

THE Hollywood REPORTER

Cannes: Abigail Breslin to Star in the Thriller 'Peste'

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Abigail Breslin

Octane, IM Global's genre label, will finance the movie about a contagious virus that Mark Ponderai will direct from Barbara Marshall's screenplay.

Abigail Breslin is set to star in *Peste*, a thriller about a contagious virus sweeping through a small town that Octane, IM Global's genre label, is financing and shopping at Cannes. The film, to be directed by **Mark Ponderai** (*House at the End of the Street*) and produced by **Sheryll Clark** (*Cloverfield*), is scheduled to begin production in September, IM Global's CEO **Stuart Ford** announced.

Peste is based on **Barbara Marshall's** screenplay, which appeared on the Black List, the Blood List and the Hit List in 2012.

Breslin, a supporting actress Oscar nominee for 2006's *Little Miss Sunshine*, will play a teenager confronting a virus that turns friends and neighbors into vicious monsters. Quarantined with her family, she believes they are out of harm's way until the contagion infiltrates their home.

Breslin, repped by ICM and Lichter, Grossman, Nichols, Adler & Feldman, will next be seen in Summit/Oddlot's *Ender's Game* and The Weinstein Co.'s *August: Osage County*.

"Abigail is one of the outstanding talents of her generation. Her recent standout performances in genre hits like *Zombieland*, *The Call* and the forthcoming *Ender's Game* make her a perfect fit for *Peste*," Ford said.