



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS ACQUIRED US RIGHTS TO
THE HOSTAGE FILM ‘HELD FOR RANSOM’ AKA DANIEL
STARRING ESBEN SMED & TOBY KEBBELL**



Photo Credit: Martin Dam / Courtesy of Samuel Goldwyn Films

Los Angeles, CA (**AUGUST 10, 2021**) – Samuel Goldwyn Films announced today they have acquired the U.S. rights to the hostage film **HELD FOR RANSOM** aka DANIEL. The film, based on the true story of Daniel Rye, stars Esben Smed (*The Kindness of Strangers*), Toby Kebbell (*Kong: Skull Island*), Sofie Torp and Anders W. Berthelsen.

HELD FOR RANSOM tells the true story of Danish photojournalist Daniel Rye who was held hostage for 398 days in Syria by the terror organization ISIS along with several other foreign nationals including the American journalist, James Foley. The film follows Daniel’s struggle to survive in captivity, his friendship with James, and the nightmare of the Rye family back home in Denmark as they try to do everything in their power to save their son. At the center of this crisis, we find hostage negotiator, Arthur, who plays a pivotal role in securing Daniel’s release.

HELD FOR RANSOM was directed by Niels Arden Oplev and Anders W. Berthelsen. The screenplay was written by Anders Thomas Jensen based on a novel by Puk Damsgaard. The film was produced by Morten Kaufmann and Signe Leick Jensen for Toolbox Film

The deal was negotiated by Miles Fineburg on behalf of Samuel Goldwyn Films and Susan Wendt of TrustNordisk 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. The company is distributing the 2021 Academy Award® Winning Film ANOTHER ROUND and 2021 Academy Award® Nominated Film THE MAN WHO SOLD HIS SKIN. Previous releases include Agnieszka Holland’s MR. JONES starring James Norton, Vanessa Kirby, and Peter Sarsgaard; the sea-shanti true story FISHERMAN’S FRIENDS; and ENDINGS, BEGINNINGS starring Shailene Woodley, Jamie Dornan, and Sebastian Stan. Upcoming new releases include Simon Baker lead HIGH GROUND; historical adventure film EDGE OF THE WORLD starring Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Dominic Monaghan; family adventure film LET US IN; Australian sci-fi thriller RISING WOLF; Slovakia’s entry for the 93rd Academy Awards® WWII drama THE AUSCHWITZ REPORT; Palestine’s entry for the 93rd Academy Awards® GAZA MON AMOUR; and Norway’s BETRAYED.

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