Eros International’s Trinity Pictures announces two Indo-Chinese co-productions with leading Chinese film companies, Peacock Mountain Culture & Media Ltd and Huaxia Film Distribution Co. Ltd.

The films will be directed by Kabir Khan & Siddharth Anand and released in Fiscal 2018

Mumbai, July 15, 2016: Eros International Media Ltd, a leading global company in the Indian film entertainment industry, announced today that Trinity Pictures, India’s first franchise feature film studio, is planning two landmark Indo-China co-productions to be released in Fiscal 2018 — Kabir Khan’s travel drama The Zookeeper (working title) and Siddharth Anand’s cross-cultural romantic comedy Love in Beijing (working title). The films will co-produced with China’s Peacock Mountain Culture & Media Ltd. and Huaxia Film Distribution Co. Ltd.

The two films are the first ever Indo-China co-productions set in both India and China and will have Han Sanping, former Chairman of China Film Group, as their Creative Producer. Sanping has produced more than 300 films and 100 TV series, including Red Cliff, Karate Kid and Let the Bullet Fly.

With the cast from both India and China - a leading Indian male actor and leading Chinese actress, Kabir Khan’s human drama, The Zookeeper, tells the journey of an Indian zoo keeper to China to find a panda to return to India with in order to save his zoo. Siddharth Anand’s cross-cultural romantic comedy, Love in Beijing, also with an A-lister Indian actress and leading Chinese male actor is based on an Indian girl who falls in love with a Chinese man. Production costs for The Zookeeper by Kabir Khan are expected to be (approximately) USD $25.0 million and Love in Beijing (approximately) USD $15.0 million. The films will be shot simultaneously in both languages and are due for release in Fiscal 2018.

While the original stories were developed by the Trinity Pictures Writers’ Room, creative teams from both Trinity Pictures and the Chinese film companies have worked closely on the scripts to create storylines that blend Sino-Indian culture. The films will be shot across India and China with major parts of Kabir Khan’s The Zookeeper shot in Chengdu while Siddharth Anand’s Love in Beijing will be shot in Beijing and its suburbs.

Commenting on the Indo-China co-productions, Jyoti Deshpande, Group CEO, Eros International said, “We continue to establish our dominant global distribution network including entry into the Chinese market. We believe China to be a significant market opportunity for Indian films. Following our co-production treaties last year, we are very proud to announce the first of our joint productions going into production soon. With Trinity, we also want to tell stories that transcend the language barrier and have mainstream appeal. We believe our Indo-China co-productions will be game-changing as we pave the way to open up one of the largest film markets in the world.”
Ajit Thakur, CEO, Trinity Pictures added, “It’s a revolutionary milestone for Indian cinema as Eros’ Trinity Pictures becomes the first Indian studio to collaborate with China’s Huaxia Film Distribution Co. Ltd and Peacock Mountain Culture & Media Ltd and deliver our vision for a truly global film. Having two acclaimed directors like Kabir Khan and Siddharth Anand on board with us, is a big leap towards opening one of the biggest and the fastest growing film markets in the world. With these co-productions being shot in both languages, we hope to present compelling film content, weaving in the socio-cultural worlds of both countries, which should appeal to the massive Sino-Indian market”.

Creative Producer, Han Sanping said, “Creating an entertaining movie for two of the biggest markets in the world is a big challenge. But having good creative people from both India and China working together we are sure to be successful.”

Allen Liu, Partner, Peacock Mountain added on the association, “It’s exciting to finally pull the curtains over the efforts from writers from both India and China side. Getting the right and the organic story was one of the most important aspect for both the teams from beginning. Hope the movie shapes up to be a true co-production”.

Director Kabir Khan commented, “It’s an exciting challenge to shoot the film in two languages, a first for me and creating a whole new world of completely unique characters. There is tremendous potential with similarities in art and culture and I hope to present a film that will be a complete package and will combine the ethos of both the countries.”

Director Siddharth Anand said, “I am thrilled to be part of a film that will cater to a much wider audience, span new geographies and reach new territories. We are working on a story and creating characters that should resonate with audiences in both markets.”

Last year, Eros International signed memorandums with leading Chinese state owned film companies China Film Group Corp, Shanghai Film Group and Fudan University for the exploitation of intellectual property rights as well as to develop, co-produce and distribute Indo-China films across all platforms in both countries during Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s state visit to China.

As per PwC Outlook 2016, China is expected to overtake the US box office in 2016 growing to $10.3 billion. In 2015, the box office grew to $6.3 billion marking a 49% year on year growth. In comparison, the US box office is expected to contract from $10.3 billion to $10 billion next year, with Hollywood’s share of the Chinese box office slipping to 38.4% in 2015 from 45.5% in 2014. In early 2014, China had just under 19,000 screens and by end of 2015, that number grew to almost 32,000. Overall, China is propelling Asia-Pacific’s growth (including Indonesia, Malaysia) with box office revenue across Asia-Pacific expected to grow to $21.11 billion by 2020 and thus continue to emerge as important growth markets for Bollywood.
About Eros International Media Ltd

Eros International Media Ltd. (BSE Script Code: 533261; NSE Script Code: EROSMEDIA) is a leading global company in the Indian film entertainment industry that acquires, co-produces and distributes Indian films across all available formats such as cinema, television and digital new media. Eros International is part of Eros International Plc, which became the first Indian media Company to raise capital and be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Eros International has experience of over three decades in establishing a global platform for Indian cinema. The company has a competitive advantage through its extensive and growing movie library comprising of over 2,000 films, which include Hindi, Tamil, and other regional language films. Eros International has built a dynamic business model by combining the release of new films every year with the exploitation of its film library. For further information please visit: www.erosintl.com

About Trinity Pictures

Trinity Pictures, Eros International’s motion pictures production division, launched in February 2015, is India’s first and only character-driven franchise feature studio. Trinity Pictures furthers the company’s endeavor to invest in developing intellectual property in-house. With a focus on creating fresh concepts in new spaces, Trinity is also the first Bollywood studio in India with a dedicated in-house team of writers in the ‘Trinity Writers’ Room’. Trinity will leverage its characters across entertainment, publishing, licensing and digital.

About Peacock Mountain

Peacock Mountain Culture & Media Ltd. is film project planning, production, artist management company. The primary focuses of the company are co-production of non-Hollywood films, domestic productions in space of theatrical, web and TV and investments in both global and domestic movies.