

Comedy Star to Write Screenplay
BRIGHTLIGHT PICTURES AND SPARROW MEDIA INK DEAL FOR
BRENT BUTT FILM

VANCOUVER, June 9, 2008 – Shawn Williamson and Stephen Hegyes, principals of Brightlight Pictures, are delighted to announce that they have signed a deal to produce a comedy feature with Brent Butt’s Sparrow Media Company.

Sparrow Media is the production company for the popular Canadian comedian, who will write and star in the feature. Butt will serve as co-producer alongside Shawn Williamson and Stephen Hegyes on the Brightlight Pictures’ project.

“Brent is a bona fide Canadian cultural icon,” says Williamson, “and we are thrilled to be making a picture with the funniest man in Canada.”

Butt is currently on location in Saskatchewan, producing the sixth and final season of his hugely successful series *Corner Gas*, which has been honoured with many accolades, including an International Emmy Nomination and numerous Gemini Awards. It remains Canada’s #1 comedy (from any country) and most-watched scripted series, and is seen in 26 countries, including the U.S., where it is available in 70 million homes on Superstation WGN. Brent Butt started his career as a nightclub comedian and went on to headline theatres and festivals around the world before sliding comfortably into writing and producing television. This June, Butt will join a select group of TV comedy legends, like Bob Newhart, John Cleese and John Candy, when he is honoured with the prestigious Comedy Network’s Sir Peter Ustinov Award at the 29th edition of the Banff World Television Festival.

“I am over the moon about this.” Butt said, when reached for comment. “I’m happy that my first feature film will be with a company as respected and established as Brightlight Pictures. Although, to be completely honest, I think my first film was *Dudley Do-Right*. I played the memorable character: ‘A Bad Guy In Back’.”

Brightlight Pictures develops, finances and produces independent feature films and television projects for the domestic and international marketplace. Company principals Stephen Hegyes and Shawn Williamson have produced over 70 productions in the last 10 years and over 30 productions since the launch of the company in 2001. *White Noise*, starring Michael Keaton, has grossed more than \$100 million since it opened in January 2005. Recent BLP productions include the sequel, *White Noise 2: The Light*, *American Venus*, starring Rebecca DeMornay, *Dungeon Siege: In the Name of the King*, starring Jason Statham, *They Wait*, starring Jaime King, and the upcoming *Far Cry*, and *Man on the Run*, filmed on location in Northern Ireland and starring Jim Sturgess and Ben Kingsley. BLP is also a leading service producer. For Nu Image/Millennium Films and Emmett Furla Films BLP line-produced *88 Minutes*, starring Al Pacino, and *Wicker Man*, starring Nicolas Cage. BLP also line produced the upcoming *Possession*, starring Sarah Michelle Gellar, and *Passengers*, starring Anne Hathaway, as well as the Fox 21 series *Saved*. The company is currently in production with a slate of new episodes of the hit Global TV series, *The Guard*, and *Stormworld*, a sci-fi series filming in Australia. More information about Brightlight Pictures can be found at: www.brightlightpictures.com

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