



**BURR STEERS TO DIRECT FEATURE ON YOUNG CAESAR  
FOR EXCLUSIVE FILMS, GIANNI NUNNARI AND MARK CANTON**

**Theatrical Film Is Based On Conn Iggulden's Series of Best-Selling Novels**

**Los Angeles, CA (May 26, 2010)** – Exclusive Media Group Co-Chairman and CEO Nigel Sinclair announced today that Burr Steers (*Igby Goes Down*, *17 Again*, *Charlie St. Cloud*) has been signed to direct *Emperor: Young Caesar*, the theatrical motion picture based on the first of Conn Iggulden's internationally acclaimed, best-selling *Emperor* novels, *The Gates of Rome*. The novel, which tells the story of a young Julius Caesar and Marcus Brutus, was adapted by Academy-Award® winner Bill Broyles (*Jarhead*, *Castaway*, *Apollo 13*) and Stephen Harrigan (*Murder on the Orient Express*).

Sinclair will produce with Guy East, as well as Hollywood Gang's Gianni Nunnari (*300*, *Immortals*), Atmosphere Entertainment's Mark Canton (*300*, *Immortals*, *Letters to Juliet*), and Broyles.

Iggulden's *Emperor* series spans four novels – *The Gates of Rome*, *The Death of Kings*, *The Field Of Swords* and *The God Of War*. In the first novel, *The Gates of Rome*, Iggulden tells a rites of passage tale about a young Julius Caesar and Marcus Brutus. The story follows these two young men as they learn the lessons of war and love, and grow into two of the greatest figures in ancient history.

"Our team at Exclusive is fascinated with Conn Iggulden's novels and found the story of a young Caesar and Brutus to be compelling drama which demanded big screen treatment," says Sinclair. "This is a story with global appeal and great parts for its two male leads. We are very excited about having Burr Steers, Bill Broyles and Stephen Harrigan -- three impeccable storytellers themselves -- bring this project to life."

"Working with Gianni Nunnari and Mark Canton, the producers of Zack Snyder's *300*, an historical epic which turned into a massive box office hit worldwide, makes this project all the more exciting for everyone involved," says East.

"I've always had an interest in Julius Caesar and his formative years and am thrilled to have the opportunity to be a part of this project. There has never been a film that focuses on Caesar as a young man, and Conn Iggulden, Bill Broyles, and Stephen Harrigan have a completely fresh, timely, and exciting take on one of the greatest historical figures of all time. I look forward to working with Conn, Bill, and Stephen, Exclusive Media, Atmosphere's Mark Canton and Hollywood Gang's Gianni Nunnari and Craig Flores," said Steers.

Speaking from the set of Relativity Media's *Immortals*, which is filming in Montreal, Nunnari and Canton said: "Burr Steers' vision for *Emperor: Young Caesar* will translate Bill Broyles and Stephen Harrigan's' stunning screenplay, based upon Conn Iggulden's best-selling series of *Emperor* novels, into a rich, image-laden, high-concept motion picture that will set the stage for a new film franchise. We are very pleased that he has joined with Exclusive Media Group and us on this amazing project."

"Stephen Harrigan and I have been developing this epic saga with Guy, Nigel and the Exclusive team, and we are thrilled to have Burr Steers come on board to lend his talents and vision to the film," says Broyles.

Originally an actor who starred as Roger in *Pulp Fiction*, Steers made his directing debut with his first screenplay for the indie sensation *Igby Goes Down* in 2002. The film, which starred Kieran Culkin, Amanda Peet, Susan Sarandon and Claire Danes, was nominated for two Golden Globe awards including Best Actor (for Culkin) and Best Supporting Actress (for Sarandon). Steers received an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best First Screenplay and was honored as Best

First Time Director at the 2003 U.S. Comedy Arts Festival. In 2003, his second screenplay for *How To Lose a Guy in 10 Days*, which starred Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey, became a box office hit. In addition to directing some of the hottest shows on television including *Weeds*, *The L Word* and *Big Love*, Steers also directed the feature *17 Again* starring Zac Efron, Leslie Mann, Tom Lennon and Matthew Perry. Steers' latest directorial effort is the soon-to-be-released *Charlie St Cloud* which also stars Efron, as well as Kim Basinger and Ray Liotta.

Steers is managed by Shawn Simon, repped by Todd Feldman & Jay Baker at CAA, and his attorneys are Marcy Morris and Darren Trattner of Jackoway Tyerman Wertheimer Austen Mandelbaum Morris & Klein.

Exclusive is currently in post-production on three films: Matt Reeves' *Let Me In* starring Kodi Smit-McPhee, Chloe Moretz, Elias Koteas and Richard Jenkins (produced through its Hammer Films label, Overture Films will release the film in October 2010); Antti Jokinen's *The Resident* starring Hilary Swank, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Lee Pace and Christopher Lee (also produced through Hammer Films); and Peter Weir's *The Way Back* starring Ed Harris, Jim Sturgess, Saoirse Ronan, Mark Strong and Colin Farrell. The company recently premiered Spitfire Pictures' *The Last Play at Shea*, about Billy Joel and his last performance at Shea Stadium, at the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival.

