

BRIGHTLIGHT
P I C T U R E S



PAUL GROSS & SIENNA GUILLORY TO STAR IN *GUNLESS*
Principal photography commences on location in British Columbia

Vancouver – May 27, 2009 – Paul Gross will play the role of The Montana Kid, a notorious American gunslinger, and Sienna Guillory his love interest in **GUNLESS** – a Western Comedy written and directed by William Phillips (*Foolproof, Treed Murray*). Principal photography began May 20th on location in Osoyoos, British Columbia.

When notorious American gunslinger, The Montana Kid, 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 gun fight 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...

Following the unprecedented success of **PASSCHENDAELE** which he wrote, produced, directed and starred in, Paul Gross returns to feature film, this time as lead actor. One of Canada's most popular and recognizable stars from such hits as **MEN WITH BROOMS**, **DUE SOUTH** and **SLINGS & ARROWS**, Gross joins the cast of **GUNLESS** having just completed the pilot for **EASTWICK**, a television series based on the movie **THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK**. He stars opposite Rebecca Romijn, playing Jack Nicholson's character, the Devil. **EASTWICK** was picked up by ABC, and will air next season.

Sienna Guillory has been seen on screen most recently with Brendan Fraser in **INKHEART**. She has also starred in **ERAGON**, **LOVE ACTUALLY** and **THE TIME MACHINE**. Joining Gross and Guillory in the cast of **GUNLESS** are Dustin Milligan (90210) who stars as Corporal Jonathan Kent, a zealous junior N.W.M.P. officer; Tyler Mane (appearing this summer as Michael Myers in Rob Zombie's **H2**) as Jack; and Callum Keith Rennie (**BATTLESTAR GALACTICA**, **CALIFORNICATION**) as Ben Cutler, a ruthless posse leader hunting down The Kid.

The village of Barclay's Brush has been brought to life in an outlying desert area just outside Osoyoos, British Columbia. Director William Phillips teamed with Production Designer Matthew Budgeon to realize his vision of an 1890's Western town, forging dirt roads and erecting a dozen buildings from scratch. Director of Photography Greg Middleton, who captured the battlefields of WWI for Paul Gross' **PASSCHENDAELE**, will shoot.

Phillips commented upon start of production, "I'm extraordinarily fortunate to be making GUNLESS, not only because it is a full blown western set in Canada, but also because of the exceptional team we have assembled. From the award-winning cinematography of Greg Middleton, to the beautifully realized pioneer set designed by Matthew Budgeon, I know we are making a western with a scope which is more than worthy of the genre. Add to this the brilliance of our leads, Paul Gross and Sienna Guillory, I am seeing this production come to life in ways that far exceeded my wildest expectations."

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**). Alliance Films is scheduled to release **GUNLESS** across Canada in Spring, 2010.

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.

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 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 Nicholas Cage, among others. Credits include Canada/UK coproduction *Fifty Dead Men Walking* and upcoming feature *No Clue*, written by and starring Brent Butt.

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