

**The Scoggins Report**  
**by Jason Scoggins & Landon Rohwedder**  
**September 30, 2014**

**July, August & September 2014**  
**Spec Market Roundup**

Apologies for our much-longer-than-planned hiatus since the end of July — we were distracted by a couple of day job-related transitions (check out Jason’s [LinkedIn profile](#) for a couple of the details). Hopefully, it’s been an “absence makes the heart grow fonder” situation.

This edition of the Scoggins Report isn’t a Spec Market Roundup as much as a Catch-Up, with numbers and details from July, August, and September in one fell swoop. We’ll do the same for pitches next week, and then be back to normal with the Spec Market Scorecard and Pitch Market Scorecard in the following weeks.

Since you’ve been so patient, here’s a quick overview of where things stand:

- **There have been 50 spec sales through the end of September.** At this point in 2013, 2012 and 2011 we were at 86, 105 and 94, respectively.
- **Sony’s Columbia Pictures is the #1 buyer so far this year, with 9 through the end of September.** Last year they bought just 2.

There’s more where that came from, Hollywood. Don’t change that dial.

**Year-Over-Year Breakdowns**

**July**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
New Specs	<b>19</b>	18	22	21	16	16
Specs Sold <sup>1</sup>	<b>5</b>	11	5	8	2	4
Percent Sold <sup>2</sup>	<b>21%</b>	56%	23%	38%	0%	31%
Genres Sold	<b>1 Action 1 Comedy 2 Drama 1 Thriller</b>	6 Action 1 Comedy 2 Sci-fi 2 Thriller	2 Action 1 Comedy 1 Drama 1 Sci-fi	1 Action 2 Comedy 1 Drama 2 Horror 1 Thriller	1 Action 1 Thriller	1 Action 1 Comedy 2 Thriller

<sup>1</sup> Total sales in July

<sup>2</sup> Sales percentage of scripts that came out and sold in July

## August

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
New Specs	<b>12</b>	13	18	13	11	8
Specs Sold <sup>1</sup>	<b>2</b>	6	13	5	2	5
Percent Sold <sup>2</sup>	<b>8%</b>	42%%	44%	23%	9%	38%
Genres Sold	<b>1 Comedy 1 Sci-Fi</b>	1 Action 2 Comedy 1 Sci-fi 2 Thriller	4 Comedy 2 Drama 3 Horror 1 Sci-fi 3 Thriller	2 Action 2 Sci-fi 2 Thriller	1 Action/ Adventure 1 Thriller	1 Action/ Adventure 3 Comedy

<sup>1</sup> Total sales in August

<sup>2</sup> Sales percentage of scripts that came out and sold in August

## September

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
New Specs	<b>16</b>	23	22	25	34	40
Specs Sold <sup>1</sup>	<b>6</b>	9	9	7	6	4
Percent Sold <sup>2</sup>	<b>25%</b>	39%	27%	12%	15%	10%
Genres Sold	<b>1 Drama 1 Fantasy 1 Sci-fi 3 Thriller</b>	3 Action 2 Comedy 2 Sci-fi 2 Thriller	3 Action/ Adventure 1 Comedy 1 Sci-Fi 1 Thriller	2 Action/ Adventure 1 Drama 2 Thriller	1 Action/ Adventure 1 Comedy 1 Fantasy 1 Sci-fi 1 Thriller	1 Action/ Adventure 1 Drama 1 Sci-fi 4 Thriller

<sup>1</sup> Total sales in September

<sup>2</sup> Sales percentage of scripts that came out and sold in September

## Genre Breakdown

### July

<b>Genre</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Sold</b>
Action/Adventure	2	1
Comedy	5	1
Drama	3	2
Fantasy	1	1
Horror	1	0
Sci-fi	5	1
Thriller	3	1

## August

<b>Genre</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Sold</b>
Action/Adventure	3	0
Comedy	4	1
Drama	3	0
Horror	1	0
Sci-fi	2	1

## September

<b>Genre</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Sold</b>
Action/Adventure	3	0
Comedy	3	0
Drama	3	1
Horror	2	0
Sci-fi	2	0
Thriller	3	3

## Weekly Activity Breakdown

### Week of June 30 (run-up to Independence Day):

- No specs hit the tracking boards
- No spec sales were announced

### Week of July 7:

- 3 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- 2 spec sales were announced
  - **Untitled Joe Gazzam Project** (7/11, out 6/16)
  - **Untitled Laura Solon Comedy** (7/8)

### Week of July 14:

- 6 new scripts hit the tracking boards, one of which has sold
  - **Moonfall** (8/20)
- 2 spec sales were announced
  - **Terminal Point** (7/17)
  - **The Long Run** (7/17)

**Week of July 21:**

- 5 new scripts hit the boards, one of which has sold
  - **In The Land of Imagined Things** (9/23)
- No spec sales were announced

