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# Famke Janssen to star in Juraj Jakubisko's *Bathory*

**Geoffrey Macnab in Berlin** **11 February 2006**

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Famke Janssen is to play the notorious Countess Bathory in Juraj Jakubisko's \$12.6 million epic, *Bathory*.

The 17th Century Hungarian countess was nicknamed "the blood countess" for her penchant for bathing in virgins' blood.

The Czech/Slovak/Hungarian/UK co-production has already started second-unit photography, with principal photography set to begin next month.

*Bathory* is one of five new projects with combined budgets of \$30 million backed UK-based production outfit, Film and Music Entertainment (F&ME).

Set up in 2001 by Mike Downey and Sam Taylor, F&ME is also on board Raimo O. Niemi's *Mystery Of The Wolf*. Set in Finnish Lapland, (F&ME) is co-producing *Wolf* with Kinoproductio Oy and Filmance International of Sweden. Backers include Invicta, the Finnish Film Foundation, the Nordic Film and TV Fund and Eurimages with world sales being handled by Nordisk Film International.

The \$2m UK-Spanish co-production *Mirror Maze*, a collaboration between F&ME and Jose Antonio Romero's Rioja Audiovisual, is being directed by Guillermo Groizard and backed by Producciones 52, Ensueno and DeAPlaneta.

F&ME is also behind new animated feature, *Quest For A Heart*, based on the successful live action Rolli series. The film is a co-production between F&ME, Matila/Rohr Productions, Producers Center Kontakt and Greenlight Media AG.



REVIEW



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