

## Psychedelic Thriller

# *HAPPY BIRTHDAY*

## Rocks its Way to World Premiere in Berlin

### Featuring Rock Legend Steven Tyler

BERLIN (February 14, 2016) – Arclight Films is thrilled to announce acquisition of the psychedelic thriller *HAPPY BIRTHDAY*, which is being presented for the first time to distributors in Berlin. With his pedigree as director and editor of spectacular, high-energy concert films and music videos, director and original script writer, Emmy Award-winner Casey Tebo (*BLACK VEIL BRIDES: ALIVE AND BURNING*, *AEROSMITH: ROCK FOR THE RISING SUN*) brings an eye for the dynamic and kinetic, drawing viewers in from the first shot and sending them on a riveting, breathless whirlwind.

Aerosmith rock legend and former *American Idol* judge **Steven Tyler** makes an appearance as Kasape Suka, while **Britne Oldford** (*HUNTERS*, *American Horror Story*, *LOITERING WITH INTENT*, *HOW HE FELL IN LOVE*), **Matt Bush** (ABC's *The Goldbergs*, *TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE*, *ADVENTURELAND*, *PIRANHA 3DD*), **Tristin Mays** (*THE WEDDING RINGER*, *THUNDERSTRUCK*), **Vanessa Lengies** (*WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS*, *STICK IT*, *WAITING...*) and introducing **Riley Litman**, all who round out the witty and immensely talented cast.

“This mesmerizing thriller is a highly commercially viable film,” says Clay Epstein, SVP Sales and Acquisitions for Arclight Films. “It has clear potential in markets across the map and we are delighted to add it to our slate just in time for its World Premiere at EFM.”

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY* is a fast-paced horror thriller about two friends who venture across the border to Mexicali for a night of birthday revelry. Before they know it, their trip spins out of control and their psychedelic exploits take a turn for the worse.

Veteran producer Sean McKittrick (*PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES*, *JIMI: ALL IS BY MY SIDE*, *BAD WORDS*, *DONNIE DARKO*) is joined by producers Steve McKee, Mark Namtil, and Sheila R. Rose. Executive Producer is Bruce Quarto.

"*HAPPY BIRTHDAY* has all the hallmarks of a subversive but widely appealing global hit," says McKittrick. "[Director Casey] Tebo really imbued it with a tangible sense of place and time, and the result is a remarkable ability to translate across borders and languages. Everyone has had or imagined a night that begins innocently enough and spins out of control. Casey's stellar script and dark artistry, along with the cast's phenomenal performances, makes you feel that horror in your bones. I know audiences around the world are going to love this film."

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY* was shot on location in Santa Clarita and Los Angeles. Darko Entertainment completed the film in October of 2015.

Arclight Films is handling international sales.

The deal was negotiated between Jay Cohen of Gersh and Clay Epstein of Arclight Films.

## About Arclight Films

Arclight Films is one of the world's leading international sales companies for theatrical, television and home entertainment. Arclight Films has sold over 300 motion pictures including the Best Picture Oscar® winner **CRASH**, and Golden Globe® Best Picture Nominee **BOBBY** and **LORD OF WAR** starring Nicolas Cage, Jared Leto and Ethan Hawke.

Arclight Films additionally encompasses subsidiary labels Darclight Films, the edgy genre-driven division of the company whose films include the worldwide horror hits **WOLF CREEK**, **WOLF CREEK 2** and action thriller **BAIT 3D** (the highest grossing Australian film in the history of Chinese cinema), and a current slate that includes **LOST IN THE PACIFIC** starring Brandon Routh, and Easternlight, a specialty arm showcasing Asian cinema with the largest film library of any non Asian-based indie film label. Films sold under the Easternlight banner include the worldwide blockbuster **FORBIDDEN KINGDOM** starring Jackie Chan and Jet Li, **14 BLADES** starring Donnie Yen, and legendary auteur Chen Kaige's **SACRIFICE**.

The latest additions to Easternlight include **SNOW GIRL AND THE DARK CRYSTAL** starring Li Bingbing, **WOLF WARRIOR** starring Wu Jing (which opened #1 at the Chinese Box Office, earning more than \$32.5M in one weekend), **OUTCAST** starring Nicolas Cage, **SPECIAL ID** starring Donnie Yen, **BADGES OF FURY** starring Jet Li and Cannes Film Festival "Directors Fortnight" official selection and Toronto International Film Festival Gala Selection **DANGEROUS LIASIONS** starring Zhang Ziyi, Cecilia Cheung and Jang Dong Gun.

Some of the latest additions to the Arclight Films' slate include ***DOG EAT DOG*** starring Nicolas Cage, directed and written by Paul Schrader now in pre-production, ***THE CONFIRMATION*** starring Clive Owen and Maria Bello, directed by Academy Award-winner Bob Nelson (*NEBRASKA*), 2016 Sundance Official Selection ***FRANK & LOLA*** starring Imogen Poots and Michael Shannon, ***PREDESTINATION*** starring Ethan Hawke now in release through Sony Pictures, ***LAST KNIGHTS*** starring Clive Owen and Morgan Freeman, ***RECLAIM*** starring John Cusack, now in release through Lions Gate, ***PAPER PLANES*** starring Sam Worthington, and ***SHANGRI-LA SUITE*** starring Emily Browning and Luke Grimes to be released through a major studio.

Arclight Films maintains a presence at all major motion picture and television festivals and markets with offices in Los Angeles, Sydney, Hong Kong, Beijing and Toronto. For more information on Arclight Films please visit [www.arclightfilms.com](http://www.arclightfilms.com)

*Interviews and images available upon request.*

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