

AT THE NORTH SEA

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Lau Lauritzen Sr., Denmark, 1927

101 min. | DK/Feature | Comedy, Drama | Silent films



On the west coast of Jutland lives old Malin (Petrine Sonne) and her adopted son Tom (Erling Schroeder), who is in love with the beach-warden's daughter Karin (Karin Nellemose), but her father is dead set against marriage. Tom allows two kind tramps, Pat and Patachon (Carl Schenstrøm and Harald Madsen) to build a hut on the beach. The two go fishing, but lose their boat when they hook a whale. During a storm, their hut blows away, and the captain of a stranded ship reveals that Tom is the son of a wealthy English couple. Pat and Patachon manage to get them reunited and also discover that the ghosts haunting the area are really a gang of smugglers led by Tom's villainous rival.

One of the pair's biggest successes, containing all the characteristic elements of their films: the two lovable tramps, the young lovers they help, and the bevy of beautiful "Lau-girls" (inspired by Sennett's Bathing Beauties, but here dressed in non-daring national costume). Tempo and farce are less important than a sweet and charming atmosphere, even if the film also contains a dance scene which is one of the funniest things Pat and Patachon ever did. The Pat and Patachon films were also characteristically shot in picturesque Danish countryside locations. In fact, they were the only Danish films to make any real use of the Danish landscape; the resolutely urban or foreign background of most Danish films sets them apart from those made in the other Nordic countries, where national and rural themes predominated.

Basic information

Credits

Festivals & awards

Materials

Original title	Vester-Vov-Vov
Danish title	Vester-Vov-Vov
International titles	Vid Västerhavets vågor, People of the North Sea, Pat und Patachon am Nordseestrand
Director	Lau Lauritzen Sr.
Screenplay	A.V. Olsen , Lau Lauritzen Sr.
Director of Photography	Valdemar Christensen , Hugo J. Fischer
Sound	Preben Mortensen , Poul Nyrup
Composer	Ole Høyer
Appearance	Carl Schenstrøm , Harald Madsen , Jørgen Lund , Kate Fabian
Production country	Denmark
Production company	Palladium
Domestic distribution	Film-Centralen-Palladium
International sales	
Technical info	2560 meter, 35 mm, Normal, Black/white, Silent
Danish theatrical release	14.10.1927
Cinemas	World Cinema

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