

SCREENDAILY

Ben Foster, Lubna Azabal join Braden King's Armenia-set Here

27 July, 2009 | By Wendy Mitchell

Ben Foster and Lubna Azabal have joined the cast of Braden King's road-trip romance *Here*.

The film started principal photography July 22 in Armenia.

Here was written by King and DanI Valent, and producers are Lars Knudsen and Jay Van Hoy for Parts and Labor (*Old Joy*, *Treeless Mountain*).

Foster has appeared in *3:10 To Yuma*, *Alpha Dog* and forthcoming *The Messenger*; Azabal has been in *Paradise Now* and *Body Of Lies*.

The "landscape-obsessed road trip movie," set entirely in Armenia, is about an American satellite-mapping engineer and an expat Armenian photographer who have an intense relationship during their travels together.

Here has already been backed by the Cannes Film Festival Atelier, Sundance/NHK International Filmmakers Award, Rockefeller/Renew Meida/Tribeca Film Institute Fellowship; the project also has been to Sundance's screenwriting and directing labs.

The project is the first English-language, US feature to shoot entirely in Armenia. Crew members come from Serbia, Peru, the UK, US and Armenia.

"We are thrilled to be embarking on this groundbreaking journey throughout Armenia with an extraordinary cast and an international crew from the US, Europe, Armenia and beyond," says in-demand US-based independent producer Knudsen. "It is our hope that this totally unique, award-winning project will help to re-define and expand the borders of contemporary independent film."

Foster is repped by Brian Swardstrom at WME Entertainment and Ken Jacobson Management. Lubna is represented by UBBA.

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