

Ophelia



Oil on canvas, 1921 - Friedrich Wilhelm Theodor Heyser - Ophelia

When Ophelia meets Hamlet on the banks of a peaceful river, it is love at first sight. Yet, she is one of the queen's maids and he is the Prince. However, their love transcends social categories, tying two individuals, two souls, nearly against their will because this love is stronger and they can not flee from it.

Ophelia is an American movie released in 2018, directed by Claire McCarthy. She adapted the book written by Lisa Klein who was herself inspired by the theater piece Hamlet written by Shakespeare. Lisa Klein wanted to explore the character of Ophelia and I was fully captivated by this perspective of the well-known Shakespeare piece of art. Loyal and courageous, the young woman grabs your attention with her independent spirit.

Daisy Ridley (Ophelia), famous for her role of Rey in Star Wars, shows here again all her remarkable acting skills. George MacKay interprets the role of prince Hamlet and Naomi Watts, brilliant actress, plays Hamlet's mother the queen Gertrude. Besides, I really appreciated the complexity of her character. Queen Gertrude desperately wants to stay young and beautiful. Married to the king, she falls in love with his brother : Claudius. The innocent, pure and inconsequential love quickly becomes devastating and tragic showing its part of madness when the two lovers murder the king. Ophelia, mute witness of the tragedy, is torn between her loyalty towards the queen and her love for Hamlet who wants to avenge the death of his father. Moreover, she is the daughter of Polonius who is unintentionally murdered by Hamlet who thought it was Claudius. Will she still be able to listen to her heart after that?

The refined costumes, the beautifully chosen locations, the music and dances transport us directly in a journey through time where love takes various forms between innocence, passion, betrayal, death and madness. Thus, Ophelia is a wonderful and poetic film that I highly recommend.

At the end, only one question resides : *What would you be ready to do for love?*

PS :

You might still want to watch the trailer to be fully convinced.

In order to do so, click on the following link : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gIA2Fn2q7zY>

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