

CMG'S WARES

# 'Liz' Looks for Int'l Business

PATRICK FRATER

**V**ENEZUELAN DRAMA "Liz en Septiembre" is to get international release via Los Angeles-based Cinema Management Group.

Directed by Fina Torres ("Oriana," "Woman on Top," "From Prada to Nada"), the film is the story of a fiercely independent gay woman who is facing a terminal illness when her friends challenge her to seduce a straight woman friend. The film is adapted from the Jane Chambers stage play "Last Summer at Bluefish Cove."

The film, which stars Patricia Velasquez, grossed close to \$1 million on its initial theatrical run in Venezuela.

CMG, which is pitching pic at AFM, has also recently picked up rights to the now in-production "Born to Dance." A new spin on the hip-hop genre, the film is set in



New Zealand and is choreographed by Parris Goebel, star of "Step Up: All In" and directed by Tammy Davis.

The film is a coming-of-age tale told through the eyes of Tu, an ambitious young man from Auckland who dreams of being a professional hip-hop dancer. Cast includes Kherington Payne ("So You Think You Can Dance") and Australasian superstar Stan Walker ("Mt. Zion").

Peter Jackson's Park Road Post is the post-prod partner, while Vendetta Films will distribute in Oz and New Zealand.

"Coming off the huge international success of 'Step-up: All In,' which grossed \$71 million internationally, we feel that we have what the marketplace is looking for with 'Born to Dance,'" Noeltner said.

**BUYERS REVVED UP** "Liz en Septiembre" grossed nearly \$1 million at home in Venezuela.