

BRIGHTLIGHT

P I C T U R E S

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GUNLESS SHOOTING FOR APRIL 30th **Alliance Films locks opening date for film's wide release**

WHISTLER – December 4, 2009 –Brightlight Pictures and Rhombus Media's co-production **GUNLESS**, a comic western starring Paul Gross and Sienna Guillory and written and directed by William Phillips, will be released in theatres across the country by Alliance Films on April 30, 2010.

The announcement coincides with Brightlight Picture's fifth annual White Carpet Party at the Whistler Film Festival.

"We are very happy to kick off the New Year with such exciting news," says Brightlight principal Stephen Hegyes. "**GUNLESS** is a wonderfully funny western and we are delighted that Alliance Films is committed to showcasing it to Canadians on screens from coast to coast."

When notorious American gunslinger The Montana Kid (PAUL GROSS) staggers into the tiny Canadian hamlet of Barclay's Brush, life for the town's 17 inhabitants is about to get exciting. The Kid immediately gets into an unfortunate altercation with Jack, the town's surly blacksmith, which leads to the The Kid 'calling him out' for some good old frontier justice – a showdown. But in a place totally ill-prepared to deal with a classic gunfight and without a single working pistol to be found, adhering to the code of the American Wild West may prove difficult.

Not able to let go of the 'code', The Kid remains stuck in Barclay's Brush, getting drawn into a strange world of eccentric rituals and characters; among them Jane, a smart sassy woman who becomes his only hope of finding a way out... or perhaps his only reason for staying...

GUNLESS is produced by Niv Fichman of Rhombus Media, (*Passchendaele, Blindness, Silk*) and Stephen Hegyes and Shawn Williamson of Brightlight Pictures (*Fifty Dead Men Walking, White Noise, Slither*).

Heenan Blaikie and Brightlight Pictures co-host the fifth annual White Carpet Party at Araxi Restaurant on December 4, 2009. Each year, the White Carpet Party is considered the hottest ticket at the Whistler International Film Festival, Canada's pre-eminent resort festival. Araxi was recently featured on the hit television series *Hell's Kitchen*, and early next year, the competition's winner, Dave Leyey, will join the restaurant's team as head chef under executive chef James Walt.

About Brightlight Pictures

Brightlight Pictures develops, finances and produces independent feature films and television projects for the domestic and international marketplace. Company principals and producers, Stephen Hegyes and Shawn Williamson, have produced over 60 productions in the last 12 years and over 20 productions since the launch of the company in 2001, including *White Noise*, starring Michael Keaton, which has grossed more than \$100 million since opening in January

2005. Brightlight has worked with such stars as Halle Berry, Justin Timberlake, Morgan Freeman, Al Pacino, Anne Hathaway, Ben Kingsley, Kevin Spacey and Nicolas Cage, among others. Credits include the Canada/UK co-production *Fifty Dead Men Walking* and the upcoming feature *No Clue*, written by and starring Brent Butt.

About Rhombus Media

Rhombus Media is renowned the world over for its high-quality feature films, TV drama series and performing arts programmes. Since its inception in 1979, Rhombus has released over 200 productions that have been consistently acclaimed by critics and audiences around the world. Rhombus films have received literally hundreds of awards, including numerous Genies, Geminis, Golden Pragues and an Oscar. Some of the company's more notable projects include *The Red Violin*, *Thirty Two Sort Films About Glenn Gould*, *The Saddest Music in the World*, *September Songs*, *Beethoven's Hair*, *Yo-Yo Ma: Inspired by Bach*, *Slings and Arrows*, and most recently Fernando Meirelles' *Blindness*, and Paul Gross' *Passchendaele*.

About Alliance Films

Alliance Films is a leading distributor of motion pictures in Canada, with motion picture distribution operations in the United Kingdom and Spain. The Company distributes filmed entertainment to theatres, on DVD, online and to television broadcasters. Alliance Films holds the Canadian distribution rights to the productions of leading independent studios, including, Focus Features, The Weinstein Company, Overture Films, A Bigger Boat, Grosvenor Park, CBS Films and Relativity Media.

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For Further Information:

Lorraine Jamison
lolojam@aol.com
(604) 725-8236

Carrie Wolfe,
Vice President, Publicity & Promotion
Alliance Films
carrie.wolfe@alliancefilms.com
416-309-4233
416-738-5565 (cell)