



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MAGNOLIA PICTURES ACQUIRES WORLDWIDE RIGHTS TO  
'HARRY BENSON: SHOOT FIRST'**

*Doc Chronicles The Career of Legendary Photographer*

**New York, NY (January 5, 2016)** – Magnolia Pictures announced today that it has acquired worldwide rights to HARRY BENSON: SHOOT FIRST, a new documentary about legendary photographer Harry Benson, written and directed by Matthew Miele (SCATTER MY ASHES AT BERGDORF'S, CRAZY ABOUT TIFFANY) and Justin Bare (COKED UP!). The film, which world premiered at the 2015 Hamptons International Film Festival, features interviews with luminaries such as Sharon Stone, Alec Baldwin, Donald Trump, Piers Morgan, Dan Rather, James L. Brooks, Henry Kissinger, Ralph Lauren and Joe Namath. Magnolia is targeting a 2016 theatrical release.

HARRY BENSON: SHOOT FIRST charts the illustrious career of the renowned photographer who initially rose to fame alongside The Beatles, having been assigned to cover their inaugural trip to the United States in 1964. With unprecedented "behind the scenes" access, Benson captured some of the most vibrant and intimate portraits ever taken of the most popular band in history. His extensive portfolio includes iconic images of Winston Churchill, Bobby Fischer, Muhammad Ali, Greta Garbo, Michael Jackson, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Robert F. Kennedy assassination, and his work has appeared in publications including *Life*, *Vanity Fair* and *The New Yorker*. Now 86, workaholic Benson has no intention of stopping.

"Matthew and Justin have crafted a fascinating and essential portrait of Harry Benson, who captured some of the most iconic moments of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and made them accessible to the world," said Magnolia President Eamonn Bowles.

"We are thrilled to be working with Magnolia on this film and look forward to audiences worldwide enjoying Harry's unforgettable stories behind his photographs, bringing them each to life once again," said director Matthew Miele.

Written and directed by Matthew Miele and Justin Bare, HARRY BENSON: SHOOT FIRST was produced by Bare, Gigi Benson, and Heather Silverman. Executive producers are Miele, Stephen McCarthy, and Clive Gershon. Co-executive producer is Arnie Herrmann.

The deal was negotiated by Magnolia SVP of Acquisitions Dori Begley and Magnolia VP of Acquisitions John Von Thaden, with Cinetic Media on behalf of the filmmakers. Magnolia Head of Worldwide Sales Christina Rogers will be representing the film for Magnolia International at EFM. All international rights are available.

**About MAGNOLIA PICTURES**

Magnolia Pictures is the theatrical and home entertainment distribution arm of the Wagner/Cuban Companies, a vertically-integrated group of media properties co-owned by Todd Wagner and Mark Cuban that also includes the Landmark Theatres chain and AXS TV. Recent releases include Swedish Oscar selection and Golden Globe nominee FORCE MAJEURE, acclaimed documentary IRIS from Albert Maysles, Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner THE WOLFPACK, Buckley vs. Vidal doc BEST OF ENEMIES from Morgan Neville and Robert Gordon, Sean Baker's TANGERINE, Alex Gibney's STEVE JOBS: THE MAN IN THE MACHINE, Andrew Bujalski's RESULTS, Michael Almereyda's Stanley Milgram biopic EXPERIMENTER, and Roy Andersson's A PIGEON SAT ON A BRANCH REFLECTING ON EXISTENCE. Upcoming releases include Arnaud Desplechin's MY GOLDEN DAYS, Terence Davies' SUNSET SONG, Rick Alverson's ENTERTAINMENT, Tobias Lindholm's A WAR, adventure thriller THE WAVE, and many more.

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