‘DARK HEARTS’
AVAILABLE FOR ACQUISITION

Cannes Film Festival 2012 Screenings:
Saturday, 19th May 2012 - 10:00 am - GRAY 3 cinema
Monday, 21st May 2012 - 14:00 pm - GRAY 3 cinema
Gray d’Albion hotel - 1st floor - 38 rue des Serbes

Alexis Varouxakis
Adrenaline Entertainment
Cell France: +33 6690 44735
Cell US: +1 818 331 04 13
info@adrenaline-entertainment.com

Click here to see Trailer
www.darkheartsthemovie.com

Facebook Page
www.adrenaline-entertainment.com
BLUE VELVET MEETS TRUE BLOOD

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: USA / UK
GENRE: Dark Psychological Thriller
RUNNING TIME: 94 min
CAST: Kyle Schmid, Sonja Kinski, Lucas Till, Goran Visnjic,
      Rachel Blanchard, Richard Edson, Juliet Landau
DIRECTOR: Rudolf Buitendach
SCREENWRITER: Christian Piers Betley
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Jack Bowyer
PRODUCERS: Kees Van Oostrum, Alexis Varouxakis
SHORT SYNOPSIS

An artist loses his inspiration and rediscovers it when he meets an alluring and precarious muse. She helps him to discover the perfect color red: blood. A fierce romance erupts between the two unleashing betrayal, obsession and destruction.

MEDIUM SYNOPSIS

Colson (Kyle Schmid) is a downtown artist who is trying to make a living from his paintings. His brother Sam (Lucas Till) arrives in town to spend time with him and get away from the trouble back home.

The brothers’ first night is spent at an underground nightclub where they meet sexy and alluring singer Fran (Sonja Kinski). A fierce romance erupts between Colson and Fran, but despite their passion, nothing can prepare them for the betrayal, obsession and destruction that this union will unleash.

CAST AND FILMMAKERS

CAST: Kyle Schmid (Copper, History of Violence), Sonja Kinski (All God's Children can Dance), Lucas Till (X-Men: First Class, Paranoia, Stoker, Battle LA), Goran Visnjic (ER, Girl with the Dragon Tattoo), Rachel Blanchard (Where the Truth Lies, Peep Show, Adoration), Richard Edson (Platoon, Stranger than Paradise), Juliet Landau (Ed Wood, Buffy the Vampire Slayer)

FILMMAKERS: Rudolf Buitendach - Director, Christian Piers Betley - Writer, Kees Van Oostrum - Producer, Alexis Varouxakis - Producer, Jack Bowyer - Executive Producer, Kees Van Oostrum - Cinematographer
LONG SYNOPSIS

Colson Morgan (Kyle Schmid) is an attractive and rebellious painter, forced to paint second-class portraits to pay the rent for his crumbling downtown studio that he shares with other bohemian artists. He’s also an emotional crutch for his younger brother Sam (Lucas Till), who mimics this carefree lifestyle after the death of their father. Colson is introduced to Fran (Sonja Kinski), an edgy singer at an underground venue, and is immediately drawn to her provocative demeanor – gaining pleasure in everything she does and the kind of woman every man falls in love with. Colson quickly becomes infatuated by her exuberant, sexy, insolence and zest for life. She’s inviting, both a tease and an advertisement for sin. Their fiery chemistry incenses Fran’s manager and part time hustler, Armand Leroy (Goran Visnjic). Fran is initially hesitant and tells Colson she can no longer be with him, but after tracking her down in a daring chase, their chemistry intensifies.

This doesn’t bode well with the predatory Armand and Colson and Sam are beaten savagely with a warning to stay away from ‘his property’.

When Colson’s blood from the beating mixes with his oils, he finds the perfect color RED for his paintings and starts a new portrait of Fran, a portrait that will change his life. Colson’s agent (Juliet Landau), enthused by this new direction, offers him a solo show, pushing for more of these disturbing and enticing works. But to succeed in this, Colson has to procure more blood and it’s not long before his art escalates into extreme behavior as he taps not only his own blood but also Fran’s. Colson feels invigorated by Fran as his muse, but also distraught and helpless.

Meanwhile Fran and Sam concoct a daring plan to aid Colson’s work. Sam’s loyalty to Colson wavers, as he bonds with Fran, during this exciting heist.

Colson can now paint to his heart’s delight and his ‘blood’ art becomes sought after. Armand wants a piece of the action and offers to release Fran for Colson’s best pieces. However, tensions flair and when Armand tries to violate Fran, she strikes back, killing him in the ensuing chaos. Colson seizes the opportunity and uses Armand’s corpse to take his artwork to new disturbing levels. Soon Colson’s dangerous and unhealthy obsession escalates and Fran and Sam are implicated when they have to dispose of the remains. With the complication of another killing, the obsessive triangle between brothers and muse spirals out of control, leading to a dramatic and shocking climax.
Hails from the acting dynasty of the Kinskis, granddaughter of Klaus and daughter of Nastassja, 24 year old Sonja studied drama throughout school and is currently training with Cameron Thor in Los Angeles.

