The Danish Girl*, and the upcoming *Tomb Raider*), and Celyn Jones (*Set Fire to the Stars, JO*).

James (James McAvoy) is a British agent under the cover of a water engineer, while Danny (Alicia Vikander) is a bio-mathematician working on a deep-sea diving project to explore the origin of life on our planet. On a chance encounter in a remote resort in Normandy where they both prepare for their respective missions, they fall rapidly, and unexpectedly, into each other's arms and a deliriously wild love affair develops, even though their jobs are destined to separate them. Danny sets off on a perilous quest to dive to the bottom of the ocean. James’s assignment takes him to Somalia, where he is sucked into a geopolitical vortex that puts him in grave danger. Both characters are subject to different kinds of isolation as they pine for each other; their determination to reconnect becomes as much an existential journey as a love story.

“We were fortunate to see the film at its debut at the Toronto International Film Festival.,” says Peter Goldwyn, President of Samuel Goldwyn Films. “We were moved by the story, direction and great performances of its talented cast. We look forward to bringing the film to the US audience in 2018.”

“Our film has global dimensions and shows all the beauty of our planet, but also its conflicts and violence. I had Dr. Martin Luther King’s words in capital letters on the front page of my script. “You cannot drive out darkness with darkness. Only love can do that.” That’s why the love story is our driving element. I’m happy we’re in the hands of Samuel Goldwyn Films for our American release,” says director Wim Wenders.

SUBMERGENCE was directed by Wim Wenders. The film is produced by Cameron Lamb, David Atlan Jackson, Jean-Baptiste Babin, Uwe Kiefer, Joel Thibout, Wim Wenders, Juan Gordon, Mikel Lejarza, Mercedes Gamero, Gilles Waterkeyn, Adrian Politowski, and Martin Metz; Executive produced by Stephen Bowen, Jeff Kalligheri, Pilar Benito, Sarah Johnson, David Beal, Andrew Banks, Michael Giles, Buddy Patrick, Robert Ogden Barnum, Kevin Scott Frakes, Lisa Wolofsky, and Dr Andreas Pense. The screenplay was written by Erin Dignman and original score by Fernando Velázquez.

The deal was negotiated by Peter Goldwyn on behalf of Samuel Goldwyn Films, Nick Shumaker on behalf of UTA, and Jeff Kalligheri on Behalf of Waterstone Entertainment. Financing Provided by National Bank of Canada.

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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; TRANSPECOS, the directorial debut and 2016 SXSW Audience Award Winner by Greg Kwedar;; 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; Justin Chon's racially charged GOOK; the British children's classic SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS; and Francis Lee's LGBT film GOD'S OWN COUNTRY. Upcoming films include Ana Asensio's SXSW Grand Jury winner MOST BEAUTIFUL ISLAND; Quinn Shephard's directorial/starring debut BLAME; SATURDAY CHURCH a story about a cross-dressing teen; and TIFF winner SWEET COUNTRY. www.samuelgoldwynfilms.com

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