

old all rights and *Bachelor Momentum* in Spain. in Company rred all rights ca to *Stand-* l by Matthew out university reunite at a and Adam

James Van Der Beek. *Bachelor Party Vegas* previously sold to Sony in North America and charts the exploits of five friends on a stag weekend. Eric Bernt wrote and directed, and the film stars Kal Penn. *Insomnia* has hired Kimberly Ferguson of Honest Buck Productions to oversee sales during the market.

EVER SHOOTS FOR TTI'S BROTHER

AB distributor n rights to *My ly Child*, the title directed ti. as acquired so picked up vez, by actor t the illustri-

ous career and turbulent life of Mexican boxing champ Julio Cesar Chavez (the film, sold by Katapult, recently premiered in the Tribeca Film festival).

Chavez holds a record of 108 wins, 6 losses and 2 draws, with 87 knockouts. He holds the records for most successful defences of world titles (27) and most title fights (37).

NOVO TAPS BRAZILIAN TALENT

of Brazil's lead the slate by Grupo TV and Bra- tion. *Caixa* comedy from director *Days In* directed by participant *ve Movie*), Daniel Fil- *Se Eu Fosse* top box-

office earner for 2006. It spins the theme of marital discord with a couple swapping bodies during a row.

Grupo Novo is acting as sales agent for the Cannes market debut of the features and is also representing a handful of theatrical documentaries.

They include *The Man From Lagoa Santa* (*O Homem De Lagoa Santa*), a biopic of palaeontologist Peter Wilhelm Lund; and *Royal Road Of Cachaca* (*Estrada Real Da Cachaca*) which takes a lyrical look at Brazil's national drink.

UP FOR FILMWORKS PARTNERS IN THE UK

BY GEOFFREY MACNAB

Odeon and Sky have announced *The Oxford Murders*, from cult director Alex de la Iglesia and starring Elijah Wood and John Hurt, as the second release under their new joint venture Odeon Sky Filmworks.

Based on Guillermo Martinez's award-winning novel, *The Oxford Murders* sees Hurt and Wood as student and professor who attempt to stop murders that

are mysteriously linked by mathematical symbols.

Odeon Sky Filmworks was set up in 2006 by broadcaster Sky and exhibitor Odeon, allowing them to act as a UK-based film distributor, signing up titles directly from film-makers. Its first signing, the award-winning Australian comedy *Kenny*, will be released in September.

On this latest Filmworks project, Sky will retain all UK

TV rights, and will also make *The Oxford Murders* available to Sky viewers across its broadband download service, Sky Anytime on PC, as well as Sky Box Office. A UK television debut on Sky Movies Premiere will follow.

The Oxford Murders is produced by Tornasol Films, Estudios Picasso, Oxford Crimes and La Fabrique de Films. The film-making team has already collaborated on several projects.

Garage scribe meets pen pals



Caroline Norbury, Mark O'Halloran and festival founder David Pearson

BY WENDY MITCHELL

Irish screenwriter Mark O'Halloran, in Cannes with the well-received *Garage* in Directors' Fortnight, was on hand at the launch of the second International Screenwriters' Festival on Sunday.

Other attendees at the lunch, sponsored by South West Screen, the UK Film Council and Arturi Films, included producer Stephen Woolley, The Weinstein Company's Colin Vaines and new head of Hammer Films Simon Oakes.

O'Halloran spoke about the new Writers' Manifesto and the importance of strong relationships between writers and directors.

Also, South West Screen's head, Caroline Norbury, has launched a Screenwriter Development Competition, which will give one winner \$5,900 in funding, and mentoring from *Gladiator* writer William Nicholson.

The festival runs July 3-6 in Cheltenham, UK, with confirmed speakers including Diana Ossana (*Brokeback Mountain*) and Anthony Horowitz (*Stormbreaker*).

► www.screenwritersfestival.com
► *Garage* review, p22

Scott Myers

studios Belgrade

- 9 New Sound Stages
- Experienced crews
- Competitive Prices



NOW OPEN

For more information, please visit www.pfstudios.com

In Cannes Ground Floor Grand Hotel Tel +33 (0)4 93 38 12 58