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# The Hollywood Reporter

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FESTIVAL DE CANNES

Would Robin

STRAIGHT ARROWS:  
"Robin Hood" stars  
Cate Blanchett and  
Russell Crowe appear



Timeless

## Russell brings 'Undying' alive

Media 8 finds the 'perfect' lead investigator for supernatural creeper

By Jay A. Fernandez

CANNES — Media 8 Entertainment has recruited Kurt Russell to star in the supernatural thriller "Undying."

The neo-noir creeper, penned by "The Book of Eli" scribe Gary Whitta and originally titled "Reaper," centers on private investigator Virgil Lone, who is pulled into a surreal underworld when he is hired by the mysterious Delia. Production is scheduled to begin in the fall.

Circle of Confusion ("Saint John of Las Vegas") is producing with Media 8 ("Monster"), which is

financing the film with E-Motion and Queen Nefertari Prods. ("The Inheritance").

Media 8 president Stewart

Hall is producing with Circle of Confusion's David Alpert and Lawrence Mattis and Queen Nefertari's Cynthia Stafford,

Laure Idewu and Jeff Kalligheri. E-Motion principals Karl Richards and Peter Bevan are executive producers.

"Kurt Russell is perfect for this

role," Hall said. "He is truly one of the few actors who audiences cannot usually embrace as a real hero."

Media 8 is handling worldwide sales in Cannes, and Gersh's Jay Cohen and CAA are handling sales for North America.

The CAA-repped Russell most recently starred in "Death Proof," "Poseidon" and "Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story."

Whitta, repped by UTA and Circle of Confusion, also is writing "The Defenders" for producers Roberto Orci and Alex Kurtzman at DreamWorks.

Media 8 produced "The Upside of Anger" and "Running Scared" and is here to premiere its animated film "Jackboots on Whitehall," featuring Ewan McGregor, Tom Wilkinson and Alan Cumming. **THR**



**NO ESCAPE:**  
Kurt Russell isn't dead yet in the thriller "Undying."

of Leverage are near a deal with the premium network for a show about a group of female friends

Richter and Emily Wenberg Montague; the duo developed the concept, with Rachel writing.

Although it would be easy to assume the show is a female version of "Entourage," sources said the script is evolving and will not be as Hollywood-centric as the long-running comedy.

pre-emptively picked up rights to the Atari video game "Rollercoaster Tycoon." Harald Zwart is spearheading development of the big-screen adaptation as a possible directing project and will executive produce.

David Ronn and Jay Scherick, who penned upcoming Kevin James comedy "The Zookeeper,"



Zwart

that simulate a combination of designing roller coasters and amusement park management.

Each game challenges players with open-ended amusement park man-

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