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CMG takes on 3D CGI animated feature *Zambezia*

Jeremy Kay in Los Angeles

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Cinema Management Group (CMG) president Edward Noeltner has picked up international rights ahead of Toronto to the 3D CGI animated feature *Zambezia*.

South African-based animation house Triggerfish Animation's family tale takes place on the edge of a spectacular waterfall in the Zambezi River Valley where the eponymous bird comes under attack from vicious forces.

"This an exciting and visually exhilarating story with wonderful moral values which, much like Disney's *Lion King*, will appeal to audiences of all ages in every corner of the globe," Noeltner said.

"We are very excited to be offering *Zambezia* for the very first time in Toronto where we have footage from the film to screen along with a full plate of new projects to offer."

CMG will present in Toronto's Mavericks Conversations programme a work-in-progress screening and panel discussion of the civil rights feature *The People Speak* featuring Matt Damon, Josh Brolin, Howard Zinn and producer Chris Moore along with TIFF's head documentaries programmer Thom Powers.

Noeltner's slate includes the National Geographic Entertainment presentation of Chris Davies' prison tale *The Choir*, which CMG signed up this summer, as well as the upcoming historical drama *Heaven And Earth* starring Natascha McElhone and James Purefoy that Marleen Gorris is set to begin shooting in January 2009. Noeltner pre-sold Swiss rights to Rialto Films this summer following discussions in Cannes.

CMG will also be talking up *Holy Mountain*, the fifth instalment to its *Mysterious China* documentary series, as well as six new cult titles from its 56-title Legend Films Collection with newly restored and colorised features starring Bela Lugosi, Vincent Price and Roger Corman's classic *Creature From The Haunted Sea*, among others.

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