
SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS ACQUIRES SUNDANCE FAVORITE BEFORE MIDNIGHT

NEW YORK (January 25, 2013) - Sony Pictures Classics announced today that they have acquired all North American and UK rights to Richard Linklater's *BEFORE MIDNIGHT*, the third installment to *BEFORE SUNRISE* and *BEFORE SUNSET*, starring Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy. Like *BEFORE SUNSET*, the third film is written by Academy Award® nominees Linklater, Hawke and Delpy. Premiering to critical acclaim in the Premieres Section on Sunday evening at the Sundance Film Festival, *BEFORE MIDNIGHT* has been one of the most talked about films at the festival.

The film is produced by Linklater, Christos V. Konstantakopoulos and Sara Woodhatch and executive produced by Jacob Pechenik, Martin Shafer, Liz Glotzer, and John Sloss. The deal was negotiated by SPC and Cinetic Media on behalf of the filmmakers.

In *BEFORE MIDNIGHT*, we meet Celine and Jesse 9 years on. Almost 2 decades have passed since that first meeting on a train bound for Vienna, and we now find them in their early 40's in Greece. Before the clock strikes midnight, we will again become part of their story.

"In 1991 we were in Sundance with *SLACKER* and we witnessed the birth of a major American filmmaker. At Sundance 2013 with *BEFORE MIDNIGHT*, we have further confirmation that Richard Linklater is a film master at the peak of his form. This one has it all as entertainment and as a work of cinematic art. It is a perfect movie made by not one but three auteurs, Rick, Ethan Hawke, and Julie Delpy. This movie will be incredibly successful around the world. And the acquisition is all the sweeter for our being back with Rick and producers Martin Shafer, Liz Glotzer and John Sloss," says Sony Pictures Classics. Director Richard Linklater adds, "Shooting in Greece was one of my best film experiences ever. This has just been enhanced with the news that we've found such a good home with Michael and Tom."

ABOUT SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Michael Barker and Tom Bernard serve as co-presidents of Sony Pictures Classics—an autonomous division of Sony Pictures Entertainment they founded

with Marcie Bloom in January 1992, which distributes, produces, and acquires independent films from around the world.

Barker and Bernard have released prestigious films that have won 29 Academy Awards® (25 of those at Sony Pictures Classics) and have garnered 127 Academy Award® nominations (101 at Sony Pictures Classics) including Best Picture nominations for MIDNIGHT IN PARIS, AN EDUCATION, CAPOTE, HOWARDS END, and CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON.

ABOUT SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America, a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation. SPE's global operations encompass motion picture production and distribution; television production and distribution; home entertainment acquisition and distribution; a global channel network; digital content creation and distribution; operation of studio facilities; development of new entertainment products, services and technologies; and distribution of entertainment in more than 142 countries. For additional information, go to <http://www.sonypictures.com/>.