



**CLEMENT VIRGO TO DIRECT
'BLACK CYCLONE'**

**FEATURE DRAMA ABOUT LEGENDARY CYCLIST 'MAJOR' TAYLOR
MINDS EYE ENTERTAINMENT TO PRODUCE**

Toronto, ON, November 22, 2021 – Multiple award winning director, Clement Virgo (*The Book of Negroes, Billions, The Get Down, Lie with Me, Poor Boy's Game*), will direct *Black Cyclone*, a new feature drama about the remarkable life and career of the bicycle racer "Major" Taylor.

Inspired by the remarkable and critically acclaimed book "THE WORLD'S FASTEST MAN: The Extraordinary Life of Cyclist Major Taylor, America's First Black Sports Hero" by The Washington Post investigative reporter Michael Kranish, *Black Cyclone* is produced by Minds Eye Entertainment, the production studio behind the recently released Lionsgate action-thriller *Dangerous* starring Scott Eastwood, Kevin Durand, Tyrese Gibson, Famke Janssen and Mel Gibson.

Black Cyclone depicts the life story of the legendary bicycle racer Marshall Walter Taylor. Better known to the world as "Major" Taylor, Marshall made history becoming the world's fastest man at the turn of the 20th century and America's first Black world champion at the height of the Jim Crow era. *Black Cyclone* is a compelling sports saga set in the late 1890s and early 1900s, the drama of how Major Taylor confronted racism, both subtle and deadly, yet triumphed with sheer will, the love of a woman, and his troubled alliances with a Black trainer and a white promoter.

Kevin Dewalt at Minds Eye Entertainment (*The Recall, Daughter of the Wolf, Dangerous*) is producing the film from Robert Eisele's script (*The Great Debaters, The Senior, Hurricane Season*). Clement Virgo, one of Canada's foremost film directors, is attached to direct the feature. Virgo's previous projects include a six-part miniseries adaptation of Lawrence Hill's *The Book of Negroes*, Netflix drama *The Get Down*, Showtime series *Billions*, as well as several critically acclaimed features such as *Poor Boy's Game, Lie With Me* and *Rude*.

"Major Taylor was a fascinating enigma, an athlete ahead of his time. I'm excited to collaborate in sharing the story of the fastest man in the world." - Clement Virgo, Director

Chris Kirkman, Rashid Bahati, Eric Mika, Natasha Semone Vassell will serve as executive producers, with Rahsaan Bahati, a 10-time U.S. Pro Champion Cyclist, joining as a consultant for the project. John Howard, a three-time Olympic cyclist and author of *Pushing the Limits, Dirt!, The Cyclist's Companion* and *Mastering Cycling*, will also act as a consultant and executive producer

on the film. Production is set to begin in 2022. Minds Eye Entertainment will be handling Distribution.

About Minds Eye Entertainment:

Minds Eye has produced over 60 film and television series and spearheaded the development of a regional production company into the internationally recognized, vertically integrated organization with subsidiaries in production and distribution. The company has been instrumental in establishing the Canadian film and television industry with exceptional, exportable projects sold to over 150 territories around the world.

Select feature film credits include: THE UNSAID (Andy Garcia); THE TALL MAN (Jessica Biel) FACES IN THE CROWD (Milla Jovovich); DOLAN'S CADILLAC (Christian Slater); FORSAKEN, (Kiefer Sutherland, Donald Sutherland); THE RECALL (Wesley Snipes); THE HUMANITY BUREAU (Nicolas Cage); DISTORTED (Christina Ricci, John Cusack); DAUGHTER OF THE WOLF (Gina Carano, Richard Dreyfuss); A SCORE TO SETTLE (Nicolas Cage, Benjamin Bratt); ENDLESS (Nicholas Hamilton, Alexandra Shipp, Famke Janssen); and most recently 2021's DANGEROUS (Scott Eastwood, Kevin Durand, Tyrese Gibson, Famke Janssen and Mel Gibson). For more information about Minds Eye Entertainment, please visit: www.mindseyepictures.com

– 30 –

[PRESS MATERIALS](#)

@MindsEyeEnt

For more information, please contact:

Mariia Novok
Publicist | TARO PR
mariia@taropr.com
416-830-2923