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BVIP seduced by F&ME's *Loving Glances*

Tim Dams in London 12 August 2003

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UK-based independent production house Film and Music Entertainment (F&ME) has struck a deal with Bjorg Veland's BVIP to represent its UK/Serbia and Montenegro co-production *Loving Glances* (*Sjaj U Ocima*) for international sales.

The move comes ahead of the film's competition screening at the Venice International Film Festival and its presentation in the Toronto International Film Festival.

A co-production between F&ME and Belgrade based YODI Movie Craftsmen, the film is the last production ever to receive funding from the now defunct European Co-Production Fund run by British Screen.

Other major funders were YODI, the Ministry of Culture of Serbia and Montenegro and the Karic Foundation. The first in a series of co-productions between the two companies, YODI were responsible for the hit *Munje* (*Thunderbirds*) two years ago.

Written and directed by Srdjan Karanovic, *Loving Glances* is a bittersweet romantic comedy set in mid 90s Belgrade. It tells the story of Labud, a young student set adrift on the tide of refugees created by the ethnic strife in the region, and Romana a beautiful girl from the wrong side of the ethnic divide who meet and fall in love as displaced people in Belgrade of the mid nineties

In addition, Film and Music Entertainment, run by producing team Mike Downey and Sam Taylor, have concluded a deal for all Italian rights with Rome-based Istituto Luce.



REVIEW



CURSE OF THE GOLDEN FLOWER
Zhang Yimou's period epic is a meaty, blood-soaked melodrama filled with intrigue, deception and incest, says Mike



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