

## Berlin 2012: Katherine Heigl in Talks for 'Happytime Murders'

Fri., Feb. 3, 2012 By Pamela McClintock



**IM Global is shopping the film noir puppet pic to foreign buyers at the European Film Market.**

**Katherine Heigl** is circling *The Happytime Murders*, a Hanson Co. production that **Brian Henson--Jim Henson's son--**is directing.

**Stuart Ford's** IM Global will shop the long-gestating project to foreign buyers at the European Film Market in Berlin. The intriguing film noir puppet comedy has been in development at the Henson Co. since 2008.

**Henson** (*A Muppets Christmas Carol*) will direct from a script penned by **Todd Berger** (*Kung Fu Panda 2*) from a story Berger wrote with **Dee Austin Robertson**.

“Happytime” takes place in a world where humans and puppets co-exist, with the puppets viewed as second-class citizens. When the puppet cast of an '80s children's TV show called “The Happytime Gang” begins to get murdered one by one, a disgraced LAPD detective-turned-private eye puppet takes on the case.

IM Global is selling the pic via its Opus label.