



Jodie Whittaker

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Jodie Auckland Whittaker (born 17 June 1982) is an English actress. She came to prominence in her 2006 feature film debut *Venus*, for which she received British Independent Film Award and Satellite Award nominations. She was later praised for her roles in the cult science fiction film *Attack the Block* (2011), the *Black Mirror* episode "The Entire History of You" (2011), and as grieving mother Beth Latimer in *Broadchurch*.

On 16 July 2017, the BBC announced that Whittaker would become the thirteenth and first female incarnation of The Doctor^[1] in the British TV series *Doctor Who*. She formally assumed the role from Peter Capaldi in the 2017 Christmas special episode "Twice Upon a Time" when Capaldi's Twelfth Doctor regenerated into Whittaker's Thirteenth Doctor. Whittaker appears in her first full series as the Doctor in the eleventh series, which premiered in October 2018.^[2]

Early life

Jodie Auckland Whittaker^[3] was born on 17 June 1982^[3] in Skelmanthorpe, West Yorkshire. She attended Scissett Middle School and Shelley High School before training at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, graduating in 2005 with the highest prize, the Acting Gold Medal.^[4]

Career

Early career

Whittaker made her professional debut in *The Storm* at Shakespeare's Globe in 2005.^[4] She has since worked in film, television, radio and theatre. In 2007, she stood in at short notice for an unwell Carey Mulligan in the Royal Court's production of *The Seagull*, and appeared in a fundraising play at the Almeida Theatre.

Jodie Whittaker



Whittaker in July 2018

Born	Jodie Auckland Whittaker <div>17 June 1982</div> <div> <u>Skelmanthorpe, West Yorkshire, England</u></div>
Occupation	Actress
Years active	2005–present
Spouse	Christian Contreras (m. 2008)
Children	1

In Whittaker's first major role, she co-starred as Jessie / Venus in the film *Venus*. Her radio credits include a 2008 adaptation of *Blinded by the Sun* by Stephen Poliakoff^[5] and Lydia Bennett in *Unseen Austen*, an original drama by Judith French. In 2009, she worked on the film *Ollie Kepler's Expanding Purple World*, the BBC2 drama *Royal Wedding*,^[6] and the short film *Wish 143*,^[7] which was nominated for the Academy Award for Live Action Short Film at the 83rd Academy Awards.^[8]

In 2010, Whittaker appeared in the film *The Kid* and co-starred in BBC's *Accused*. She appeared in the 2009 Irish comedy crime film *Perrier's Bounty*. In 2011, she appeared as Viv in the BBC adaptation of Sarah Waters's novel *The Night Watch* and the cult film *Attack the Block*. In 2012, she starred in the musical comedy-drama *Good Vibrations*.

Whittaker starred in the drama *Broadchurch*, the reality-based spy drama miniseries *The Assets*, and the four-part BBC One medical drama *Trust Me*.^[9]

Doctor Who

On 16 July 2017, Whittaker was announced as the Thirteenth Doctor in the science fiction television series *Doctor Who*; she is the first woman to play the title role.^{[10][11][12]} She had previously worked with incoming *Doctor Who* showrunner Chris Chibnall on *Broadchurch*.^[13] She admitted that she had to "tell a lot of lies" after being cast to keep the information secret and used the codeword "Clooney" when talking about the role.^[13] She urged fans not to be afraid of her gender, saying "*Doctor Who* represents everything that's exciting about change. The fans have lived through so many changes, and this is only a new, different one, not a fearful one."^[13] Chibnall said that he always wanted a woman for the part and that Whittaker was their first choice.^[14]

Reaction to Whittaker's casting was mostly positive, although a sizeable minority was unhappy.^[15] Some said that a female Doctor would be a good role model for young girls, while others felt the Doctor was only ever meant to be male, or criticised the casting as an exercise in political correctness.^{[16][17]} Whittaker debuted in the 2017 Christmas special "Twice Upon a Time".^{[18][19]}

Personal life

Whittaker has been married to American actor and writer^[1] Christian Contreras since 2008.^[20] Their first child was born in April 2015.^[21] Her nephew Harry Whittaker, who died at the age of three in 2014, had Down syndrome and appeared in *Emmerdale* as Leo Goskirk, a character with the same condition.^{[22][23]} Whittaker identifies as a feminist.^[24] She lives in London.^[1]

