

Press release

Paris, Los Angeles, October 21st, 2024

STUDIOCANAL AND RIVER ROAD ANNOUNCE GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION DEAL

STUDIOCANAL, European leader in the production, distribution and international sale of feature films and TV series, and River Road Entertainment, American leader in independent film production, have signed an exclusive global distribution deal for 11 celebrated River Road productions.



With this multi-territory distribution deal, STUDIOCANAL will be the exclusive distributor of 11 River Road productions, including 9 feature films and 2 documentaries, on TV, SVOD and other medias including theatrical. Between them, these films have already generated over 440 million dollars at the worldwide box office.

The 9 films include Steve McQueen's **12 Years a Slave**, winner of the Academy Award® for Best Picture; Terrence Malick's **The Tree of Life**, winner of the Palme d'Or in 2011 and Sean Penn's **Into the Wild**, nominated for several Academy Awards®. The documentaries include Robert Kenner's revolutionary Academy Award®-nominated **Food, Inc.**

Juliette Hochart, STUDIOCANAL's EVP of Library, said: "We are delighted to announce this agreement today, which is testament to the trust River Road has placed in STUDIOCANAL as a partner and distributor. River Road has entrusted us with the work of such incredibly talented, inspiring and critically acclaimed filmmakers and we are extremely proud to now take this work to multiple territories worldwide engaging with new and established audiences inviting them to discover or revisit essential cinema."

Christa Workman, River Road Entertainment's Co-President and Chief Operating Officer, said: "We are pleased to embark on this exciting collaboration with STUDIOCANAL, confident that it marks the beginning of a strong and enduring partnership."

The 11 productions from River Road Entertainment will be added to STUDIOCANAL's prestigious catalogue which boasts in excess of 9,000 titles from 60 countries, spanning 100 years of film history:

The 9 feature films are:

- Steve McQueen's historical drama **Twelve Years a Slave** (2013), winner of several Academy Awards® (Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress and Best Adapted Screenplay), BAFTA Awards® (Best Film and Best Actor) and Golden Globes® (Best Motion Picture - Drama).
- Two critically acclaimed works by Sean Penn: **Into the Wild** (2007), nominated for 2 Academy Awards® in 2008 (Best Film Editing and Best Supporting Actor) and **The Last Face** (2016), selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival;
- Terrence Malick's Academy-Award® nominated **The Tree of Life** (2011), winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival;
- Doug Liman's espionage film **Fair Game** (2010), starring Naomi Watts and Sean Penn;
- Two biographical films centred around famous musicians who left their mark: Floria Sigismondi's **The Runaways** (2010), about the first successful all-female rock band and critically acclaimed **Love & Mercy** (2014), directed by River Road founder Bill Pohlad, about the Beach Boys' leading member;
- Robert Altman's comedy drama **A Prairie Home Companion** (2006), starring Meryl Streep;
- Juna Antonio Bayona's **A Monster Calls** (2016), winner of 9 Goya Awards, including Best Director, in 2017.

The 2 documentaries are:

- Brett Morgen's **Chicago 10** (2007), a unique and innovative documentary creatively blending animation, archival footage, and voice acting;
- Robert Kenner's groundbreaking Academy-Award® nominated **Food, Inc.** (2008), a revealing documentary that ignited a cultural conversation about the multinational corporations that control our food system at enormous cost to our planet, workforce and health.

River Road Entertainment was founded in 1987 by acclaimed writer, director, and multiple Academy-Award® and Emmy®-nominated producer, Bill Pohlad.

About STUDIOCANAL (a CANAL+ Company)

STUDIOCANAL, a 100% affiliate of CANAL+ Group held by Vivendi, is Europe's leader in production, distribution and international sales of feature films and series, operating in major European markets - France, United Kingdom & Ireland, Germany, Poland, Spain, and Benelux - as well as in Australia, in New Zealand and in the United States. It **finances, produces, and distributes 80 films per year**. It owns the largest catalogue in Europe and one of the most prestigious in the world, boasting **more than 9 000 titles** from 60 countries, spanning 100 years of film history. Close to 25 million euros has been invested into the **4K restoration of nearly 1 000 classic feature films** over the past 7 years. In addition, STUDIOCANAL also **produces almost 20 series each year** and operates at an international level by globally distributing its scripted productions and CANAL+ Originals (**2,000 hours** of current and library content in distribution). All productions take place directly through STUDIOCANAL entities or with its award-winning network of **14 production companies in Europe and in the United States**: BAMBU PRODUCCIONES (SP), BIRDIE PICTURES (UK), DINGIE (BE), LAILAPS FILMS (GER), OPUS TV (POL), RED PRODUCTION COMPANY (UK), SAM PRODUCTIONS (DEN), STRONG FILM & TELEVISION (UK), STUDIOCANAL ORIGINAL (FR), STUDIOCANAL SERIES (GER), SUNNY MARCH TV (UK), THE PICTURE COMPANY (US), URBAN MYTH FILMS (UK), 2E BUREAU (FR).

<https://www.canalplusgroup.com/en/group/studiocanal/>

About River Road Entertainment

River Road is an award-winning independent production company, recognized for prestigious feature films and documentaries that push boundaries and inspire creative and social change. With over two decades of production, River Road has made some of the most significant and critically-acclaimed independent films, including two-time Emmy®-winning (and six-time Emmy®-nominated) David Byrne's American Utopia directed by Spike Lee, Academy Award®-winning Best Picture 12 Years A Slave directed by Steve McQueen; Terrence Malick's The Tree of Life which won the Palme d'Or at the 2011 Cannes International Film Festival, and other critically-acclaimed films such as Sean Penn's Into The Wild, Doug Liman's Fair Game, and Bill Pohlad's Love & Mercy and Dreamin' Wild. Other credits include Ang Lee's Academy Award®-winning epic Brokeback Mountain, Robert Altman's Prairie Home Companion, J.A. Bayona's A Monster Calls as well as feature documentaries including Robert Kenner's Academy Award®-nominated Food, Inc. and Kenner and Melissa Robledo's sequel Food, Inc. 2. Follow River Road on Linked In, Twitter/X, Instagram and Facebook.

STUDIOCANAL contact

Elvire Charbonnel

Elvire.charbonnel@canal-plus.com

River Road Entertainment contact

Tisha Lusk

bizaffairs@riverroad.com