

CAST WANTED

Film Director is looking for the following cast to join him on this unique adventure. Estimated shooting date is September 2009.

Title: Balkans (working title)

Genre: Thriller

Log Line: In the heart of London's prostitution industry one man dares to get inside, one woman dares to fulfill her dreams.

The Story: A journalist infiltrates the Balkan Mafia in London and meets a young prostitute who desires to escape and become a singer. The themes of the film include the Balkan, British and international Mafia, prostitution, sexism, the music industry, parties, undercover police investigations and journalistic malpractice.

The film is essentially plot driven. The characters in the film portray hope, courage and despair with an emphasis on the driven, wicked and eccentric. The script is complete, registered with the WGA, although it may be subject to change.

CAST WANTED:

Main Cast:

JOE

Unstoppable, determined, curious, witty, vulnerable and a good liar, Joe is in his mid twenties and was educated at Cambridge. His desire to reach the top of his profession and his fascination with sex and the criminal underworld drives him to uncover the workings of the Balkan Mafia. Joe's heritage enables him to infiltrate the Balkan Mafia with a fair amount of ease as parents are from B.... (a country in South East Europe) and England and his grandparents are from Russia/Italy. Joe is one of the remaining few journalists committed to the ethos of investigative journalism – to uncover the truth using all methods in spite of the risks.

JOE speaks 146 times (18%) for a total of 1234 words (17%).JOE interacts most with ALEKSANDER.

JOHANA

Opportunistic, beautiful, cheeky, sensitive but strong, a natural born risk taker and a lover of music Johana, who is in her early twenties, is from a village in B....(a country in South East Europe) . She decided to become a prostitute with some help from her brother's connections in order to come to London and become a singer. Little did she realise that her journey in London would involve the most horrific and traumatic experiences. Johana sings and plays the guitar.

JOHANA speaks 93 times (11%) for a total of 536 words (7%). JOHANA interacts most with JOE.

ALEKSANDER

Mad, bad, dangerous to know, Aleksander, who is in his late thirties, is originally from Mor, Northern B.... and left in order to make money. Aleksander embodies all the traits of a highly dangerous mastermind criminal who gets his kicks out of exploiting people and making money. Common heritage and family

background are critical in being let into the loose knit circle of the B.... Mafia (a country in South East Europe). The wearing of a leather jacket (which displays the status of wealth) and traditional rules form the basis of his values. Aleksander is the head of the prostitution unit in London.

ALEKSANDER speaks 150 times (18%) for a total of 1225 words (17%). ALEKSANDER interacts most with JOE.

Supporting Cast:

BIG MAMA

Good humoured, sensible and approachable Big Mama is a former prostitute and is English approaching her late forties. She is married to a Jamaican and goes on holiday in Jamaica for 2 months a year where she negotiates the trafficking of women and drugs. Big Mama speaks with a cockney accent and is in her fifties.

FATS

Playful, cool, obedient, impulsive and musically talented, Fats is from the Balkans and was brought up in the US. His father is from Louisiana and his mother is from Kosovo . He is seen playing the piano at underworld bars from time to time and plays at Sammy Cigar's nightclub. He is driven by wealth and women although he has little luck with the ladies. He is Aleksander's driver and is involved in various criminal operations connected with trafficking and theft. He is Caucasian and is in his thirties.

SMART NICK

Educated, intelligent, devious, sly, Smart Nick is the son of Uncle Frank, who is from B...(a country in South West Europe), and an Oxford student in Law. Smart Nick is Uncle Frank's son and a possible successor to him but first he must learn the business. A fan of American culture, Smart Nick has ambitions to go and study at Stanford, California, USA. He has developed an upper class Oxford accent and is in his early twenties.

SAMMY CIGAR

Tough, small, stocky and well built, dynamic is the boss of the Italian Mafia in London. He has very good connections including police connections. He likes family values, is a Catholic and married and owns a nightclub in a forest outside London where stars, criminals and entertainment professionals frequent. He is also a fan of jazz, rock and dance music. Sammy sometimes wears a blue hat and nearly always smokes a cigar. He is in his late forties.

ITALIAN MAFIA CAPOS – 3 Italian Capos

The three Italian Capos represent deep Sicilian traditional values, love food and have dangerous connections in the criminal world. They control operations in UK and Europe and have links to politicians, police and criminal factions globally. Power and control and the accumulation of wealth is of prime concern to the Capos. They are in their 50's and 60's.

NEWSPAPER TEAM – 1 Editor (40's, female) and 1 Deputy Editor (50's, male)

Editor , Penny, mid forties, and Deputy crime Editor Tim, who is in his fifties, work for a national newspaper group. Penny come from traditional middle and upper class British traditions, studied at

university and worked for local and regional press before being headhunted by a national newspaper. Tim has worked in the newspaper industry since he was 14 and never went to university. The national newspaper they now work for is owned by a Lord and several private investors who are considering selling the paper as sales have been declining in the last few years. The newspaper is not making a profit, advertising revenues are down (including online) and the paper may go bust soon. Penny and Tim are worried about losing their jobs and are desperate to revive the standing of their ailing paper. Hence, a story that will grip the nation is called for and Joe's story may be the answer.

POLICE – 1 Inspector and 1 Detective

Serious, sharp and corruptible Inspector Day, mid fifties, heads the case for the police – he is in his fifties and takes bribes from certain factions of Mafia. Detective Inkling, mid forties, who is unmarried and in his thirties, is the main investigating the murder of a record industry A&R executive – he is sharp, cynical and generally honest.

