

Warner Bros. Pictures is new runner for 'Logan'

By Borys Kit

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A scene from the 1976 film version of "Logan's Run," starring Michael York, left, and Jenny Agutter.

"Logan's Run" is back up and running at Warner Bros. Pictures.

Commercial director Joseph Kosinski will make his directorial debut on the sci-fi thriller, which is being written by Tim Sexton. Joel Silver is producing through his Warners-based Silver Pictures.

"Logan's Run" is best remembered as the 1976 film starring Michael York, Jenny Agutter and Farrah Fawcett, though it was based on a 1967 novel by William F. Nolan and George Clayton Johnson. The premise sees a future society that demands the death of everyone upon reaching a certain age. Anyone who veers from that destiny is dubbed a "runner" and is hunted by operatives known as Sandmen. Logan is a Sandman who is forced to go on the run.

While details of the new take are being kept mum, it is known that it will be low-tech science fiction in a futuristic setting and hew closer to the book than the 1976 movie. The new film will tackle idea of the "greater good" and people devoting themselves to an ideology blindly, while keeping the novel's concepts of runners, Sanctuary and gangs outside the system.

The project had been set up at Warners since the mid-'90s but heated up in 2004 when Bryan Singer signed on to develop and direct with an eye toward a 2005 release. Singer had begun previsualization work on the project before he bolted to do "Superman Returns" for the studio. "Flightplan" director Robert Schwienke and James McTeigue were helmers that had been associated with the project, which eventually fell off the radar.

Kosinski is a former architect whose specs caught the attention of director David Fincher, a building buff who eventually convinced Kosinski to move to Los Angeles, where he joined the director at

commercial house, Anonymous Content. Kosinski then moved quickly up the ladder, eventually directing award-winning spots for Nike, Apple and Nintendo using cutting-edge computer technology that erased the lines between reality and CGI.

Kosinski came into Warners with a presentation that included graphic art and animated previsualization that set the look, color, tone and style of the movie he wanted to make. The take jibed with Warners, now living in the post-"300" world where filmmakers can create realistic environments at more modest budgets.

Susan Downey and Navid McIlhargey are overseeing at Silver Pictures. Dan Lin is overseeing for Warners.

Sexton, nominated for an Oscar for his work on "Children of Men," is repped by Endeavor.

Kosinski is repped by Endeavor and Anonymous.

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