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## CANNES: Julie Taymor Plans Mann Musical

By TIM ADLER Friday May 14, 2010 @ 12:22pm PDT



**EXCLUSIVE:** The director, whose latest Shakespeare film adaptation *The Tempest* is being sold here, wants to do a movie version of Thomas Mann's *Transposed Heads* next. Glenn Berger, co-writer of Broadway show *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*, is writing the book. Elliot Goldenthal, who composed *Across the Universe* and *Frida* for Taymor, is penning the score.

But first she has to get Sony's delayed Spider-Man musical out of the way. Taymor tells me this will finally premiere on Broadway this autumn. First, Evan Rachel Wood dropped out of playing Mary Jane. Then Alan Cumming left. The \$50 million musical, with music by U2's Bono and the Edge, was due to open in February.

Touchstone will release the \$20 million *The Tempest* in English-language territories this December. Icon Films International is handling international sales. The film was pre-sold to Toho in Japan. Helen Mirren stars as a female Prospero with Djimon Hounsou as Caliban, Ben Whishaw as Ariel and Felicity Jones as Miranda. Russell Brand, Alfred Molina and Chris Cooper round out the cast.

Like *The Tempest* and her previous Shakespeare movie *Titus Andronicus*, Taymor has already directed *Transposed Heads* on stage. She plans to shoot this musical -- which she describes as "a sexy love triangle" -- in India and New York. "When it's a good story you just finding new things in it," she tells me, "and there are only so many good stories in the world."

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