

Press release - Paris, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017

## **HARD POWDER with Liam Neeson will start shooting in March 2017 and sales will launch at the 67<sup>th</sup> Berlinale**

STUDIOCANAL, MASPRODUCTION and PARADOX are proud and excited to announce that HARD POWDER, by Hans Petter Moland, starring Liam Neeson, will start shooting on March 2017 in and around Banff, Alberta and other locations in Canada.

STUDIOCANAL will launch sales during the 67<sup>th</sup> Berlinale in February.

### **SYNOPSIS**

*Quiet family man and hard-working snowplow driver Nels is the lifeblood of a glitzy resort town in the Rocky Mountains because he is the one who keeps the winter roads clear. He and his wife live in a comfortable cabin away from the tourists. The town has just awarded him "Citizen of the Year." But Nels has to leave his quiet mountain life when his son is murdered by a powerful drug lord. As a man who has nothing to lose he is stoked by a drive for vengeance. This unlikely hero uses his hunting skills and transforms from an ordinary man into a skilled killer as he sets out to dismantle the cartel. Nels' actions ignite a turf war between a manically unpredictable gangster known as Viking and a Native American gang boss. Justice is served in one final spectacular confrontation that will leave (almost) no one unscathed.*

HARD POWDER is a high-octane, action revenge thriller set in the beautiful and breathtaking Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Liam Neeson plays an ordinary man driven to extraordinary lengths, a classic reluctant western hero in contemporary America. He's a solitary man, with a moral code and a quiet demeanor; the type of classic hero that has captivated audiences all over the world for generations.

Building off his gripping performances in TAKEN and NON-STOP, Liam Neeson will bring a fresh, new perspective to the lone underdog character, instilling in Nels a degree of dry wit and caustic humor that audiences have yet to see from him. Surrounding Liam will be a vast array of distinctive characters, from colorful gangsters to gorgeous snow bunnies, HARD POWDER will attract a strong, commercial ensemble cast.

STUDIOCANAL has brought together a world class team of talent, led by acclaimed filmmaker Hans Petter Moland, who directed the original Norwegian film. Having lived in the United States for ten years, Hans is excited to translate his icy Norwegian revenge thriller into a pulse pounding American-set actioner. Joining Hans is producer Michael Shamberg, known for producing such classics as GET SHORTY, ERIN BROCKOVICH, CONTAGION, and DJANGO UNCHAINED. With Michael's help, Liam and Hans are crafting a gripping, commercial revenge thriller with a unique look and feel that will excite filmgoers all over the world.

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