

## 'Cloud Atlas', 'Dredd', 'Looper,' 'Magic Mike' Screen Early For Distributors: Cannes

By **NANCY TARTAGLIONE**, International Editor | Thursday, 17 May 2012 22:01 UK



In the past few days, buyers at the Cannes Film Festival have had a first look at some high-profile pics they've already bought. Focus Features International screened *Cloud Atlas* on Tuesday for its distributors, and IM Global gave theirs a full showing of *Dredd* this afternoon. FilmNation also held screenings of three of its upcoming pics to get folks excited early.

Of today's *Dredd* screening, IM Global's Stuart Ford says, "The reaction was great. It was as packed as any screening I've seen in Cannes. There were people sitting on the floor in the front and the back of the room." (And that was after the air-conditioning had gone on the blink just ahead of the movie; Ford says there were no walkouts, "even though it was about a hundred degrees.") *Dredd*, directed by Pete Travis, stars Karl Urban, Olivia Thirlby and Lena Headey. It's a project that would also normally have been set up at a studio, but instead, Reliance Big Entertainment and IM Global financed DNA Films' \$40M adaptation of the UK comic created by John Wagner and illustrated by Carlos Ezquerra.

Today's screening allowed "people who bought it for a lot of money 18 months ago" to get a look at what Ford says is "an edgy, cool film with a rocking soundtrack." Compared to other superhero pictures coming down the pike, Ford says it "appears very fresh and distinctive. It's *Dirty Harry* meets *District 9*." Lionsgate is releasing in the U.S. on September 21 and there are two territories remaining that Ford expects to close possibly "before the evening is out."