Her lead role in Robert Logevall’s feature directorial debut All God’s Children can Dance, produced by Steve Golin (Eternal Sunshine, Babel), premiered at the Las Vegas Film Festival and went on to the Deauville Film Festival.

Sonja has recently completed three independent films, Dark Hearts, Hotel Romance and The Wicked Within. Sonja has also recently shot campaigns for beauty line Nuxe, Pom and Levi’s.
Lucas Till recently wrapped playing the lead role in *Crush*, for Intrepid Films and director Malik Bader. Prior to that, Till worked for acclaimed Korean director Chan-Wook Park (*Old Boy, Lady Vengeance*) on *Stoker* for Fox Searchlight, starring alongside Nicole Kidman & Mia Wasikowski.

Earlier this summer, Till worked alongside James McAvoy & Michael Fassbender in the 20th Century Fox smash hit *X-Men: First Class*.

Till's career began with the critically acclaimed film *Walk the Line*, directed by James Mangold and starring Joaquin Phoenix. He played a young Jack Cash. He shined in some of the film's more sobering and violent scenes, offering an early look at the actor's depth. Till then played the romantic lead in *Hannah Montana: The Movie*, opposite Miley Cyrus. Grossing over $200 million worldwide and winning its opening weekend at the box-office, the film established Till's presence as one of Hollywood's leading young men.

Born on an Army Base at Fort Hood, Texas to Lt. Col. John Till & Miss Dana Till, Lucas grew up outside of Murietta, GA and now resides in Burbank, CA.
Born in Ontario, Canada, Kyle Schmid has been acting for the majority of his life. Kyle can currently be seen as Henry Durham in the top-rated and popular Syfy Channel television series Being Human. He will also be seen starring in the highly anticipated TV series Copper for BBC America, which begins airing this summer.

In Copper, Kyle portrays Robert Morehouse, a handsome bon vivant and part of the Manhattan aristocracy in the gripping crime series set in the five points Irish neighborhood of New York City in the 1860’s.

Kyle is best known for his starring role as vampire Henry Fitzroy on the popular Lifetime Television series Blood Ties. He has also appeared in a number of notable feature films such as The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants, A History of Violence, Zerophilia, The Pacifier, The Covenant, Joy Ride 2: Dead Ahead and Dead Before Dawn 3D.

Kyle has made guest appearances in such television series as CSI: Miami, The Zack Files, Smallville and Three Inches. He also had a recurring role as Evan Frasier in the ABC Family original series Beautiful People and co-starred in the Disney Channel original movies Alley Cats Strike and The Cheetah Girls as Raven-Symon’s love interest. Kyle also starred in The Sandy Bottom Orchestra for which he was nominated with a Young Artist Award for “Best performance in a TV Movie-Supporting Young Actor” for his performance as Sam Miller.

Kyle spends a majority of his free time writing screenplays and playing his soccer. Other hobbies include swimming, horseback riding and mountain biking. Kyle lives in Hollywood but commutes frequently between his Hollywood Hills home and Canada.
GORAN VISNJIC
(The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo, ER) – Armand

Croatian-born actor Goran Visnjic has earned acclaim in theatre, on television and on the silver screen.

He began his career starring in Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, at the celebrated Dubrovnik Summer Theatre Festival in Croatia. His portrayal of the title character earned him the coveted Orlando Award.

Mr. Visnjic later became known worldwide for his role as Dr. Luka Kovac on the television series *ER*, which he starred in for nine years. With his fellow actors from the show, he was twice nominated for the Screen Actors Guild Awards' top television honor of the ensemble prize. His other television appearances include the miniseries *Spartacus* in the title role, directed by Robert Dornhelm, John Kent Harrison’s telefilm *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler*, the U.K. miniseries *The Deep*, the Croatian miniseries *Duga Mračna Noć* (*Long Dark Night*), and most recently, a guest-starring arc on the series *Leverage* and *Pan Am*.

His breakout movie role was in Michael Winterbottom’s *Welcome to Sarajevo*. Among his other screen credits are Scott McGehee and David Siegel’s *The Deep End* opposite Tilda Swinton, in voiceover, Chris Wedge and Carlos Saldanha’s blockbuster *Ice Age*, John Dahl’s *Rounders*, Griffin Dunne’s *Practical Magic*, Lisa Krueger’s *Committed*, Rob Bowman’s *Elektra*, Mimi Leder’s *The Peacemaker*, Sandra Nettelbeck’s *Helen*, opposite Ashley Judd, Nick Willing’s *Close Your Eyes* (a.k.a. *Doctor Sleep*), for which Mr. Visnjic was named Best Actor at the Paris Film Festival, Mike Mills’ *Beginners*, and David Fincher’s *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. 
Not afraid of taking risks, Rachel Blanchard plays a wide range of comedic and dramatic roles in both commercial and independent films and television. Most recently these have included a recurring role in the BAFTA winning British comedy series *Peep Show* and a recurring role in the hit HBO series *Flight Of The Conmonds*. Blanchard starred opposite Colin Firth and Kevin Bacon in director Atom Egoyan's critically acclaimed film *Where The Truth Lies* and also appears in Egoyan's feature *Adoration*. She will next be seen in *Mad Ship*, opposite Nikolaj Lie Kaas and the Movie Network comedy series *Call Me Fitz* for which she won a Gemini for best comedic actress.
JULIET LANDAU
(Ed Wood, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Angel) – Astrid

