

IM Global to finance Hardwicke's 'Plush'

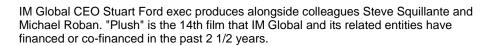
Emily Browning, Xavier Samuel star in thriller

By Dave McNary

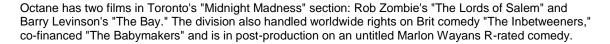
IM Global has come onboard to finance Catherine Hardwicke's thriller "Plush" through its Octane genre label.

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.



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



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: "Vigilandia" with Michael Bay's Platinum Dunes, the Joe Johnston-directed "Not Safe for Work" and Bryan Bertino's "Mockingbird."

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