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2006	<i>Venus</i>	Jessie ^[25]	Nominated—ALFS Award for British Newcomer of the Year Nominated—British Independent Film Award for Most Promising Newcomer (On Screen) Nominated—London Critics Circle Film Award for British Newcomer of the Year Nominated—Satellite Award for Best Actress in a Motion Picture, Comedy or Musical
2007	<i>St Trinian's</i>	Beverly ^{[25][26]}	
2008	<i>Good</i>	Anne Hartman ^[25]	
2009	<i>White Wedding</i>	Rose ^[27]	
	<i>Swansong: Story of Occi Byrne</i>	Bridget Byrne ^[25]	
	<i>Roar</i>	Eva ^[27]	Short film
	<i>Perrier's Bounty</i>	Brenda ^[25]	
	<i>Wish 143</i>	Maggie ^[7]	Short film
	<i>St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold</i>	Beverly ^{[25][26]}	
2010	<i>The Kid</i>	Jackie ^[25]	
	<i>Ollie Kepler's Expanding Purple World</i>	Noreen Stokes ^[25]	
2011	<i>Attack the Block</i>	Samantha Adams ^[26]	Nominated—Fangoria Chainsaw Award for Best Supporting Actress
	<i>One Day</i>	Tilly ^[25]	
	<i>A Thousand Kisses Deep</i>	Mia Selva ^[25]	Also video operator
2012	<i>Good Vibrations</i>	Ruth ^[25]	
	<i>Ashes</i>	Ruth ^{[28][29]}	
	<i>Dust</i>	Jessica's Mum ^[30]	Short film
2013	<i>Spike Island</i>	Suzanne ^[25]	
2014	<i>Hello Carter</i>	Jenny ^[25]	

Year	Title	Role	Notes
	<i><u>Get Santa</u></i>	Alison ^[25]	
	<i><u>Emotional Fusebox</u></i>	Anna ^[25]	Short film
	<i><u>Black Sea</u></i>	Chrissy ^[25]	
2016	<i><u>Adult Life Skills</u></i>	Anna ^[25]	<p>Also executive producer Nominated—<u>British Independent Film Award for Best Actress</u></p> <p>Nominated—<u>National Film Award (UK) for Best Actress</u>^[31]</p> <p>Nominated—<u>National Film Award (UK) for Best Breakthrough Performance</u>^[31]</p>
2017	<i><u>Journeyman</u></i>	Emma ^[27]	Nominated— <u>Evening Standard British Film Awards Best Supporting Actress</u> ^[32]

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2006	<i><u>The Afternoon Play</u></i>	^[33]	<p>Episode: "The Last Will and Testament of Billy Two-Sheds"</p> <p>Won—<u>RTS Midlands Award for Best Actress</u></p>
	<i><u>Doctors</u></i>	Louise Clancy ^[27]	Episode: "Ignorance Is Bliss"
	<i><u>Dalziel and Pascoe</u></i>	^[27]	Episode: "Fallen Angel"
2007	<i><u>This Life + 10</u></i>	Clare ^[27]	Television film
2008	<i><u>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</u></i>	Izzy Huett ^[25]	Miniseries
	<i><u>Wired</u></i>	Louise Evans ^[25]	Miniseries
	<i><u>The Shooting of Thomas Hurndall</u></i>	Sophie ^[25]	Television film
	<i><u>Consuming Passion</u></i>	Mary Boon ^[25]	Television film
2009	<i><u>Return to Cranford</u></i>	Peggy Bell	Television Miniseries
2010	<i><u>Accused</u></i>	Emma Croft ^[27]	Episode: "Liam's Story"
	<i><u>Royal Wedding</u></i>	Linda Caddock ^[25]	Television film
2011	<i><u>Marchlands</u></i>	Ruth Bowen ^[27]	5 episodes
	<i><u>Black Mirror</u></i>	Ffion ^[26]	Episode: " <u>The Entire History of You</u> "
	<i><u>The Night Watch</u></i>	Vivian Pearce ^[25]	Television film
2013–2017	<i><u>Broadchurch</u></i>	Beth Latimer ^{[25][26]}	<p>24 episodes</p> <p>Nominated—<u>Crime Thriller Award for Best Supporting Actress</u></p> <p>Nominated—<u>RTS Television Award for Best Actress</u></p>

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2014	<i>The Assets</i>	Sandra Grimes ^[27]	8 episodes
	<i>The Smoke</i>	Trish Tooley ^[27]	8 episodes
2017	<i>Trust Me</i>	Cath Hardacre/Dr Ally Sutton ^[27]	4 episodes
2017–present	<i>Doctor Who</i>	Thirteenth Doctor ^[26]	Debut in " <i>Twice Upon a Time</i> ", <i>Series 11</i>

Stage

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2005	<i>The Storm</i>	Ampelisca ^[34]	Shakespeare's Globe
2006	<i>Enemies</i>	Nadya ^[27]	Almeida Theatre
2007	<i>A Gagggle of Saints</i>	Sue ^[35]	Trafalgar Studios
	<i>Awake and Sing!</i> ^[27]	Hennie Berger	Almeida Theatre
2012	<i>Antigone</i>	Antigone ^[27]	National Theatre ^[36]

Radio

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2008	<i>Blinded by the Sun</i>	^[37]	BBC Radio 4
	<i>Unseen Austen</i>	Lydia Bennett ^[38]	

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