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Monahan catches 'Chaser' redo

By Borys Kit

William Monahan is in discussions to adapt "The Chaser," a Korean thriller whose remake rights were just picked up by Warner Bros. for mid-six figures.

Leonardo DiCaprio is circling the lead role of an ex-cop who goes on the warpath trying to find a missing girl. The girl, who may or may not be alive, is being used by a serial killer to taunt the police.

Vertigo Entertainment's Roy Lee and Doug Davison, who specialize in bringing Asian fare to American audiences, will produce along with Dan Lin, the former Warner exec who in January segued to producing. Monahan also will produce.

"Chaser," from director Na Hong-jin, has been a hit in Korea, grossing more than \$20 million, and was pre-sold to France, Benelux, Greece and Hong Kong at Berlin's European Film Market last month.

"Chaser" would reunite the team behind the Oscar-winning hit "The Departed." DiCaprio starred in that adaptation of the Hong Kong hit "Infernal Affairs," for which Monahan won a best adapted screenplay Oscar. Vertigo executive produced the movie, which was overseen at Warners by Lin.

Matt Reilly will oversee for Warners.