



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS ACQUIRES  
'MR. JONES' FROM WESTEND FILMS  
DIRECTED BY ACADEMY AWARD-NOMINEE AGNIESZKA HOLLAND  
& STARRING JAMES NORTON, VANESSA KIRBY, & PETER SARSGAARD**

Los Angeles, CA (**Aug 22**) – Samuel Goldwyn Films announced today that the company has acquired North American rights to Agnieszka Holland's feature film **MR. JONES**. The film stars James Norton (*McMafia*, *War & Peace*, *Happy Valley*), Vanessa Kirby (*The Crown*, *Mission: Impossible – Fallout*, *Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw*) and Golden Globe-nominee Peter Sarsgaard (*Jackie*, *The Magnificent Seven*, *An Education*). WestEnd Films is handling world sales.

Agnieszka Holland's thriller, set on the eve of world WWII, sees Hitler's rise to power and Stalin's Soviet propagandist machine pushing their "utopia" to the Western world. Meanwhile an ambitious young journalist, Gareth Jones (Norton) travels to Moscow to uncover the truth behind the propagandist, but then gets a tip that could expose an international conspiracy, one that could cost him and his informant their lives. Jones goes on a life-or-death journey to uncover the truth behind the façade that would later inspire George Orwell's seminal book *Animal Farm*.

"MR. JONES is a masterful historical thriller which transported me to a time and place seldom seen on the screen. The film tells of a past that eerily echoes the present," says Peter Goldwyn.

"I'm extremely happy that North American audiences will have a chance to discover this story that has long been hidden from the world. It's an important chapter of history that demands justice, one we must learn from before it's too late," says director Agnieszka Holland.

The deal was negotiated by Peter Goldwyn on behalf of Samuel Goldwyn Films and Endeavor Content and WestEnd Films on behalf of the filmmakers.

As well as North America, WestEnd has sold rights of the film to the UK (Signature), Australia and New Zealand (Rialto), Scandinavia (Another World), Japan (Happinet), Spain (Twelve Oaks), Portugal (Outsider), Greece (Spentzos), Middle East (ECS), Ex-Yugoslavia (Fox Vision), Bulgaria (Art Fest), India (PVR) and airlines (Cinesky). Kino Swiat will release the film in Poland and MMD Distribution in Ukraine.

**MR. JONES** was directed by Agnieszka Holland and written by Andrea Chalupa. The film is produced by Polish company FILM PRODUKCJA with support from the Polish Film Institute, Kraków Film Commission, ORKA, Kino Świat, the Ukrainian State Film Agency and Creative Scotland. Stanislaw Dzedzic (*Scaffolding*, *Ilegitim*, *Chemo*), Andrea Chalupa (who also wrote the script) and Polish filmmaker Klaudia Smieja (*Rams*, *Les Innocents*, *Park*, *High Life*) produced the film. They are joined by Canadian executive producer Leah Temerty-Lord of Parkhurst, Scottish producer Angus Lamont ('71, *The Girl with All the Gifts*) of CRAB APPLE FILMS, and Ukrainian producer Egor Olesov (*Battle for Sevastopol*, *Under Electric Clouds*, *The Stronghold*) of KINOROB (FILM.UA Group).

**About WestEnd Films:**

WestEnd Films is a dynamic London-based production, financing and international sales company for feature films and TV. It offers filmmakers finance, production and sales expertise as well as an extensive

network of contacts across all sectors of the industry.

In addition to MR. JONES, WestEnd's current line-up includes TIFF Special Presentations opener I AM WOMAN, the biopic about Australian singing superstar Helen Reddy starring Tilda Cobham-Hervey, Danielle Macdonald and Evan Peters, TIFF-bound INCITEMENT by Yaron Zilberman, which tells the story of the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin seen through the eyes of the murderer, SYLVIA, an action film directed by Vicky Jewson starring Noomi Rapace, THE COW, a comedy directed by Marc Forster starring Ewan McGregor, THE BANISHING a horror by acclaimed genre director Chris Smith, starring Jessica Brown Findlay and Sean Harris, and VALLEY OF TEARS, an Israeli drama series from the writers and creators of *Euphoria* and *False Flag*.

#### **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 SUPER SIZE ME; Sundance winner GOOK written and directed by Justin Chon; the critically acclaimed feature debut by Francis Lee GOD'S OWN COUNTRY; SXSW winner MOST BEAUTIFUL ISLAND; the high-school drama BLAME directed, written, and starring Quinn Shephard; LGBTQ musical drama SATURDAY CHURCH; ALLURE starring Evan Rachel Wood; Warwick Thornton's Australian western SWEET COUNTRY starring Sam Neill, Bryan Brown, and Hamilton Morris; the Wim Wenders film, starring James McAvoy and Academy Award winner® Alicia Vikander, SUBMERGENCE; the family film ZOO; NANCY, a psychological thriller starring Andrea Riseborough; COLD SKIN from director Xavier Gens; A BOY A GIRL A DREAM starring Omari Hardwick and Meagan Good, and Ondi Timoner's bio-pic MAPPLETHORPE starring Matt Smith'; SUMMER NIGHT starring Lena Condor and Victoria Justice; the Karen Gillan & David Dastmalchian lead film ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW, and the action-packed film starring Scott Adkins AVENGEMENT. Upcoming releases include Hari Sama's film THIS IS NOT BERLIN; sci-fi film AUGGIE starring Richard Kind; Sci-Fi/Fantasy PARADISE HILLS starring Emma Roberts; and the horror/thriller film starring Patrick Schwarzenegger and Miles Robbins DANIEL ISN'T REAL.

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