

Young Woman and the Sea

Young Woman and the Sea is an upcoming American biographical drama film directed by Joachim Rønning and written by Jeff Nathanson, based on the 2009 book of the same name by Glenn Stout. Produced by Walt Disney Pictures and Jerry Bruckheimer Films, the film stars Daisy Ridley as Gertrude Ederle, an American competitive swimmer who became the first woman to swim across the English Channel. It also stars Tilda Cobham-Hervey, Stephen Graham, Kim Bodnia, Christopher Eccleston, and Glenn Fleshler in supporting roles.

Development on the film began in 2015 after producer Jerry Bruckheimer acquired the film rights to the book and settled in up at Paramount Pictures, with Nathanson attached to write it and Lily James cast as Ederle. Paramount eventually put the project in turnaround. In 2020, it was announced it was acquired by Walt Disney Pictures, with Ridley set to portray Ederle and Rønning to direct it. Principal photography took place between May and June 2022. Originally set for release on the streaming service Disney+, Walt Disney Pictures opted to release the film theatrically after positive test screenings.

Young Woman and the Sea is scheduled to receive a limited theatrical release by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures on May 31, 2024.

Premise

Young Woman and the Sea tells the story of Gertrude Ederle, an American swimming champion, who first won a gold medal at the 1924 Olympic Games. In 1926, Ederle became the first woman to swim 21 miles across the English Channel.^[1]

Cast

- Daisy Ridley as Gertrude "Trudy" Ederle: An American competition swimmer and Olympic champion.^[2]
- Tilda Cobham-Hervey as Margaret "Meg" Ederle: Gertrude's sister.^[3]
- Stephen Graham as Bill Burgess: A sailor tracking down Gertrude's progress.^[3]
- Kim Bodnia as Henry Ederle: Gertrude's father.

Young Woman and the Sea



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	<u>Joachim Rønning</u>
Written by	<u>Jeff Nathanson</u>
Based on	<i>Young Woman and the Sea</i> by <u>Glenn Stout</u>
Produced by	<u>Jerry Bruckheimer</u> <u>Chad Oman</u> <u>Jeff Nathanson</u>
Starring	<u>Daisy Ridley</u> <u>Tilda Cobham-Hervey</u> <u>Stephen Graham</u> <u>Kim Bodnia</u> <u>Christopher Eccleston</u> <u>Glenn Fleshler</u>

- [Christopher Eccleston](#) as [Jabez Wolffe](#): Gertrude's trainer.^[4]
- [Glenn Fleshler](#) as James Sullivan
- [Jeanette Hain](#) as Gertrude Anna Ederle: Gertrude's mother.^[5]
- [Sian Clifford](#) as Charlotte: Gertrude's swimming trainer.

Production

Development

In November 2015, it was announced that [Jerry Bruckheimer](#) had acquired the rights to the 2009 non-fiction book *Young Woman and the Sea: How Trudy Ederle Conquered the English Channel and Inspired the World* by Glenn Stout for [Paramount Pictures](#), hiring [Jeff Nathanson](#) to write the script for the film,^[6] and [Lily James](#) cast to play [Gertrude Ederle](#).^[6] In December 2020, it was reported that the film was in development at [Walt Disney Pictures](#), with the company eyeing a [Disney+](#) release, after Paramount put it in [turnaround](#). Production was overseen by Jerry Bruckheimer under his [Jerry Bruckheimer Films](#) banner, and Chad Oman for Disney.^[2]

Casting

Lily James was originally cast in the titular role of Gertrude Ederle, until the film lay in [development hell](#).^[6] With the film's announcement in December 2020, [Daisy Ridley](#) was cast in the titular role instead.^[2] In March 2022, [Tilda Cobham-Hervey](#) joined the cast of the film playing Margaret Ederle, along with [Stephen Graham](#) in an undisclosed role.^[3] In May 2022, [Christopher Eccleston](#) joined the cast in an undisclosed role.^[4]

Filming

[Principal photography](#) began by early May 2022, and wrapped on June 18, 2022.^{[4][7]}

Release

Young Woman and the Sea was scheduled to debut on [Disney+](#).^[2] In January 2024, following positive test screenings and the box office success of the [Amazon MGM Studios](#) sports drama *The Boys in the Boat* (2023), a theatrical release was considered as a possible way to tie-in with the upcoming [2024 Summer Olympics](#) in [France](#), with a potential release date of May 31, 2024. The following month, it was officially moved to theatrical for a [limited release](#).^[5]

Marketing

Cinematography	Oscar Faura
Edited by	Úna Ní Dhonghaíle
Music by	Amelia Warner
Production companies	Walt Disney Pictures <p>Jerry Bruckheimer Films</p>
Distributed by	Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures
Release date	May 31, 2024
Running time	129 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English

First look images from the film were released exclusively by *People* on March 6, 2024.^[8] The trailer debuted at *CinemaCon* on April 11, 2024 and was released to the public online shortly after.^[9]

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External links

- *Young Woman and the Sea* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5177114/>) at IMDb
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