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YELLOW BIRD'S *MILLENNIUM* FILMS SOLD TO ITALY

Production company Yellow Bird's productions of Stieg Larsson's three books in the *Millennium* series are now conquering Europe as distributor Zodiak International has closed a major deal with Italy's top film distributor BIM Distribuzione.

Yellow Bird is producing six TV films based on the entire *Millennium* trilogy, as well as a feature film based on the first book "*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*". BIM has acquired the cinematic, TV and DVD rights to distribute both the TV films and the feature film in Italy and Italian speaking territories, with the cinematic release expected next year.

Based in Rome, BIM specialises in the distribution of international art house films and productions from independent directors, previously handling renowned titles such as *The Motorcycle Diaries*, *Brokeback Mountain* and *Fahrenheit 9/11*.

"It is incredibly rewarding to produce something as popular as *Millennium*. The interest is huge, both in Sweden and internationally, and I am sure this deal with BIM will be the first of many global sales", says Mikael Wallén, CEO of Yellow Bird.

"The deal with BIM is an important step for Zodiak International and puts us well on the way to establishing ourselves as an international distributor of drama. We are now building a drama portfolio with huge sales potential with shows like *Millennium* and other titles like Yellow Bird's *Wallander* films for the BBC", says Jörg Roth, MD of Zodiak International.

Currently, Zodiak International is in negotiations with several other countries over the *Millennium* films. Meanwhile, Yellow Bird is shooting two TV films based on the second book in the *Millennium* trilogy, "*The Girl Who Played With Fire*". In Sweden and Denmark, "*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*" premieres in cinemas during February 2009.

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***Yellow Bird** is one of the largest Scandinavian producers of TV and feature films. It has also recently entered the German market, by starting a subsidiary in Munich. The company aims at large co-productions between primarily the Nordic countries and Germany. Typically, the films are based on well known books within well known genres, such as crime.*

Yellow Bird is currently producing 13 new Swedish movies about Henning Mankell's criminal inspector Wallander, three Wallander movies for BBC1 (with Kenneth Branagh in the leading role), and Stieg Larsson's critically acclaimed Millennium trilogy.

Previous productions include the first Swedish series about Wallander as well as six TV movies about criminal inspector Irene Huss, based on the books by Helene Tursten.

*Yellow Bird is part of **Zodiak Television**, one of the largest production groups in Europe.*

***Zodiak Television** is one of the most innovative and creative producers of content in the world today comprised of a perfect blend of more than twenty successful international businesses. **Zodiak International** distributes content produced by Zodiak Television, as well as third party producers, to clients throughout the world.*

***Zodiak Television AB** companies include Bullseye (UK), Diverse Productions (UK), Lucky Day (UK), Red House (UK), Zodiak International (UK), Kanakna (Belgium, Netherlands), Palm Plus (Netherlands), Social Club Productions (Denmark), Mastiff (Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Ukraine, Poland), Jarowskij (Sweden, Finland), 5th Element (Sweden), Yellow Bird (Sweden, Germany), T&T Broadcasters (Finland), TeleAlliance Media Group (Russia, Belarus), Dixi Media (Russia), YS Films (Ukraine) and SOL (India).*

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