

BRIGHTLIGHT PICTURES AND HEENAN BLAIKIE HOST SPECTACULAR WHITE CARPET EVENT AT WHISTLER FILM FESTIVAL

VANCOUVER, November 22, 2006 – Brightlight Pictures and Heenan Blaikie are teaming up to host the White Carpet Event at this year's Whistler Film Festival. Those with what is considered the Festival's hottest invitation will trip the light fantastic amongst the West Coast's brightest luminaries and Festival guests at Araxi Restaurant, voted Whistler's best an unprecedented six consecutive years (Vancouver Magazine).

The White Carpet Event at Araxi gets underway at 9:30 PM on Friday, December 1. The guest list includes an international array of filmmakers, as well as a host of Canadian movers and shakers. Some of the notable guests expected to attend this year's party include: Peter Krause (*Six Feet Under*), Kristanna Loken (*BloodRayne*, *Terminator 3*), director Uwe Boll (*BloodRayne*, *House of the Dead*), Kari Matchett (*Invasion*, *Men With Brooms*) and Natassia Malthe (*Elektra*, *BloodRayne 2*).

The sixth annual Whistler Film Festival, November 30 to December 3, will screen 94 films, including eight world premieres and six Canadian premieres. Six features, all BC premieres, will vie for top honours in the Borsos Competition for Best New Canadian Feature Film, a prestigious \$15,000 prize.

"Brightlight Pictures is proud to salute West Coast filmmaking talent," says Brightlight principal Shawn Williamson, who also sits on the Festival's Board. "Whistler is Canada's pre-eminent resort Festival and is quickly growing into a player on the international scene. We have a lot to celebrate."

Arthur Evrensel, a partner of the national law firm Heenan Blaikie, explains, "We are very proud to co-host the White Carpet Event to celebrate the achievements of the past year by filmmakers at the Whistler Film Festival."

Brightlight Pictures, based in Vancouver, is a feature film and television production company which develops, finances and produces independent feature films and television projects for the domestic and international marketplace. Company principals and founders, Stephen Hegyes and Shawn Williamson, have produced over 60 productions in the past 10 years.

Since its inception in 1973, Heenan Blaikie has become one of the leading law firms in the country. The law firm has offices in nine cities across Canada, including Vancouver and Victoria.

The sixth annual Whistler Film Festival runs November 30 to December 3.

#

Contact: Lorraine Jamison lolojam@aol.com 904-725-8236