



Brightlight mounts Sweeney's Venus

September 12, 2005
By Denis Seguin

Vancouver-based Brightlight Pictures is set for a November shoot on writer-director Bruce Sweeney's *American Venus*. The \$3.8m production will be produced by Brightlight co-presidents Shawn Williamson and Steve Hegyes.

Telefilm Canada, Corus' Movie Central, Astral's The Movie Network and CHUM are backing the project and Montreal-based TVA has picked up all Canadian rights. Hegyes told *Screen International* he is negotiating a foreign sales deal at TIFF. Casting begins next week.

Shooting in the greater Vancouver area, the film follows the tortured relationship of a young woman trying to wrest herself from the grip of her controlling mother, who is a gun addict. It is the fourth collaboration between Sweeney and Hegyes, the latest since *Last Wedding*, which opened the Perspective Canada programme at Toronto in 2001.

© 2005 Emap Media. Reprinted with permission.