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# SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

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## **SONY PICTURES CLASSICS ACQUIRES DUTCH FILM WINTER IN WARTIME FROM HIGH POINT FILMS**

**NEW YORK, NY (January 31, 2010)** – Sony Pictures Classics announced today that they have acquired all US rights to the Dutch film, *WINTER IN WARTIME* from High Point Films, the theatrical division of Carey Fitzgerald’s London based High Point Media Group. Negotiating the deal was Sony Pictures Classics’ Executive Vice President of Acquisitions and Production, Dylan Leiner and High Point’s Director of Theatrical Sales and Marketing, Elisar Cabrera. The film is directed by Martin Koolhoven (*SCHNITZEL PARADISE*) and is produced by Els Vandevorst (co-produced Lars Von Trier’s *MANDERLAY* and *DOGVILLE*), and San Fu Maltha (*BLACK BOOK*).

Near the end of World War II, *WINTER IN WARTIME* shows how 13-year-old Michiel becomes involved with the Resistance after coming to the aid of a wounded British soldier. With the conflict coming to an end, Michiel comes of age and learns of the stark difference between adventure fantasy and the ugly realities of war. The story is based on a popular young adult novel by Jan Terlouw. Hugely successful in the Netherlands, the critically acclaimed *WINTER IN WARTIME* is the Dutch entry for the 2010 Academy Awards and is on the Best Foreign Language Film shortlist.

"*WINTER IN WARTIME*, beautifully realized by director Martin Koolhoven, takes a fresh look at Dutch resistance from the perspective of a 13 year old child. This film is the kind of emotionally engaging drama that has consistently achieved success with American audiences," said Sony Pictures Classics.

Director Martin Koolhoven stated, "Making *WINTER IN WARTIME* was a dream come true. After the movie was released, the dream just kept expanding. Box-office success, rave reviews, awards, everything a filmmaker can hope for. And now Sony Classics picks it up to present it to American audiences. I don't know what's happening to me."

"We are proud that a renowned company as Sony Classics has given their trust to our film and I hope that the American audience will embrace *WINTER IN WARTIME* as much as the Dutch did," said producer Els Vandevorst.

High Point’s Managing Director, Carey Fitzgerald adds, "We are thrilled to be working with the very talented team at Sony Pictures Classics, who not only are the ideal home for Martin’s film, but have proved many times over to have the best track record in connecting foreign language films such as *WINTER IN WARTIME* with US audiences."

### **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's films are among the most prestigious films of all time. They have produced 24 Academy Award<sup>®</sup> winners (21 of those at Sony Pictures Classics) and have garnered over 100 Academy Award<sup>®</sup> nominations (72 at Sony Pictures Classics) including Best Picture nominations for CAPOTE, HOWARDS END, AND CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON.

### **ABOUT HIGH POINT MEDIA GROUP**

Carey Fitzgerald founded High Point in 1990 and for 20 years has been handling ground-breaking, award winning productions with global appeal, specializing in the sales, financing, packaging, marketing and production of talent driven feature films, compelling television drama, high concept TV movies and event factual productions. With headquarters in London, as well as offices in Dublin and Sydney, High Point operates in three main divisions: HIGH POINT FILMS, HIGH POINT TELEVISION and HIGH POINT PRODUCTIONS.

### **ABOUT SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT**

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America (SCA), a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation. SPE's global operations encompass motion picture production and distribution; television production and distribution; digital content creation and distribution; worldwide channel investments; home entertainment acquisition and distribution; operation of studio facilities; development of new entertainment products, services, and technologies; and distribution of filmed entertainment in more than 100 countries. Sony Pictures Entertainment can be found at <http://www.sonypictures.com>.