

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Kari Skogland Nominated for Writing and Directing  
BRIGHTLIGHT PICTURES' "FIFTY DEAD MEN WALKING"  
NOMINATED FOR 7 GENIE AWARDS, INCLUDING BEST PICTURE**

VANCOUVER, March 16, 2010 – Brightlight Pictures is thrilled to announce that **Fifty Dead Men Walking** has been nominated for seven Genie Awards, including Best Motion Picture. Producers Shawn Williamson, Stephen Hegyes, Peter LaTerriere and Kari Skogland are on the Best Picture slate.

Writer/director Kari Skogland is also nominated for both Best Achievement in Direction and Best Adapted Screenplay.

The other nominations are: Eve Stewart - Best Achievement in Art Direction/Production Design; Jonathan Freeman - Best Achievement in Cinematography; Jim Munro - for Best Achievement in Editing; and Ben Mink - for Best Achievement in Music - Original score.

Making the announcement, BLP principal Shawn Williamson said, "We are proud to have helped bring this extraordinary, true story to the screen and it's an honour to have the film acknowledged by the industry. We are especially delighted that so many of our very talented creative keys have been recognized and thrilled that Kari's accomplishments have earned her three nominations."

Kari Skogland said, "I'm thrilled that our film was recognized by the Academy members. It was a challenging and very satisfying film to make and I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the City of Belfast, which embraced and trusted me and everyone involved, particularly the cast, with such an incredible story."

Filmed on location in Northern Ireland and starring Sir Ben Kingsley, Jim Sturgess, Kevin Zegers, Nathalie Press and Rose McGowan, **Fifty Dead Men Walking** is a UK/Canada co-production between Future Films and Vancouver-based Brightlight Pictures. Kari Skogland (*The Stone Angel*) directs from her own screenplay. Based on Martin McGarland's shocking true story of the same title, **Fifty Dead Men Walking** is produced by Peter LaTerriere, Kari Skogland, Stephen Hegyes and Shawn Williamson.

Executive producers are Guy Collins, Stephen Margolis, Michael Ryan, Nicole Carmen-Davis, Karyn Edwards, Elsie Choi, Cindy Cowan and Kyle Lundberg.

In the 1980's when the Irish civil conflict was at its most treacherous, 22-year old Martin McGartland was recruited by the British police to infiltrate and spy on the IRA. He lived his life under constant threat of exposure and subsequent guaranteed torture and death, yet he continued because his information saved many lives. He enjoyed the buzz until one day he was discovered and had to escape against all odds. Inspired by a true story, to this day McGartland is on the run.

**Fifty Dead Men Walking** is distributed in Canada by TVA Films. Handmade Films handles international sales.

The 30<sup>th</sup> annual Genie Awards will take place on April 12.

#### 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, Seth Rogen, Kevin Spacey and Nicolas Cage, among others.

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