



PRESS RELEASE

THURSDAY 19 JUNE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EM Media announces forthcoming projects

EM Media today announced its forthcoming slate of productions at the Edinburgh International Film Festival.

They are:

- **A Boy Called Dad**
- **Tyrannosaur**
- **King of the Gypsies**
- **Red Sail**
- **Bunny and the Bull**

A BOY CALLED DAD

EM Media is investing £250k of European Regional Development Funds to co-finance production.

Written by Julie Rutterford and directed by Brian Percival, who last worked together on the BAFTA-winning short film *About A Girl*. The film will be produced by Mike Knowles from Made Up North Productions, based in Derbyshire.

Story:

A Boy Called Dad is the story of fourteen-year-old Robbie who is defined by the absence of his father. Robbie has his first sexual encounter with fifteen-year-old Leanne - and a son, Elliot, is the result but Robbie reacts like most fourteen-year-old lads - he shuns responsibility. When Robbie's dad unexpectedly comes back in to Robbie's life, Robbie thinks everything is going to be okay. But when his dad lets him down again, Robbie makes a life changing decision - he goes on the run with six-month-old Elliot in a desperate attempt to be the father that he never had. But how do you look after a kid, when you're a kid your self?

The film explores universal themes: it's about abandonment, it's about fatherhood and it's about growing up - fast.

The production will shoot in the East Midlands in late summer.

TYRANNOSAUR

EM Media is investing £25k of Lottery Funds in the development of the script.

Written and to be directed by BAFTA award-winning Paddy Considine, who teams up with producer Diarmid Scrimshaw for Warp Films. This is the team that developed and produced the BAFTA-winning short *Dog Altogether* that was co-financed by EM Media.

Story:

Tyrannosaur offers a moving and frank insight into the life of a woman who is at heart a warm and generous person but is trapped in a violent relationship with a vicious businessman. With compassion and brutal honesty the film will paint a portrait of a woman in crisis.

KING OF THE GYPSIES

EM Media is investing £46k of European Regional Development Funds into the development of Shane Meadows' seventh feature film.

Shane Meadows and Paddy Considine team up again following their collaboration on *Dead Man's Shoes*. The film is being produced through Warp Films with Mark Herbert as producer.

EM Media previously co-financed *This Is England*, *Dead Man Shoes* and *Once Upon A Time in the Midlands*.

Story:

Based on the true life-story of Bartley Gorman III, last of the bare knuckle fighters and world champion, as told by Peter Walsh and optioned by Warp Films last year.

RED SAIL

EM Media is investing £10k of lottery funds into development of the script.

Writer Hugh Ellis from Derbyshire and director Kenny Glenaan re-team following *Summer*, which is receiving its World Premiere during this year's festival on Sunday 22 June. The production company is Sixteen Midlands (regional branch of Sixteen Films) and the producer is Camilla Bray.

Story:

Red Sail is a love story. Two people are thrown together as they struggle to discover the fate of their missing teenage children. The story is based on real events and set in the 1950's in the unsettled aftermath of the Second World War. We meet these people in the context of an unconventional detective story that ultimately leads them to discover the fate of their lost children.

BUNNY AND THE BULL

Bunny and the Bull is the fifth film to shoot from Warp X's production slate, which is backed by EM Media and other partners Film4, the UK Film Council's New Cinema Fund, Screen Yorkshire and Optimum Releasing.

Warp X's first projects, Chris Waitt's comic documentary *A Complete History of My Sexual Failures* and hedonism-gone-wrong thriller *Donkey Punch* directed by Olly Blackburn are on general release this summer after their Edinburgh UK premieres. *Hush* and *ATP* will be released later this year.

Principal photography on *Bunny and the Bull* will begin on 30 June at The University of Nottingham's King's Meadow Campus Studio (formerly Carlton Studios) for five weeks.

Paul King, director of cult TV programme *The Mighty Boosh*, will direct and this is his debut feature film.

Story:

Film stars Ed Hogg (*White Lightnin'*, *Brothers of the Head*), Simon Farnaby (*The Mighty Boosh*, *Jam and Jerusalem*), Veronica Echegui and Julian Barratt (Howard Moon in *The Mighty Boosh*).

Bunny and The Bull is a road movie entirely set in a flat. Stephen Farnaby hasn't been outside in months and when he finds his mind hurtling back to the disastrous trek around Europe he undertook with his friend Bunny, a catalogue of adventures unfurl. Stephen's flat becomes the springboard for an extraordinary odyssey through a land made up of snapshots and souvenir replica landmarks within his imagination. From the pen of the highly acclaimed director of *The Mighty Boosh*, the film is a funny, touching and beautiful journey to the end of the room.

A total of six EM Media co-financed productions are premiering during the Edinburgh International Film Festival.

The films are:

- *A Complete History Of My Sexual Failures* dir Chris Waitt
- *Better Things* dir Duane Hopkins
- *Crack Willow* dir Martin Radich
- *Donkey Punch* dir Olly Blackburn
- *Mum & Dad* dir Steven Sheil
- *Summer* dir Kenny Glenaan

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Notes to Editors

EM Media is a dynamic Regional Screen Agency supporting the development of the film and media industries in the East Midlands region. It has three aims:

- **Talent Development:** to identify, grow and support the cultural, creative and economic ambitions of the region's dynamic talent pool.
- **Audiences and Markets:** to develop the range of markets, audiences and opportunities for consumption of digital product and to encourage participation, understanding and engagement with all forms of media product.
- **Business:** Utilise key business functions and practices to better shape our business to be able to inform and support film and media businesses across the East Midlands'

EM Media has built a reputation for investing in innovative and distinctive projects, and has led the creation of a national profile for the East Midlands as a film-led region. EM Media is also one of the main partners in Warp X, the pioneering digital film studio established to revitalise low-budget British film-making.

Since 2002 EM Media has invested ERDF finance and/or Lottery in 22 feature films. Forthcoming releases include Duane Hopkins' *Better Things* (Cannes Official Selection 2008), Kenny Glenaan's *Summer*, Nicolas Winding Refn's *Bronson*, Martin Radich's *Crack Willow* (Under The Radar – EIFF 2008), Steven Sheil's *Mum and Dad*, Jeanie Finlay's *Goth Cruise* and the films from the Warp X slate.

Previous film investments include the BAFTA and BIFA winning *Control* (Anton Corbijn) and the BAFTA award-winning *This Is England* (Shane Meadows) (*Best British Film 2007*).

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