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The girl Juanita

Frau über Bord , premiered in 1952 under the title **The Girl Juanita** , is a German feature film shot in the winter of 1944/45 by Wolfgang Staudte and starring Heinrich George .

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Plot

It is a hot, atmospheric summer night in Tangier when the handsome and married Robert Henseling confesses his love to the hot-blooded Juanita. The spirited girl takes what he, who will set sail for Bremen a short time later on the ship, the *Galitea* , *obviously didn't mean very seriously, very seriously*. She is firmly convinced that Robert will divorce his estranged wife Helene in order to marry her instead. The German is all the more surprised when Juanita suddenly appears on board: she jumped after the departing ship and is now making her way into Robert's cabin. Helene, who gets on at the next stop, discovers her rival in her cabin bed.

Juanita, determined to go to Germany with Robert, takes it for granted that Robert will marry her there. Helene is very angry about Robert's obviously amorous 'Morocco adventure' and then begins to flirt violently with the ship's first officer, Alvarez, which in turn causes Robert's jealousy to flare up. He

Movie

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| German title | <u>The girl Juanita</u> |
| Original title | <u>Woman overboard</u> |
| Country of production | <u>Germany</u> |
| Publishing year | <u>1952</u> |
| length | <u>85 minutes</u> |
| Age rating | <u>FSK 16</u> |
| | <u>Rod</u> |
| Direction | <u>Wolfgang Staudte</u> |
| script | <u>Curt J. Braun</u> based on an idea by <u>Fritz Klotzsch</u> and <u>Dinah Nelken</u> |
| production | <u>Heinrich George</u> (production group) for <u>Tobis-Filmkunst</u> (Berlin) |
| Music | <u>Werner Bochmann</u> (1945) ^[1] |
| camera | <u>Friedl Behn-Grund</u> |
| cut | <u>Ella Ensink</u> (1945) <u>Walter Wischniewsky</u> (1952) |
| | occupation |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Heinrich George</u> : Consul <u>Christoph Henseling</u> ▪ <u>Axel von Ambesser</u> : <u>Robert Henseling</u>, his nephew ▪ <u>Anneliese Uhlig</u> : <u>Helena Henseling</u>, his wife ▪ <u>Charlotte Schellhorn</u> : <u>Juanita Diaz</u> ▪ <u>Karl Schönböck</u> : First Officer <u>Alvarez</u> ▪ <u>Günther Lüders</u> : sergeant ▪ <u>Arthur Schröder</u> : Hotel porter <u>Sturm</u> |

asks Helene to at least introduce her to his uncle, the consul Henseling, who attaches great importance to forms, as his wife when she arrives in Bremen, even if she already has intentions of divorce. Christoph Henseling is actually expecting his nephew and his wife on land.

Robert's Helene is warmly welcomed by the old consul and the two get along wonderfully. Now Robert just has to get rid of Juanita quickly and elegantly, and so he quickly puts the fiery Spanish woman up in a hotel - registered as his wife. Her compatriot Alvarez promptly shows up there a little later. After a fun-filled evening in a bar, the two of them have become closer and the two compatriots intend to get married. But first, says Alvarez, he has to take Helene away from her terrible husband, since the ship's officer assumes that Juanita is married to Robert. As luck would have it, the bill for Juanita's nighttime feast with Alvarez ends up in the consul's hands. He is astonished when he learns that Robert must have a second wife. Old Henseling then rushes to Juanita's hotel and sees her arm in arm with his nephew. He misunderstands the situation, because in reality Juanita is just saying goodbye to Robert because she is now planning her future with the ship's officer and is releasing Robert from his (never given) wedding vows.

However, Consul Henseling thinks that he now knows his nephew's true wife, while in reality Helene must only be Robert's lover. Consul Henseling's subsequent activities further complicate matters. He asks the "beloved"

Helene to move to his hunting lodge, where she soon reconciles with her husband, while the old man invites Juanita to his house to introduce her as Robert's wife at an evening gathering with several friends and acquaintances. When Robert and Helene burst into the middle of this company, the confusion is complete. The guests leave; From now on, Helene no longer believes a single word Robert says and disappears too. Only in the ship's officer Alvarez does Robert find someone who listens to him and understands him. No wonder, Alvarez no longer has to laboriously "kidnap" Juanita, who is actually not married to Robert. Helene returns to the ship dejected and meets, of all people, the girl Juanita on the railing. Alvarez, also back on board, explains everything to the sad Helene, and as the ship sets off again, this time it is Helene who jumps overboard to return to her Robert.

- Carl-Heinz Schroth : Second officer of the 'Galitea'
- Ernst Legal : Arthur Henseling, Christoph's brother
- Bruno Harprecht : Oskar Henseling, Christoph's brother
- Hubert von Meyerinck : Herbert Henseling, Christoph's nephew
- Erna Sellmer : Frieda Henseling, Christoph's sister
- Leopold von Ledebur : Josef, Henseling's servant
- Hans Mierendorff : Wetterkopp, lawyer
- Will Dohm : Deiters, host
- Else Reval : Lisa, Henseling's cook
- Ursula Herking : Waltraud Jendl
- Lu Säumlisch : Edelgund Jendl
- Fritz Staudte : ^[2] Prof. Arbus
- Käte Alving : his wife
- Erich Fiedler : Guest at Henselings
- Fanny Cotta : dancer on board
- Anneliese Würtz : stewardess on board
- Edgar Pauly : head waiter
- Walter Bechmann : Steward on board
- Charly Berger : ship passenger
- Klaus Seiwert : ship passenger
- Ferdinand Robert : Guest in the tropical hotel

Production notes

The film was shot from November 1944 to February 1945 ^[3] in the Tobis studios in Berlin-Johannisthal . This made *Woman Overboard* , along with the films *The Man in the Saddle* and *Three Times Comedy* , one of the last films that were completely shot in the Third Reich but could no longer be shown. The new title *The Girl Juanita* was chosen for the premiere on May 16, 1952 in several German cities (including Göttingen and Frankfurt/M.) . Later the original title was used again, which was also chosen for the Austrian premiere. The film also had the alternative title *Summer Nights* and the working title *Cabin 27* .

Conrad Flockner was in charge of production; The buildings were designed by Fritz Maurischat and carried out by Rudolf Thiele. The chief sound engineer was Gerhard Froboess . *The Girl Juanita* was also Heinrich George's last film that he was able to complete in its entirety. The silent film veteran Hans Mierendorff gave his swan song in front of the camera here.

Criticism

“The comedy of mistaken identity was filmed under adverse conditions at the end of the war and was supplemented with poor archive footage of Africa and the passenger ship “Bremen,” but was never completed.”

– Lexicon of international film ^[4]

Web links

- *The girl Juanita* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0037933>) in the Internet Movie Database (English)
- *The girl Juanita* (<https://www.filmportal.de/c59536d6a8424c3981757a343404eb6a>) at filmportal.de
- *Woman overboard (West German version)* (<https://archive.org/details/1945FrauUberBord24pWolfgangStaudte>) Full film at the Deutsche Filmothek

Individual evidence

1. filmportal nennt Willy Mattes (ungenannt) für 1945 und Bochmann für 1952, Ulrich J. Klaus: Deutsche Tonfilme, 13. Jahrgang 1944/45 nennt Werner Eisbrenner für 1952
2. Fritz Staudte war der Vater von Regisseur Wolfgang Staudte
3. laut Unterlagen Filmarchiv Kay Weniger
4. *Das Mädchen Juanita*. (<https://www.filmdienst.de/film/details/29811>) In: *Lexikon des internationalen Films*. Filmdienst, abgerufen am 2. März 2017.

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