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Inferno's *The Women* goes to Entertainment, Constantin, TF1

Jeremy Kay in Cannes

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Bill Johnson and Jim Siebel's Inferno Entertainment has reported a strong market and virtually sold out two of its marquee titles, comedy *The Women* and drama *Hachiko: A Dog's Story*.

Inferno is also in advanced negotiations with a pan-European buyer on its uncast thriller *An Unfinished Country*, about a medical student who gains residency at a hospital in a violent part of town. Mark Wheaton wrote the screenplay and Inferno is producing with Blue Star Entertainment.

Rights for *The Women* went to Entertainment in the UK, Constantin in Germany, TF1 in France, Bim in Italy, Hopscotch in Australia, On Pictures in Spain, Quality in Latin America, Nordisk in Scandinavia, Ablo for CIS and Eastern Europe and Belga in Benelux. A deal is close in Japan.

The Women screened for the first time in the market here and will open in the US under the Picturehouse label on September 12. Annette Bening, Eva Mendes, Meg Ryan, Jada Pinkett Smith and Candice Bergen star.

Lasse Hallstrom's *Hachiko: A Dog's Story* stars Richard Gere and Joan Allen and will be released in the US and Australia through Sony under the companies multi-film deal.

Deals closed with Prokino for Germany, new distributor Delanic in the UK, Metropolitan in France, Shochiku in Japan, Lucky Red in Italy, Wide in Spain and RCV in Benelux.

"We're proud to be selling our movies to the top tier independent distributors in the world," Siebel said. "Despite all the doom and gloom it appears the market is still very hungry for good product," Johnson added.

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