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## Image gets U.S. rights to 'Maximus'

### Spoofs story about a Trojan prince

By DAVE MCNARY

Image Entertainment has acquired North American theatrical, home entertainment and digital rights to "National Lampoon's The Legend of Awesomest Maximus."

Spoof, directed by Jeff Kanew ("Revenge of the Nerds"), sends up "sword and sandal" epics like "300," "Spartacus," "Gladiator" and "Alexander."

The announcement was made by Friday by Image's Chief Acquisitions Officer Bill Bromiley.

Cast includes Will Sasso, Rip Torn, Ian Ziering, Tony Cox, Sophie Monk and Kristanna Loken.

Kanew, who also helmed "Troop Beverly Hills," produced along with Charley Cabrera, Lisette Bross, Dan Farah and Jason Burniescu.

Story centers on a clueless Trojan Prince who ran off with Greek King Erotic's young wife in an attempt to prove to his father that he is not gay - a forgone conclusion to anyone in the kingdom.

Deal was closed by Alex Barder of Strategic Film Partners, who's selling worldwide rights at Mipcom.

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