

May 19, 2014 (CANNES, FRANCE) – The Weinstein Company (TWC) announced today they have finalized their deal for LION where they have worldwide distribution excluding Australia and New Zealand. This project reteams TWC and See-Saw Films where they had great success with THE KING’S SPEECH and are currently partnered on MACBETH and TRACKS. LION is produced by See-Saw Films in association with Sunstar Entertainment and Aquarius Films. Producers are Emile Sherman, Iain Canning and Angie Fielder with Executive Producers Andrew Fraser and Shahen Mekertichian.

Adapted from the novel A Long Way Home by Saroo Brierley, LION is about a five-year-old Indian boy who after a wrong train takes him thousands of miles away from home and family, he survives many challenges before being adopted by an Australian couple. Twenty-five years later, armed with only the scantest of clues, he learns of a new technology called Google Earth, and sets out to find his lost family.

Harvey Weinstein said, “When we read the script we were simply blown away by this emotional story. Coupled with the fact this project gave us the opportunity to continue our relationship with See- Saw we jumped at the chance to join the LION team. Iain and Emile have this innate ability to make films that inspire and resonate with people. I look forward to sharing this fascinating and life affirming story with audiences all over the world.”

Commented Emile Sherman and Iain Canning: “This is one of the very rare truly unique and totally compelling stories that you dream of coming across as producers. We have been stunned by the response to the story, the script and our creative team, led by director Garth Davis. Having had such an extraordinary journey with TWC on THE KING’S SPEECH we know we are with a team that is passionate and adept at championing a film with the potential to captivate audiences across the world.”

LION screenplay is by Luke Davies and will be directed by Garth Davis. David Glasser, Robert Walak, Dan Guando, Nageen Yazdi and Michal Steinberg negotiated on behalf of TWC and Craig Emanuel of Loeb and Loeb represented the deal on behalf of the producers. The film is co-financed by Screen Australia and production is scheduled to begin August 2014.