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## **Artsploitation takes U.S. on 'Bullet'**

Alpha Violet picks up 'Student,' 'Eden,' 'Aqui'

By JOHN HOPEWELL

PARIS -- New U.S. indie distributor Artsploitation Films has acquired all North American rights to Russian Alexander Vartanov's "Bullet Collector."

Set up by former TLA Releasing owner Raymond Murray, Artsploitation plans a theatrical release for "Bullet," a radical, low-budget b/w portrayal of rebellious Moscow youth.

The "Bullet" deal adds to early sales at newly-founded Paris-based sales company Alpha Violet.

In another deal, Israeli Maya Kenig's "Off White Lies," a father-daughter arthouse comedy, which played the Berlinale's Generation section, has been acquired for France by Zylo Films.

For Cannes, Alpha Violet has acquired international sales rights to Santiago Mitre's "The Student," "Eden," from Japan's Masaharu Take, and Spaniard Antonio Mendez's "Aqui y alla."

One of Latin America's most talked-about directorial debuts of 2011, "The Student," an Argentine college politics thriller, won Locarno's special jury prize, then played Toronto and the New York Festival.

Mitre co-wrote Pablo Trapero's Un Certain Regard player "White Elephant."

"Student" producer Agustina Llambi Campbell, at Buenos Aires' La Union de los Rios, has already closed French rights with Epicentre Films, which plans an October release, said Alpha Violet's Virginie Devesa.

A Mexico-U.S. family emigration drama produced by Spain's Aqui y Alli Films and U.S.'s Torch Films, "Aqui" plays Cannes' Critics' Week.

"We were moved by the very sincere and honest approach of the filmmaker towards this family, which lives with hope and the memories and loss of what is left behind," said Devesa and Alpha Violet partner Keiko Funato.

Contact the Variety newsroom at news@variety.com

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