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Johnny Depp Signs First-Look Deal With IM Global (Exclusive)



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Johnny Depp's Infinitum Nihil has signed a first-look deal with Stuart Ford's IM Global.

The company will be run by Depp and his longtime producing partner Christi Dembrowski as well as Sam Sakar and Stephen Deuters.

IM Global, whose most recent credits include Mel Gibson's *Hacksaw Ridge* and Martin Scorsese's *Silence*, is financing and co-producing Depp's next film, *Richard Says Goodbye*, one of the hottest sales titles at the most recent Cannes. Written and directed by Wayne Roberts, the film begins production this summer.

Infinitum Nihil previously had first-look deals at Disney and, before that, Warner Bros.

"Johnny is, of course, a globally recognized superstar but, as importantly, we at IM Global love Infinitum Nihil's idiosyncratic and taste-driven view of the movie-making world and the unique brand that Johnny, Christi and their team have developed," Ford said. "We're building this relationship in order to generate

great movies for the global audience with a like-minded creative partner, and with IM Global's reputation as a company that has enjoyed frequent success greenlighting bold films outside of the confines of the major studio system I feel certain that our newly extended filmmaking partnership with Infinitum Nihil will be a fruitful one."

IM Global's relationship with Infinitum Nihil began last year when IM Global Television announced that it was developing a music-driven TV drama series about the legendary Muscle Shoals recording studio based on Rick Hall's autobiography *The Man From Muscle Shoals: My Journey from Shame to Fame*, with Infinitum Nihil producing alongside Richard Branson's Virgin Produced.

Depp has suffered a string of misfires in recent years, including *Transcendence*, *Mordecai* and 2016's *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. In an effort to switch things up, he moved from UTA to CAA in October (he had been with UTA since 1998).

He is currently in theaters with *Pirates of The Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales*, which crossed the \$600 million mark worldwide.

After shooting *Richard Says Goodbye*, Depp will reprise his role as the Dark Wizard Grindelwald in JK Rowling's *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* sequel. He next stars in the crime thriller *Labyrinth* for Open Road as a detective who investigates the Tupac Shakur and Notorious B.I.G. murders and follows that up with Fox's *Murder on the Orient Express*, directed by Kenneth Branagh.