

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Cunard transatlantic voyage turns into movie set

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Cunard's Queen Mary 2. Image courtesy of Cunard

By STAFF REPORTS

Cruise line Cunard is opening its Queen Mary 2 to a movie shoot, as Oscar-winning director Steven Soderbergh films an upcoming project onboard the ship.

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During the crossing from Aug. 18 to 24, the director known for "Ocean's 11" and "Traffic" will be shooting a film that is being produced under the working title "Let Them All Talk." Along with the ship's appearance in the movie, Cunard's guests will have a chance to become extras, providing a memorable sailing experience.

"It's thrilling to have Steven Soderbergh and his stellar cast filming their new movie on our flagship Queen Mary 2," said Josh Leibowitz, senior vice president of Cunard North America, in a statement. "Our guests will have a rare opportunity to be part of a major Hollywood feature film, and join Cunard's rich legacy with the entertainment industry."

Lights, camera, action

Cunard's ship is sailing from New York to Southampton.

HBO Max has just acquired the rights to the film, which stars actors Meryl Streep, Candice Bergen, Gemma Chan, Lucas Hedges and Dianne Wiest.

According to the *Hollywood Reporter*, Ms. Streep plays an author who is traveling with her friends, played by Ms. Bergen and Ms. Wiest. Also along for the journey is the author's nephew, played by Mr. Hedges, who gets involved with Ms. Chan's literary agent.

This is the latest entertainment crossover for Cunard. Numerous film figures have traveled on the cruise line, including director Wes Anderson and actors Elizabeth Taylor, Rita Hayworth and Tilda Swinton.



Britannia restaurant on Queen Mary 2. Image credit: Cunard

In 2017, Cunard also hosted a film premiere at sea for "The Greatest Showman."

Last year, Cunard furthered its ties to show business through a partnership with the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, Los Angeles.

Cunard became BAFTA Los Angeles' official cruise partner, a role that includes brand placement at events throughout 2019. Through this sponsorship, Cunard will also be able to offer guests film experiences while they are on board, bringing a taste of Hollywood to the water ([see story](#)).

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