

Sony Pictures Worldwide Acquisitions Picks Up Territories for 'Ends of the Earth' (Exclusive)

The news comes on the heels of CBS Films picking up U.S. distribution rights.

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Sony Pictures Worldwide Acquisitions has picked up from IM Global multiple international territories of *Ends of the Earth*.

The dealmaking comes on the heels of CBS Films' announcement it had preemptively picked up the title for U.S. distribution.

The territories acquired by SPWA include German-speaking Europe, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, Italy, Australia/New Zealand, Latin America and South Africa.

Alliance Films already holds rights to the film in Canada, the U.K. and Spain. *Earth*, currently being shot in Europe, is described as having elements of *Lost Boys* and *Chronicle* and features both found footage and narrative styles to tell the tale of two best friends travelling through Europe. They encounter what is described as an "impossible phenomenon" that changes their lives.

The film is co-written and co-directed by **Derek Lee** and **Clif Prowse** and features a cast of up-and-comers.

Stuart Ford, **Brian Kavanaugh-Jones** and **Charles Layton** are exec producing. Telefilm Canada provided backing.

The project is going into Cannes with a certain amount of heat, bolstered by the strong pre-sales. Automatik, the production and film financing joint venture backed by Alliance Films and IM Global, acquired worldwide rights to the movie after seeing a promo circulated by the filmmakers' reps at Verve.

Michael Helfand and **Joe Matukewicz**, exec vp of business affairs and senior vp of acquisitions respectively, negotiated the deal on behalf of SPWA.