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Posted: Mon., Mar. 22, 2004, 6:08pm PT

Equinox capitalizes on Hearst coin

Ex-Canal plus topper makes up for lost funds

By [LIZA KLAUSSMANN](#)

PARIS -- The **Equinox** writers workshop, which lost major backers Sony and Gallic TV group Canal Plus, announced a new partnership with William Randolph Hearst III on Monday.

The association headlined Hearst's investment during a press conference announcing workshops in Marrakech, Morocco, April 26 to May 3. Initiative is the first under **Equinox**'s new prexy, Pierre Lescure, the ousted Canal Plus topper.

"The Writers Guild (of America) in Los Angeles sent us an email with over 1,000 signatures telling us to continue our work, that it was very important," Lescure said.

The former exec said Canal Plus' decision to pull sponsorship was "a shame."

Equinox has been running since 1993, with thesp Jeanne Moreau as prexy. Lescure filled Moreau's shoes after she gave up the post this year to become honorary prexy of the nonprofit org.

Equinox plans to begin workshops in San Francisco and Buenos Aires by 2005.

Among those leading seminars in Marrakech will be Kit Carson, Charles Randolph and Martin Sherman.

Andre Azoulay, counselor to the king of Morocco, who is a partner in the Marrakech workshops, allayed fears about the region. "We have a long list of Americans who will be attending," Azoulay said. "The safety of the region is not an issue."

Lescure added that the workshops would complement the nascent film fest held there in September.

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Silent Film Gala
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L.A Chamber Orchestra

TV RATINGS

Monday, March 29, 2004

Top Show	To
CSt: Miami (CBS)	19.6 mi
Top Shows	A18-49
CSt: Miami (CBS)	7.1/19
Fear Factor (NBC)	5.7/16
Las Vegas (NBC)	5.1/13
Networks	
CBS	5.2/14
NBC	5.2/14
FOX	2.5/7
ABC	1.9/5

from Nielsen Media Research
preliminary results
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BOX OFFICE TOP TEN

Weekend:
Mar. 26 - 28, 2004
in millions

1 Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed	\$29.4
2 The Ladykillers	\$12.6
3 The Passion of the Christ	\$12.6
4 Dawn of the Dead	\$10.7
5 Jersey Girl	\$8.3
6 Taking Lives	\$6.6
7 Stargate: The Ark of Truth	\$6.2
8 Hidalgo	\$5.3
9 Secret Window	\$5.3