

BRITISH INVESTORS ENJOY SUCCESS WITH OSCAR FRONT RUNNER 'THE KING'S SPEECH'

21st December 2011

Now considered an Oscar front-runner, 'The King's Speech' was majority financed by media specialist Prescience. Operating as a 'boutique media bank' Prescience is already making profits for its investors before the film is even released in UK cinemas.

Backed by Prescience's Aegis Film Fund, the film has already earned seven Golden Globe nominations including: Best Picture, Director, Actor (Colin Firth), Screenplay, Score, Supporting Actor (Geoffrey Rush) and Supporting Actress (Helena Bonham Carter).

Film finance is not normally seen as a low risk business. However, Prescience, which has financed more than 20 films over the last three years, is demonstrating just that.

Tim Smith, Prescience Managing Director, commented; "while other film funds have historically devised clever tax schemes we hold to the basic principles of private banking. Just as a bank would lend against a residential property, we finance most of our films in exactly the same way. We lend and take security in the form of contractual sources of repayment. Returns are not necessarily correlated to the success of the film".

At the recent British Independent Films Awards Colin Firth, opined "Putting money into films in this country is actually a very good idea" (6.12.10 EVENING STANDARD).

"Prescience would whole-heartedly endorse this sentiment", said Paul Brett, Prescience's Head of Production. "We only invest in the very best independent films. For us quality will always outweigh quantity. Film Finance has often been deemed a tax sheltering scheme or high risk. That is not what Prescience is about."

Previous Prescience titles include: 'Harry Brown' starring Sir Michael Caine, 'sex&drugs&rock&roll' starring Andy Serkis as the late, great Ian Dury, and 'Burke & Hare' with Simon Pegg and Andy Serkis again. Forthcoming releases include 'The Guard' starring Brendan Gleeson and Don Cheadle which opens Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival next month and Chalet Girl, a romantic comedy starring Ed Westwick of Gossip Girl, Felicity Jones, Bill Nighy, Brooke Shields and Bill Bailey, which is released on February 18th 2011.

Aegis Film Fund is one of a number film funds advised and managed by Prescience. Its focus is on cash enhancement, with returns in excess of 14% p.a.

Prescience will be launching Metropolis Media Fund and Hindsight Capital Protected in January 2011.

'The Kings Speech' is released by Momentum nationwide on January 7th 2011.

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PRESCIENCE FILM FINANCE

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Prescience was co-founded in 2005 by Tim Smith and Paul Brett, who each have over 20 years of experience in the film industry. Since then it has financed a significant number of recent British films, co-productions and international productions which include: Bernard Rose's Mr. Nice, starring Rhys Ifans and Chloë Sevigny; Daniel Barber's Harry Brown, starring two-time Academy Award® winner Sir Michael Caine and Emily Mortimer; Oliver Parker and Barnaby Thompson's St. Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold, starring Colin Firth, Rupert Everett, David Tenant and Gemma Arterton; Tony Goldwyn's Conviction, starring two-time Academy Award® winner Hilary Swank, Sam Rockwell and Minnie Driver; The Guard, directed by John Michael McDonagh and starring Brendan Gleeson and Don Cheadle, Phil Trill's Chalet Girl starring Ed Westwick, Felicity Jones, Bill Nighy, Brooke Shields and Bill Bailey, and Tom Hooper's The Kings Speech starring Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush and Helena Bonham Carter.

Recent Productions include Hunky Dory, directed by Marc Evans and starring Minnie Driver; Simon Curtis' My Week With Marilyn starring Michelle Williams, Kenneth Brannagh and Dame Judi Dench and Horrid Henry 3D directed by Nick Moore and starring Richard E Grant and Anjelica Huston.