



MEDIA RELEASE

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TRUE WEST FILMS Local Expansion has International Reach

TWF appoints Henrik Meyer as Vice-President, opens Vancouver office, starts principal photography on first German service production

VANCOUVER, BC – True West Films is growing with an appointment of a Vice-President, a new Vancouver office and collaboration with Studio Hamburg on a German service production.

“I am delighted to announce the appointment of **Henrik Meyer** as Vice-President of True West Films,” says Elizabeth Yake, Company President and Producer. “Meyer’s extensive film experience will help us succeed in our vision for the company. He is already hard at work in our new Vancouver office and has become a great asset to our team.”

Meyer relocated to Vancouver from Germany in order to join True West Films. He is working with Studio Hamburg on the mini-series *Miss Texas*, ‘TWFs’ first service production for the German television broadcaster SAT.1. *Miss Texas* started principal photography in Ashcroft on Monday, August 2 and stars German actress Natalia Worner and Canadian actor Robert Seeliger.

“I jumped at the chance to move to Vancouver and join True West Films,” says Meyer.

Henrik Meyer spent ten years working for Studio Hamburg in Germany, first as a producer and later as President of its feature film subsidiary Letterbox Filmproduktion. His productions include *Stadtgespräch* (International Title: *Talk of the Town*), which became the most successful German theatrical release in 1995, *Gran Paradiso*, which world premiered at the Festival des Films du Monde in Montreal and was nominated for the German Film Award as Best Picture in 2001. Most recently, he was a producer on Margarethe von Trotta's *Rosenstrasse* (International Title: *The Women of Rosenstrasse*), starring Katja Riemann, who won the Best Actress Award in Venice Film Festival 2003. This German-Dutch co-production also had a gala presentation at the Toronto International Film Festival and found distribution through Samuel Goldwyn Films in North America. Meyer is also currently developing *Kid City* a family entertainment project with Warner Bros. Germany, AllMedia Pictures in Munich and Crescent Entertainment in Vancouver. *Kid City* is based on a successful children's book.

Elizabeth Yake, President, Producer

From 1995-2000, while President of her Toronto-based production company Subjective Eye, Elizabeth Yake has produced seven award-winning films including the Canada/Germany co-production *Desire* (with producers of the Academy Award winning film *The Tin Drum*), which garnered two 2002 Genie Award Nominations for Best Actress and Best Actor, and *Mile Zero*, winner of Best First Feature at the 2002 Victoria International Film Festival.

In 2000, Elizabeth relocated from Toronto to the West Coast where she started her new company True West Films. Together with Director of Development **Mary Alice**, they run the head office from Salt Spring Island and have spent the last 4 years developing the vision for the company, working on production and developing a new slate of films.

As a producer, Elizabeth's latest project is the Canada/UK co-production *It's All Gone Pete Tong*, directed by Michael Dowse (Fubar). The film is distributed by Odeon Films, an Alliance Atlantis Company and was financed by BC Film, Telefilm Canada, The Movie Network, Movie Central and Vertigo Films (UK).

About True West Films

True West Films collaborates with filmmakers, writers, producers and new media innovators. The main focus of the company is the production of select director-driven feature films with an emphasis on international co-productions destined for the world market.

A secondary focus is the facilitation of service production for European partners wanting to tap into Canadian financing, labour tax credits, outstanding crews, above the line talent, world-class post-production facilities and magnificent locations. TWF has strong connections to the Canadian film industry in Vancouver, Victoria and Toronto and to international production and financing centers.

TWF projects in development range from low budget guerrilla films, auteur films, novel adaptations, genre films to high budgeted films that will appeal to the mainstream audience. The starting point is always the same – a strong idea, a captivating script that will target an identified audience and creative, and reliable partners. True West Films is currently developing feature films with companies in UK, France, Finland, Mexico, USA and Germany.

For more information on True West Films www.truewestfilms.com or to arrange an interview with company principals, contact:

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