

WWE boards IM Global's 'Dead Man Down'

Cast includes Colin Farrell, Noomi Rapace and Terrence Howard

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WWE Studios has come aboard IM Global's thriller "Dead Man Down" as a co-financier on the project that stars Colin Farrell, Noomi Rapace, Terrence Howard and Dominic Cooper.

Niels Arden Oplev is directing the pic that starts lensing Monday in Philadelphia. Upon release, WWE will promote the \$30 million project across its various platforms, including its TV shows, magazines, websites and its upcoming WWE Network, which it plans to launch sometime this year.

"When IM Global presented us with acclaimed director Niels Arden Oplev and the incredible cast ... we jumped at the chance to be a part of this production," said WWE Studios president Michael Luisi. "This is exactly the type of collaboration we have been looking for to expand the WWE Studios brand."

Neal H. Moritz's Original Film is producing "Dead Man Down" with screenwriter J.H. Wyman of Frequency Films. Luisi will serve as executive producer.

In the film, Farrell plays Victor, the right hand man to an underground crime lord in New York City who is seduced and blackmailed by Beatrice (Rapace), a crime victim seeking retribution. Their intense chemistry leads them spiraling into payback delivered in violent catharsis.

Film reunites Rapace with Opley, who helmed the original "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo."

"We're incredibly excited at the classy cast that Niels and the producers have put together," Ford said. "We're going to make a sleek, stylish international thriller that's worthy of all the great talent involved. We're also delighted to have WWE Studios on board not only as our co-financing partner, but also as an integrated media company that can provide invaluable marketing support for the picture around the world."

Earlier this month, IM Global cast Liam Hemsworth, Harrison Ford and Gary Oldman to topline corporate espionage thriller "Paranoia," to be directed by Robert Luketic. Stuart Ford's IM Global is fully financing the film, scheduled for an early summer start date.

Producers are Emjag's Alexandra Milchan, Management 360 and Gaumont.

Other upcoming films for WWE Studios include the horror thriller "No One Lives," starring Luke Evans and WWE's Brodus Clay, which was co-produced with Pathé Films; cult hit "The Day," a pick up from the Toronto Intl Film Fest, that stars Dominic Monaghan, Shawn Ashmore and Ashley Bell; and "Barricade," with Eric McCormack.