

Rebecca DeMornay Stars in Bruce Sweeney Film
BRIGHTLIGHT PICTURES' "AMERICAN VENUS"
PREMIERES IN U.S. ON DEMAND ON
IFC ENTERTAINMENT'S FESTIVAL DIRECT

VANCOUVER, June 20, 2008 – Brightlight Pictures is pleased to announce that Bruce Sweeney's **American Venus** will premiere in the U.S. on June 25, 2008 On Demand on IFC Entertainment's Festival Direct, which is available in 50 million homes.

A psychological drama, **American Venus** stars Rebecca DeMornay in a breathtaking tour-de-force performance as a woman addicted to guns. Written and directed by Bruce Sweeney and produced by Stephen Hegyes, **American Venus** also stars Jane McGregor, Matt Craven and Nicholas Lea.

Celia Lane (De Mornay) is a modern American mom who deals with frustration by spending quality time at a shooting range. When her Olympic hopeful daughter, Jenna (Jane McGregor), chokes at a key figure skating competition and flees to Vancouver, Celia follows, only to run up against Canada's firearm laws. Without a gun, Celia is like a junkie without a fix and she spirals out of control.

Stephen Hegyes says, "We're delighted that **American Venus** will be available to so many American households in its first window. The IFC audience is a perfect fit for Bruce's film."

American Venus had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival and is distributed in Canada by TVA Films.

IFC Entertainment's *Festival Direct* features a wide selection of films that have premiered at major international film festivals including Cannes, Toronto, Tribeca, Venice and Telluride that are made available on local cable's On Demand platform. This initiative reinforces IFC Entertainment's commitment to giving broad exposure to the many critically acclaimed independent films that are screened at film festivals each year but are lost within the marketplace, never reaching a wider audience.

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*; *Dungeon Siege: In the Name of the King*, starring Jason Statham; *They Wait*, starring Jaime King; and the upcoming *Far Cry*; and *Fifty Dead Men Walking*, 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 the second season 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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