

Film News

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CMG Closes Deals For 'Saving Santa'

Pic set for a Christmas 2013 release

By DAVE MCNARY

Cinema Management Group has sold key foreign markets to 3D animated feature "Saving Santa," set for a Christmas 2013 release.

Voice actors include Martin Freeman, Noel Clarke, Tim Curry, Joan Collins, Pam Ferris and Craig Fairbrass. Max Howard is executive producing "Saving Santa" with Leon Joosen directing with animation at Prana Studios.

The screenplay -- centered on a clumsy elf -- is written by Ricky Roxburgh for a story created by Tom Nottage. Key territories sold by CMG in Berlin included CIS to Voxell; South Korea to Korea Screen, Poland to Kinoswiat, the Middle East to Front Row Entertainment and Ex-Yugoslavia to Blitz Film.

"We also entertained offers from Germany, France and Italy but with additional footage becoming available in Cannes we are looking to continue our discussions for these territories in a few more weeks," said CMG's Edward Noeltner.

CMG also sold French rights to Metropolitan Films on two other animated projects, "Adventures in Zambezia" and "Khumba." "Zambezia" was also in Spain to Big Pictures and to Hungary by ADS Services.

Triggerfish Animation's "Khumba," which follows an outcast zebra born with only half its stripes, sold for Benelux's E One Entertainment, Hungary's ADS Service and Captive Entertainment for distribution in the Philippines and on all international airlines.

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