### **ABOUT EXCLUSIVE MEDIA GROUP**

Exclusive Media Group is a vertically integrated independent film studio which was founded by strategic investment group, Cyrte Investments, in May 2008. Exclusive comprises:

- Three development & production labels:
  - Exclusive Films, which has Peter Weir's *The Way Back* as its first production.
  - Hammer Films, the iconic brand that already has *Let Me In* and *The Resident* being readied for release.
  - Spitfire Pictures, which has become the specialist documentary film production house.
- US theatrical distributor – Newmarket Films
- International sales & marketing operations for in-house and third party product– Exclusive Film Distribution
- Exclusive Film Distribution also monetizes a significant film library of over 550 film titles.

Exclusive is run by Co-Chairmen Nigel Sinclair, Guy East and Chris Ball. Sinclair also serves as Group CEO, East as Chairman of Exclusive Film Distribution and Ball as President of Newmarket Films. Simon Oakes serves as Vice-Chairman of the Group Board as well as President and CEO of Hammer. Exclusive's strategy has been to build a vertically integrated global film entertainment group which develops and controls its own intellectual property and exploits it on a cross-media basis in the digitally converged era. Exclusive has an active development slate and produces, finances and markets 5-7 high-quality commercial feature films and documentaries per year under its three production labels. Exclusive actively acquires further feature films for international distribution via Exclusive Film Distribution, and for US theatrical distribution via Newmarket Films. The Group also develops and produces projects for television and digital platforms.

Exclusive continues to actively explore strategic expansion through M&A transactions and joint ventures – specific focus is on the acquisition of further high-quality film libraries and local territory distribution.

### **ABOUT HOLLYWOOD GANG PRODUCTIONS**

Gianni Nunnari is president, founder and CEO of Hollywood Gang Productions. He produced Zack Snyder's iconic epic *300*, which has a worldwide box-office gross of over half a billion dollars to date. Previous to *300*, Mr. Nunnari produced Martin Scorsese's Oscar-winning *The Departed*; David Fincher's *Se7en*, Oliver Stone's *Alexander*; Robert Rodriguez's *From Dusk Till Dawn* series. Most recent releases include Martin Scorsese *Shutter Island* (Paramount), which is the biggest Scorsese-DiCaprio opening of all time; and *Everybody's Fine* (Miramax), starring Robert De Niro.

Under its overall deal with Warners Bros., Hollywood Gang has several projects in development, including the sequel to the mega hit *300*, based on the upcoming graphic novel by Frank Miller; Guy Ritchie's *King Arthur* being penned by John

Hodge (Trainspotting); Frank Miller's *Ronin*; the sci-fi action tent pole *The Days Before*; the untitled futuristic *Robin Hood* project which Jason Dean Hall is writing; and *Odysseus*, to be directed by Jonathan Liebesman (*Battle La.*)

Hollywood Gang is also developing Martin Scorsese's SILENCE.

Currently before the cameras is Relativity Media's *Immortals*, directed by Tarsem Singh, with a stellar cast that includes Henry Cavill, Mickey Rourke, Stephen Dorff, John Hurt and Freida Pinto. The Greek mythology clash epic will be released in late 2011 through Universal.

### **ABOUT ATMOSPHERE ENTERTAINMENT**

Founded in late 2003 by noted entertainment industry executive and producer Mark Canton, Atmosphere Entertainment MM, LLC, develops and produces theatrical motion pictures and television programming that will appeal to audiences throughout the world. Among Atmosphere's recent successes are the mega-hit *300*, *The Spiderwick Chronicles*, based on a series of highly popular children's graphic novels, and the recently-released romantic comedy *Letters to Juliet*, directed by Gary Winick and starring Amanda Seyfried, Vanessa Redgrave, Christopher Egan, Gael García Bernal, and Franco Nero. Presently in post production is *Piranha 3-D*, a cutting-edge 3D reinvention of the aquatic horror classic directed by Alexandre Aja and starring Elizabeth Shue, Richard Dreyfuss, Ving Rhames, and Steve H. McQueen which Dimension Films will release in August 2010. The Company is currently filming *Immortals*, Relativity Media's epic mythology-themed action adventure starring Henry Cavill, Mickey Rourke, Stephen Dorff, John Hurt and Freida Pinto, with visionary filmmaker Tarsem directing for release in November 2011 by Universal. Atmosphere is also prepping a number of high-profile films including Relativity's *Tunnels*, based upon the successful series of books by British authors Roderick Gordon and Brian Williams, which is expected to be the next sensation to replace the Harry Potter franchise.

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