**Week of July 28:**

- No specs hit the boards
- 1 spec sale was announced
  - **Berliner** (7/28)

**Week of August 4:**

- 4 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- No additional spec sales were announced

**Week of August 11:**

- 1 new scripts hit the tracking boards and hasn't sold yet
- No additional spec sales were announced

**Week of August 18:**

- 3 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- 2 spec sales were announced
  - **Moonfall** (8/20, mentioned above)
  - **The Three Tenors** (8/20)

**Week of August 25 (run-up to Labor Day Weekend, Telluride & Venice Film Festivals):**

- 3 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- No additional spec sales were announced

**Week of September 1 (Labor Day; run-up to Toronto Int'l Film Festival)**

- 3 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- No additional spec sales were announced

**Week of September 8:**

- 4 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- No additional spec sales were announced

**Week of September 15:**

- 4 new scripts hit the tracking boards, none of which have sold
- 3 spec sales were announced
  - **In The Deep** (9/18)
  - **Road To Oz** (9/18)
  - **North of Reno** (9/18)

**Week of September 22:**

- 2 new scripts hit the tracking boards, one of which has sold
  - **The Eden Project Part One: Eve** (9/25)
- 1 additional spec sale was announced
  - **In The Land of Imagined Things** (9/23, out 7/23; mentioned above)

**September 29 & 30:**

- 1 new script hit the tracking boards and has not yet sold
- 1 additional spec sale was announced
  - **May You Live In Interesting Times** (9/29, out 4/3)

## **Spec Sales (alphabetical by title)**

**Project titles in the report are linked to the corresponding Spec Scout page**, so you can click to see which of the below we've covered and scored there.

### **BERLINER**

**Writer:** **F. Scott Frazier** ("[Autobahn](#)," "[Echoes](#)," "[Line of Sight](#)")

**Reps:** **CAA** (David Kopple) and **DMG** (Chris Fenton, Chris Cowles)

**Buyer:** **Universal**

**Genre:** Thriller

**Attachments:** **Chris Morgan** will produce through his eponymous production company. Fenton and Cowles will executive produce.

**Notes:** **Ainsley Davis** will oversee for Morgan. **Jon Mone** and **Jay Polidoro** will oversee for the studio.

**Logline:** An agent in 1961 must find an assassin who's killing Americans.

### **IN THE DEEP**

**Writer:** **Anthony Jaswinski** ("[May You Live In Interesting Times](#)")

**Reps:** **Paradigm** (David Boxerbaum, Valerie Phillips) and **Circle of Confusion** (Ashley Burns, Lawrence Mattis)

**Buyer:** **Columbia**

**Genre:** Thriller

**Attachments:** **Lynn Harris** will produce through her **Weimaraner Republic Pictures** shingle with partner **Matti Leshem**.

**Notes:** Sold for high six figures.

**Logline:** A young woman is trapped on a buoy twenty feet from shore for thirty-four hours as she fights off a great white shark and her impending doom.

## **IN THE LAND OF IMAGINED THINGS**

Writer: Joe Henderson (USA's "Graceland" and "White Collar")

Reps: **CAA** (Grant Kessman) and **The Cartel** (Stan Spry)

Buyer: **Disney**

Genre: Fantasy

Attachments: **Charlie Bean** (WB's "Ninjano") is attached to direct. **Justin Springer** will produce under his **Secret Machine** banner.

Notes: **Louie Provost** will oversee for the studio.

Logline: Kept under wraps, but said to be a live action/CG hybrid.

## **MAY YOU LIVE IN INTERESTING TIMES**

Writer: Anthony Jaswinski ("[In The Deep](#)")

Reps: **Paradigm** (David Boxerbaum, Valerie Phillips) and **Circle of Confusion** (Ashley Burns, Lawrence Mattis)

Buyer: **Voltage Pictures**

Genre: Thriller

Attachments: **Alex Heineman** and **Andrew Rona** will produce through their **The Picture Company** with Voltage's **Craig J. Flores** and **Nicolas Chartier**.

Logline: A terminally-ill hitman goes rogue in Hong Kong, only to be hunted down by an equally-lethal killer in the form of a mysterious young woman named Alice.

## **MOONFALL**

Writer: **David Weil** (WB's "Arabian Nights")

Reps: **CAA** (Ida Ziniti) and **Unified** (Jessica Moresco)

Buyer: **AUDAX Films**

Genre: Sci-fi

Attachments: **Andrew** and **Walter Kortschak** will produce.

Notes: **Darren Aronofsky** was circling at the time it hit the boards but is not involved. Weil's 7-part "Arabian Nights" franchise sold to **Warner Bros.** as a pitch in July.

Logline: Centers on an FBI agent who travels to a moon colony to investigate its very first death.

