

## Sony Pictures' 'Smurfs 2,' 'Houdini' and 'Singularity' to Shoot in Montreal

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Sony Pictures

**The Hollywood studio is bringing three CGI-heavy movies to Quebec for production one after the other to take advantage of generous tax breaks and digital media incentives.**

TORONTO - Studio movie shoots in Canada these days increasingly come in bunches for added production savings.

**Roland Emmerich** may have [delayed](#) production on his sci-fi epic *Singularity* in Montreal, but that hasn't stopped Sony Pictures piling into Quebec with yet more big-budget movie shoots.

The studio is now likely to shoot the \$175 million *Singularity* picture in fall 2012, ahead of a May 2013 release, after **Steven Spielberg** wraps production on *Robopocalypse* at the Cite' du Cinema studio in summer 2012.

Now there's word Sony Pictures is to shoot the upcoming sequel to *The Smurfs* and its *Houdini* project in Montreal as it takes advantage of Quebec's generous all-spend tax credit and additional digital media tax incentives for live action/CG hybrids.

The studio is near to starting pre-production on *The Smurfs 2*, which has an August 2, 2013 release, and **Jordan Kerner** returning as producer.

And Sony Pictures is also sending to Montreal director **Francis Lawrence**'s high profile film about **Houdini**, the famed escape artist and magician.

The studio is only the latest Los Angeles producer to secure economies of scale by shooting movies one after the other in Canada, often with the same local production crews and facilities.

Relativity Media had **Tarsem Singh** shoot the CGI-heavy epic *Immortals* inside the Cite' du Cinema studio in Montreal, followed by production of next year's **Julia Roberts**-starring Snow White movie *Mirror, Mirror*, also in Montreal.

And Universal Pictures similarly chose Montreal to shoot *Mummy 3* and *Death Race* one after the other back in 2007.

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