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Bodega takes 'Flamenco Flamenco'

IIS-sold pic marks latest Saura-Storaro collaboration

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Paris-- Jean-Pierre Gardelli's Bodega Films has licensed all French rights to Carlos Saura's "Flamenco, Flamenco."

Sold by Madrid-based Imagina Intl. Sales, the Bodega deal is one of four pacts on Carlos Saura's flamenco film signed off after Cannes.

Bodega will release "Flamenco, Flamenco" theatrically in France on Dec. 14.

The latest entry in one of the longest effective film franchises in Spanish cinema - kicked off by 1981's "Blood Wedding," mixed with drama in 1983's "Carmen," then developed in a movie series exploring the theatrical film possibilities of flamenco, tango and fado performance - "Flamenco, Flamenco" traces its evolution from eastern origins to recent renovation.

It mixes the art's new greats, plus evergreens, including guitarist Paco de Lucia, dancers Farruquito, Eva Yerbabuena and Sara Baras, who struts alegrías from Jerez, and singer Miguel Poveda.

Shot in a Seville Expo '92 Pavilion, "Flamenco, Flamenco" is the first production of Seville-based General de Producciones y Diseño.

It also marks Saura's sixth collaboration, the first in 12 years, with triple Academy Award-winning cinematographer Vittorio Storaro ("Apocalypse Now", "Reds," "The Last Emperor").

With 14 territories now sold on "Flamenco, Flamenco," and major territories likely to close, Saura's 10th song and dance film has the makings of an international sales hit.

Further post-Cannes deals will be announced shortly.

"Flamenco, Flamenco" will play Espagnolías en París' Different 4! Spanish film festival Tuesday. It also screens at the Madrid de Cine-Spanish Film Screenings that kick off Sunday.