## **NORTH OF RENO**

Writer: **Banipal & Benhur Ablakhad**

Reps: **Resolution** (Adrian Garcia, Robert Lazar, Varun Monga, Will Watkins)

Buyer: **New Line**

Genre: Thriller

Attachments: **Beau Flynn** will produce through his **Flynn Picture Co.**

Notes: **Michael Disco** and **Sam Brown** will oversee for the studio. **Scott Sheldon** will supervise for Flynn.

Logline: A twisty crime thriller centered around the pursuit of a hidden fortune.

## **ROAD TO OZ**

Writer: **Josh Golden**

Reps: **Resolution** (Pamela Goldstein, Rich Green, Jeff Portnoy)

Buyer: **New Line**

Genre: Drama

Attachments: **Beau Flynn** will produce through his **Flynn Picture Co** with **Nellie Bellflower** and **Michael Mislove**.

Notes: The script was a 2014 Nicholl Fellowship finalist. **Michael Disco** and **Sam Brown** will oversee for the studio. **Scott Sheldon** will oversee for Flynn.

Logline: Tells the life story of “Wizard of Oz” author L. Frank Baum.

## **TERMINAL POINT**

Writer: **Stuart C. Paul**

Reps: **CAA** (Matt Martin) and **Circle of Confusion** (Julian Rosenberg)

Buyer: **Universal**

Genre: Drama

Attachments: **Will Packer** will produce through his Uni-based **Will Packer Productions** with Circle’s **David Alpert**. Packer’s producing partner **Barbara Dreyfus** will executive produce, as will Circle’s Rosenberg.

Notes: **Erik Baiers** will oversee for the studio.

Logline: Kept under wraps.

## **THE EDEN PROJECT PART ONE: EVE**

Writer: Christina Hodson (Temple Hill’s “[The Seed](#)”)

Reps: **CAA** (Ida Ziniti, Jay Baker) and **Kaplan/Perrone** (Tobin Babst)

Buyer: **Columbia**

Genre: Sci-fi action

Attachments: **Tobey Maguire** and **Matthew Plouffe** will produce through **Material Pictures**.

Notes: Reports put the price tag at \$750,000. **Hannah Minghella** will oversee for the studio.

Logline: Kept under wraps, but said to revolve around two women.

## **THE LONG RUN**

Writer: **Drew Pearce** (“Iron Man 3,” “Godzilla”)

Reps: **WME** (Greg Hodes)

Buyer: **Fox**

Genre: Action comedy

Attachments: Pearce is set to direct. **Chernin Entertainment** will produce.

Notes: **Mark Roybal** and **Ryan Jones** will oversee for the studio.

Logline: Under wraps.

## **THE THREE TENORS**

**Writer:** **Johnny Rosenthal** (Miramax's "Bad Santa" sequel)

**Reps:** **Paradigm** (Mark Ross, Doug Fronk) and **Apostle** (George Heller)

**Buyer:** **Lionsgate**

**Genre:** Comedy

**Attachments:** **Patrick Aiello** ("As Above, So Below") will produce.

**Notes:** **Erik Feig** and **Meredith Milton** will oversee for the studio.

**Logline:** Chronicles the rise and fall and rise and fall and rise of a fictional trio of internationally beloved operatic superstars.

## **UNTITLED JOE GAZZAM PROJECT**

**Writer:** **Joe Gazzam** ("[Shadow Run](#)")

**Reps:** **Paradigm** (David Boxerbaum, Chris Smith) and **Industry** (Ava Jamshidi)

**Buyer:** **Relativity**

**Genre:** Action thriller

**Attachments:** **Ahmet Zappa** and **Devon Schiff** will produce through **Monsterfoot Productions** with **Alan Gasmer** and **Peter Jaysen**, the latter producing through **Moving Pictures, DPI**.

**Notes:** Price tag was said to be high six figures.

**Logline:** Kept under wraps, but said to be "Man on Fire" in tone.

## **UNTITLED LAURA SOLON WORKPLACE COMEDY**

**Writer:** **Laura Solon** (TV Land's "Hot In Cleveland")

**Reps:** **Gersh** (Danielle Schoenberg, Eric Garfinkel, Jeff Greenberg, Nate Steadman, Roy Ashton)

**Buyer:** **Universal**

**Genre:** Comedy

**Attachments:** **Scott Stuber** will produce through his **Bluegrass Films** banner.

**Notes:** **Beau Beaman** will oversee for Stuber. **Kristin Lowe** will oversee for the studio.

**Logline:** Kept under wraps.

### **About The Scoggins Report:**

[The Scoggins Report](#) is a terribly unscientific analysis of the feature film development business based on information assembled from a variety of public and non-public sources. The numbers in the reports are by no means official statistics.

*Caveat emptor.*

**Molòn labé: Check out The Scoggins Report  
on [SpecScout.com](http://SpecScout.com).**