

# VARIETY

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## Hallstrom caressing 'Caresse'

Story concerns duo living bohemian lifestyle in the '20s

By Claude Brodesser

HOLLYWOOD -- Oscar-nommed helmer Lasse Hallstrom is in negotiations to direct and produce Parisian period piece "Harry and Caresse" for Fine Line Features.

Hallstrom will soon come aboard to supervise the script's development with producing partner Leslie Holleran. Duo are producing Jennifer Lopez/Robert Redford starrer "An Unfinished Life" at Miramax Films. Helmer also directed Miramax pics "The Shipping News" in 2001 and "Chocolat" in 2000.



Hallstrom

Based on a screenplay by tyro scribe Andrea Berloff, story concerns itself with a real-life scandalous couple -- Harry and Caresse Crosby (nee Polly Jacobs) -- who abandoned their staid lives in Boston society to run off to Paris and live the bohemian lifestyle circa 1927. There, the posh young expatriates lived a life of sex, drugs and poetry, with Caresse establishing the Black Sun Press to publish Harry's own poetry and later the work of their friends such as D.H. Lawrence, James Joyce and Kay Boyle.

Pic's development is being supervised by production execs Michele Weiss, Jonna Smith and Swanna MacNair, reporting to Fine Line topper Mark Ordesky. There is no budget on the pic as yet.

Scribe Berloff is also at work on another literary pursuit -- adapting Jane Mendelsohn's novel "I Was Amelia Earhart," also set up at New Line/Fine Line.

Hallstrom and Berloff are both repped by UTA, with Berloff managed by Benderspink.