

'Up In The Air' Producer Launches The Allegiance Shingle With IM Global-Funded 'Money Monster'

By MIKE FLEMING | Tues, February 7, 2012

EXCLUSIVE: Daniel Dubiecki has launched The Allegiance Theater, a company designed to create a haven where talent and financiers can hatch film and TV projects. The company gets off the ground with a privately-backed overhead and development fund to generate character-driven, commercially appealing stories, said Dubiecki. As Jason Reitman's close collaborator, he produced Up In The Air and was exec producer of Juno and co-producer of Thank You For Smoking.



"The idea behind The Allegiance Theater is that it is a destination for artists and financiers, where both the artists' vision and the financiers' investments are protected," Dubiecki said. "In my experience, when the audience is considered during the development and production of a film, higher-quality movies are made and the chances for success in the marketplace are higher."

Money Monster is the first project. It's financed by IM Global and will be produced by Dubiecki and Stuart Ford, The script's by National Treasure scribe Jim Kouf and Alan DiFiore, Kouf's partner on Grimm. In the drama, Lee Gates is a TV personality whose insider trading tips have made him the money guru of Wall Street. When Kyle, a viewer who lost all of his family's money on a bad tip from Lee, holds Lee hostage on air, ratings soar as the entire country tunes in to this media frenzy to find out just how much a man's life is worth. The film will shoot this summer.

Other projects on the slate include:

- Serial Killer Days: set at Paramount, the Dubiecki-produced film will be written and directed by Mark P. Carter. The horror/comedy focuses on the town of Standard Springs, which has become a tourist destination for its infamous serial killings. The townspeople decide to capitalize on their misfortune by creating "Serial Killer Days," a macabre fair complete with blood drives and a Scream Queen Pageant. But when the serial killer returns, it is up to one of the locals, Debbie Sue Morning, to find out who's behind it all.
- **Pete And Goat:** Anton Yelchin and Amanda Seyfried are attached to star. Produced by Dubiecki and Ahmet Zappa, the script's by Michael Vukadinovich (The Three

Misfortunes Of Geppetto) with Mark Palansky (Penelope) attached to direct. The comedy focuses on the second worst day of Pete's life, when an unimaginable, foul-mouthed friend storms into his world to take him and the love of his life on an adventurous road trip.

• Dance of the Mirlitons: Kristen Bell, Bailee Madison, Chloe Moretz and Jackie Earle Haley are attached to star and Dubiecki will produce with Joel Michaely and Joseph Kline. Evan Greenberg (Sex Farce) is writing to direct. In this comedy/drama, chubby Jesse Urchin shocks everyone except her ex-dancer mother Corinne when she is accepted into the prestigious Battleboro School for Dancers. As Corinne struggles to acclimate to her posh stomping grounds of old, Jesse learns that to get to the top she must kill or be killed when she suddenly finds herself immersed in the cutthroat world of prima ballerinas.

The Allegiance Theater partners include Lara Alameddine, Dubiecki's wife and business partner; and Timothy Crane, Dubiecki's producing partner from early years, who will be involved in day-to-day activities of the company and its projects, along with Dubiecki.