



APPIAN WAY



## APPIAN WAY BRINGS THE DEVIL TO LIFE

**LEONARDO DICAPRIO'S APPIAN WAY PRODUCTIONS JOINS DOUBLE FEATURE FILMS TO PRODUCE ERIK LARSON'S SPELLBINDING MASTERPIECE:**

### **"THE DEVIL IN THE WHITE CITY"**

**Los Angeles, CA (November 1, 2010)** – Appian Way Productions is set to join Double Feature Films to bring the devil to the big screen in Erik Larson's "The Devil in the White City." Appian is co-chaired by Leonardo DiCaprio and Jennifer Killoran, and Double Feature is helmed by Michael Shamberg and Stacey Sher. The deal for the sought-after book rights was brokered by Lucy Stille at Paradigm on behalf of David Black of Black Inc.

"The Devil in the White City," which spent three years on *The New York Times* bestseller list, has sold 2.3 million copies and has been translated into 17 languages. Author Erik Larson's literary tour de force recreates a time in America when modernity was within reach, a moment in history when mass murderers like Jack the Ripper and H.H. Holmes found success in killing and the corpse trade. Set in late 19th century Chicago, the non-fiction thriller exposes the murders, magic and madness that H.H. Holmes so skillfully choreographed and executed in his "murder castle," a hotel that he opened in preparation for the 1893 World's Fair. Through brilliantly vivid dialogue, the film follows both the planning and execution of the mass murders, which take place during the city's most profound moment on the world's stage.

In the film, DiCaprio plays the murder-minded H.H. Holmes, a cavalier charlatan who takes advantage of somewhere between 27 and 200 people, mostly single young women, to develop a lucrative personal cadaver-disposal system.

"'The Devil in the White City' is truly a one-of-its-kind American story about our nation's first serial killer," said Killoran. "We're excited to bring it to the big screen."

"This is a big, entertaining thriller in an incredible setting that will appeal to a worldwide audience," said Shamberg and Sher.

## **ABOUT APPIAN WAY PRODUCTIONS**

Appian Way is in post production of *Red Riding Hood*, a gothic take on the Brothers Grimm classic as well as *Beat the Reaper*, about an ER doctor's life turned upside down when he crosses paths with a mobster who appears to know him from his former life as a hitman. *Red Riding Hood* will be released early next year by Warner Brothers. Appian Way is currently producing and in development on *Wolf of Wallstreet* based on Jordan Belfort's autobiography, *The Infiltrator* based on an "Atlantic Monthly" article written by Matthew Teague, and *Akira* based on the 1988 anime film of the same title.

## **ABOUT DOUBLE FEATURE FILMS**

Michael Shamberg and Stacey Sher are partners in Double Feature Films. They are currently in production on "Contagion," directed by Steven Soderbergh, and starring Matt Damon, Marion Cotillard, Laurence Fishburne, Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow and Kate Winslet. They are in post-production on the comedy LOL starring Miley Cyrus and Demi Moore. Their other credits include the Academy Award® Best Picture nominated films *Erin Brockovich* and *Pulp Fiction*. They also produced the 2005 Independent Spirit Award winning *Garden State*, and most recently, the medical drama *Extraordinary Measures*. In addition they have produced *Reality Bites*, *Along Came Polly*, *World Trade Center*, *Freedom Writers*, *Out of Sight*, *Gattaca*, *Get Shorty* and its sequel *Be Cool*, *Drowning Mona*, *How High*, *The Skeleton Key*, *Feeling Minnesota*, *Matilda*, *Camp*, *Living Out Loud*, and the Comedy Central television series *Reno 911*. Shamberg also produced the Academy Award® nominated films *The Big Chill* and *A Fish Called Wanda*.

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