POLICE SURVEILLANCE TEAM – 2 CCTV Operators

The rest of the police surveillance operative team work in miserable conditions. They are in the job because they fit in and cannot find other more lucrative positions. They are however experts in detail. Two CCTV Operators obsessed with their jobs.

LEO

Smooth, good with people, tenacious and charming Leo excels in the music business. For some the music business is harsh but for Leo it is a way of life. Leo was born into music, although his family were not in the industry he managed to make the right connections, is in his early forties and is American. His break came when he graduated from Harvard in Art History and dated the daughter of the Chairman of Warner Music. He has managed huge acts, is a millionaire, loves young women (18+) and sometimes dabbles in cocaine.

BRUCE

Renowned international Canadian A&R mogul, Bruce, who is in his fifties, loves women and music. He is ruthless in business and has been known to stab people in the back. He is a millionaire and travels around the world to find talent. He has signed up or played an early part in over 20 worldwide number 1 hits and albums totaling sales of over \$300 million.

MUSIC ENGINEER – 1 Female

A female music engineer got her break when she assisted Daniel Lanois (Neville Brothers, Bob Dylan) in recording studios in Southern USA. Subsequently she was hired to produce an album that sold over \$5 million worldwide. She is casual, informal and wears hip clothes.

OTHER PROSTITUTES – 10 Prostitutes

Illyria, Lavina, Natasha and others have all left their respected to find a rich man in the West, left bad experiences or wanted to seek a better life. Unfortunately they walked into a trap and are enslaved and mainly work as prostitutes in bordello's or as call girls. They are frequently abused, tortured and auctioned. Their cell by dates are usually 10 years before becoming part of the trafficking operation or killed or in rare cases do they escape. They are all between 18-25. Additionally there are 4 other prostitutes used in the streets and in the forest and at parties (18-25) and three other prostitutes who will be involved in a semi nude porn scene (18-25).

HITMEN – 3 Hitmen

The hitmen are tough, dangerous freelancers who sometimes dabble in drink, women and drugs, received poor education but know the streets and criminals well enough to earn a decent living. They kill, steal and are known as one off contractors. There are 1 Hitman (one black), 1 B...n Hitman and 1 Italian Hitman.

BALKAN/INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL BOSSES – 3 Main Bosses

Highly dangerous, controlling and powerful. They include Don Salvatore (nickname Torre) from Calabria , Italian Mafia Boss in UK, B...n Boss, Uncle Frank, from Northern B... near Kosovo, Mac the Finger is English Mob Boss from London; he keeps his emotions to himself and is a very quiet man.

OTHER BALKAN/INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS – 4 Under Bosses

Rough, adaptable, highly dangerous and generally loyal to their blood and family. They regularly send money to their relatives in the Balkans. They include Gino and Govanni, Italian Mafia Men who are heavily involved in the porn industry. Spider, who is English and in his late thirties, early forties is the under Boss for Mac the Finger and Smart Nick is the under Boss and son of Uncle Frank.

VLADIMIR

Of B...n/Russian origin Vladimir takes orders and protects the trafficking operations of Aleksander. He is well built, knows martial arts and rarely speaks. He is armed and extremely dangerous.

VOICES – 2 Voices

Other voices (male and female) on CCTV represent prostitutes and customers at the bordello and also a call phone operator.

SMALL MAN

A midget presents at Sammy Cigar's nightclub. He wears a red suit.

TALL THIN MAN

Presents at Sammy Cigar's night club.

CHINESE MAN

In his forties, he is a regular at different bordello's, and owns a factory in China.

PORN ACRTRESSES

18-30 – involved in semi nude adult scene with a UK porn star.

Background Artists (Extras):

EXTRAS

Generally customers of the bordello including a Chinese man and party goers at the mansion. The party goers include people in fetish gear, people in suits, strippers, rock stars, celebrities and people in masks. Also included are criminals, prostitutes, adult porn actresses and CCTV operators. And a Tall Thin Man dressed in a black suit and tie.

Budget: Low budget

Payment: As you will be a volunteer I can offer you travel expenses, a copy of the film, food will be available and a profit share upon completion of the film (offered to main cast and most supporting actors).

Shooting Schedule: Estimated shooting date is September 2009.

Shooting Format: HDCAM, S16mm or RED

Benefits: You will have the chance to display your talent and be part of a committed team with the goal of making this film a success. You will receive a copy of the film, a credit, expenses and food and drink. The completed feature will be sent to sales agents, distributors, industry contacts and festivals worldwide.

Web: <http://whatwomenwant-tv.com/balkansthemovie.html>

If interested, suitable and committed, please contact Richard at balkansproductions@yahoo.com

This production company has signed up to the Protecting Actors Casting Agreement, helping to ensure all actors involved receive a copy of the final footage in a timely fashion.

Protecting Actors : SHIELD:127

<http://www.protectingactors.org/production.php?uid=127>

About Richard:

Graduated in European Studies with French and reached middle management marketing. Then Richard decided to change career direction and pursue a career in films and media. Worked on films, commercials and TV and made a short film "Metrosexual" (featuring upcoming talent from "Harry Potter", "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and top acting schools) which was distributed worldwide via the Mini Movie Channel (USA), Ouat Media (Canada) and Movieola (Canada) in partnership with Joost and Hulu, a division of NBC/Twentieth Century Fox.