Juliet co-starred in Tim Burton's Ed Wood as Loretta King and starred opposite Whoopi Goldberg in New Line Cinema’s Theodore Rex. She created the role of Drusilla on Buffy the Vampire Slayer, appearing on Buffy and Angel over the course of six seasons.

Juliet directed the short documentary Take Flight about and for Gary Oldman, co-directed/appeared in Godhead’s hero music video and co-wrote two issues of the Angel comic book about Drusilla.

Lead roles in independents include: Monstert Mutt, The Yellow Wallpaper, Darkness Visible, Hack, Toolbox Murders, Repossessed, Carlo's Wake, Life Among The Cannibals, Ravager, Direct Hit, Citizens and Going Shopping.

TV guest star appearances include: Criminal Minds, Millennium, La Femme Nikita, Strong Medicine, a starring role in the lifetime movie Reunion and Jake Scott’s HBO project.

Juliet has garnered outstanding reviews for her work in the theater every time out. Leading roles include: Awake and Sing! at the Pittsburgh public theatre, the world premiere of Failure of Nerve, Uncommon Women and Others, The Pushcart Peddlers, Robbers, Billy Irish, We’re Talking Today Here, the musical How To Steal an Election, the west coast premiere of Irish Coffee and the world premiere of Murray Shisgal's musical The Songs of War. Juliet produced a two-evening staged reading of A Streetcar Named Desire for the centennial of Tennessee William’s birth, in which she played the stellar role of Blanche. John McNaughton directed and they collaborated again on the five-month run of John Patrick Shanley’s Danny and the Deep Blue Sea.
Dark Hearts is directed by BBC nominated director, Rudolf Buitendach. Rudolf has directed a number of award winning short films. He is currently in pre-production on the feature Field Station Africa which will be shooting in June 2012 in Rotterdam, South Africa and Equatorial Guinea.

The director of photography is twice Emmy nominated Kees Van Oostrum, who has given the film a beautiful look.

The film was shot on the Arri Alexa on location in Downtown Los Angeles. Dark Hearts marks the feature film debut in a major film for Sonja Kinski, daughter of Nastassja Kinski. Sonja is as riveting, intriguing and beautiful as her mother, giving an incredible performance.
Kyle Schmidt has been very busy this year and will appear in five feature films. He has recently finished shooting Being Human where he plays a major character of the popular series. He is currently filming Copper the anticipated new TV series.

Lucas Till is a star on the rise. An incredible actor, Lucas is mesmerizing as the young brother. His performance in Dark Hearts will showcase the young actors’ abilities. Lucas will next be seen playing opposite Nicole Kidman in Chan-Wook Park’s Stoker as well as Robert Luketic’s Paranoia, playing opposite Harrison Ford, Liam Hemsworth and Gary Oldman.

Rachel Blanchard and Goran Visnjic both play parts that they haven’t been seen in before. Goran’s performance as the villain is very strong. He was recently seen in David Fincher’s Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.

Juliet Landau, daughter of Martin Landau and indie regular Richard Edson both support the eclectic cast of Dark Hearts.
SOUNDTRACK

Featuring music by:

Shirley Manson (GARBAGE) & Gabrial McNair (NO DOUBT)
Fairuza Balk & David J (BAUHAUS, LOVE & ROCKETS)
EINSTUERZENDE NEUBAUTEN
THE PARLOTONES
ESCAPEPOD
Paul Oakenfold
Richard Strange (DOCTORS OF MADNESS)
Carina Round (PUSCIFER)
The paintings in *Dark Hearts* are made by international award-winning artist Jason Shawn Alexander. Jason has displayed his work at the Smithsonian Museum and has produced illustrations for Dark Horse Comics, Warner Brothers, DC Comics, Hasbro, White Wolf, Inc, and Dalmatian Press.

www.jasonshawnalexander.com
Contact:

Alexis Varouxakis
Adrenaline Entertainment
Cell France: +33 669044735
Cell US: +1 818 331 04 13
info@adrenaline-entertainment.com

Click here to see Trailer

www.darkheartsthemovie.com

Facebook Page

Adrenaline Entertainment
www.adrenaline-entertainment.com