

Alpha Violet Picks Up Kowalski's 'Raging Rose'



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France-Poland co-production's producers include Valerie Donzelli, Jeremie Elkaim

Emiliano De Pablos (http://variety.com/author/emiliano-de-pablos-munoz/)

Paris-based Alpha Violet has taken international sales rights to <u>Julia Kowalski (http://variety.com/t/julia-kowalski/)</u>'s feature debut "<u>Raging Rose (http://variety.com/t/raging-rose/)</u>," a France-Poland co-production selected for 2015 <u>Cannes festival (http://variety.com/t/cannes-festival/)</u>'s Acid section whose <u>producers (http://variety411.com/us/los-angeles/producers/)</u> include Palme d'Or competing director Valerie Donzelli.

"Raging Rose" centers on Rose, a turbulent, emotionally charged French teenager who offers to help Jozef, a blue-collar Pole who arrives in France to find his son Roman. Rose will end up falling desperately in love with Roman.

Produced by Mina Driouche, Valerie Donzelli and Jeremie Elkaim at France's Les Films de Françoise and Maria Blicharska and Monika Sajko-Gradowska of Poland's Donten & Lacroix Film, "Raging Rose" was cofinanced by the Polish Film Institute and supported by France's CNC and the Media program.

"The main theme of the film is sexual desire and how to deal with this drive at the age of 15," said Alpha Violet co-founder Virginie Devesa.

"Raging Rose" will market preem at Cannes, where Alpha Violet will also start pre-sales on Myroslav Slaboshpytskiy's "Luxembourg" and show first footage of Sebastien Betbeder's "Marie & the Misfits."

Set at Chernobyl's nuclear plant, "Luxembourg" marks Ukrainian Myroslav Slaboshpytskiy's follow-up to 2014 Cannes Critics' Week winner "The Tribe," a film that made waves at Cannes.

"Luxembourg' is a film noir taking place in the Chernobyl exclusion zone, an area with the size of Luxembourg. In the film, radiation, passion and jealousy immerse Sergey, a policeman working on shift, in the heart of darkness," Devesa said.

According to Devesa, the feature's visual style is very close to that of "Nuclear Waste," Slaboshpytskiy's third short film, awarded a Silver Leopard in Locarno 2012.

Currently in development, "Luxembourg" is co-produced by Alpha Violet alongside Ukraine's Garmata and Germany's Tandem, and has received a Sundance Institute Global Filmmaking Award and a Rotterdam Cinemart Arte International plaudit.

"Marie & the Misfits," produced by Frederic Dubreuil at France's Envie de Tempete, tells a story of desperate souls between Paris and an island in Brittany, Northern France.

"Marie" stars Vimala Pons, Eric Cantona, Pierre Rochefort and Damien Chapelle, portraying an alternative love triangle straddling fiction and literature.

At Cannes, Alpha Violet will also highlight its first Bulgarian feature film, Svetla Tsotsorkova's "Thirst."

Produced by Sofia-based Front Film, "Thirst," now in post, is a drama about the daily struggle of a couple and their teenage son living on a hill without a guaranteed water supply.

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