



IM Global to finance Hardwicke's 'Plush'

Emily Browning, Xavier Samuel star in thriller

By [Dave McNary](#)

IM Global has come onboard to finance Catherine Hardwicke's thriller "Plush" through its Octane genre label.

Principal photography began Monday in Los Angeles on "Plush," produced by "Paranormal Activity" franchise producer Jason Blum through his Blumhouse Prods.

"Plush" stars Emily Browning ("Sucker Punch"), Xavier Samuel ("Twilight Saga: Eclipse") and Cam Gigandet ("Easy A"). Browning portrays a rising rock star who, after losing her bandmate and brother to a drug overdose, finds herself in a downward spiral as the second album from her band Plush is a critical and commercial disaster. Samuel portrays the replacement guitarist and Gigandet plays her husband.

IM Global CEO Stuart Ford exec produces alongside colleagues Steve Squillante and Michael Roban. "Plush" is the 14th film that IM Global and its related entities have financed or co-financed in the past 2 1/2 years.

Hardwicke is helming from a script she co-wrote with Artie Nelson.

Octane has two films in Toronto's "Midnight Madness" section: Rob Zombie's "The Lords of Salem" and Barry Levinson's "The Bay." The division also handled worldwide rights on Brit comedy "The Inbetweeners," co-financed "The Babymakers" and is in post-production on an untitled Marlon Wayans R-rated comedy.

Blumhouse's future releases include "Sinister" with Ethan Hawke for Lionsgate/Summit and "Paranormal Activity 4" with Paramount Pictures. Blumhouse has wrapped production on a trio of films for Universal: "Vigilantia" with Michael Bay's Platinum Dunes, the Joe Johnston-directed "Not Safe for Work" and Bryan Bertino's "Mockingbird."

Contact Dave McNary at dave.mcnary@variety.com



Hardwicke



Blum