

# *Paul Rudd, Alexander Skarsgard to Star in 'Mute'*



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***Dave McNary***

*Paul Rudd and Alexander Skarsgard have come on board the science-fiction thriller "Mute," with Duncan Jones directing and production starting in March.*

*Skarsgard will portray a mute bartender in Berlin, 40 years in the future in what has become a roiling city of immigrants, where East crashes against West. His character will be looking for a woman*

*who has disappeared — and when his search takes him deep into the city's underbelly, an odd pair of American surgeons (led by Rudd's character) seem to be the only recurring clue.*

*“Mute” is based on a script by Jones and Mike Johnson and will be produced by Stuart Fenegan under Jones and Fenegan's Liberty Films banner.*

*Lotus Entertainment will handle international sales starting at the upcoming **American Film Market**, which opens Wednesday. CAA arranged for the financing and is handling the domestic sale. Lotus' Bill Johnson, Jim Seibel and Ara Keshishian will serve as executive producers.*

*“I've been working towards making ‘Mute’ for 12 years now,” Jones said. “I cannot tell you how thrilled I am that we're finally going to shoot this utterly unique film. The fact that I get to make it with Alexander Skarsgard and Paul Rudd makes it all the more exciting!”*

*Jones' credits include “Warcraft,” “Source Code” and “Moon.”*

*Keshishian negotiated the deal on behalf of Lotus.*

*Skarsgard recently wrapped production on “Tarzan” for Warner Bros. Rudd completed “Captain America: Civil War” for Marvel.*

*Skarsgard and Jones are repped by CAA. Rudd is represented by UTA and Brillstein Entertainment Partners.*