**Beat: Sports**

# -Eddie the Eagle- 2016 semi-biographical sports dramedy film

**To be released in FRANCE on May 04**

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**USPA NEWS -** 'Eddie the Eagle' is a 2016 semi-biographical sports dramedy film directed by Dexter Fletcher. The film stars Taron Egerton as Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards, a British skier who in 1988 became the first competitor to represent Great Britain in Olympic ski jumping....

'Eddie the Eagle' is a 2016 semi-biographical sports dramedy film directed by Dexter Fletcher. The film stars Taron Egerton as Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards, a British skier who in 1988 became the first competitor to represent Great Britain in Olympic ski jumping.

Directed by : Dexter Fletcher
Screenplay by : Sean Macaulay and Simon Kelton
Starring : Taron Egerton, Hugh Jackman, Christopher Walken, Iris Berben
Produced by : Adam Bohling, David Reid, Rupert Maconick, Valerie Van Galder, Matthew Vaughn
Running time : 105 minutes
Country : Germany, United Kingdom, United States
Release dates : January 26, 2016 (Sundance Film Festival), February 26, 2016 (United States), March 28, 2016 (United Kingdom), May 4, 2016 (France).

THE PLOT :

'Eddie the Eagle' tells the true story of Eddie Edwards, an odd young man who, despite not having much athletic skill, had a childhood which was a string of track and field disasters until he discovered downhill skiing. Since no one else is representing Great Britain as a ski jumper, all he needs to do is achieve some modest qualifications and they´ll have to accept him. The specifics are a little vague, but the important thing is that Eddie soon heads out to Germany to train.

His mother unconditionally supports him, while his father constantly discourages him. Although successful at the sport, he is rejected by British Olympic officials for being uncouth. In Garmisch-Partenkirchen (Germany), the more seasoned jumpers, specifically those on the Norwegian team, belittle him. However he befriends a kindly bar owner called Petra (Iris Berben), who takes Eddie in and supports him all through the film.

Drunken snow groomer Bronson Peary (Hugh Jackman) encourages Eddie to give up, but Eddie's tenacious spirit and shared feelings of ostracisation from the other jumpers there convince him to train Eddie. Bronson Peary is a former champion American ski jumper who left the sport in his 20s after a conflict with his mentor, famous ski jumper Warren Sharp (Christopher Walken). With very little time to qualify for the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, Alberta, Eddie and Bronson employ various unorthodox methods to condition and refine Eddie's form, and he successfully completes the 40m hill.

OUR REVIEW :

Film to be watched because as a sportswriter who attended the events in which the real Eddie competed, wrote 'three generations of my family loved this film. You can't believe most of it, but you can believe in it. That's a subtle but important difference.' Director Dexter Fletcher pushes the comedy to the limit, well aware that each knoll in the story is fraught with cliche. The blasts of surrealism that break into the believability of the story are preferable to many other musical training montage, the jumping scenes lend themselves quite nicely to film.

Christopher Walken makes a brief and fantastically odd appearance as Bronson Peary´s own (long-retired) coach, bringing his trademark stony gravitas to the world of winter sports. Hugh Jackman´s natural movie-star effortlessness often serves as an antidote to Egerton´s capital-A acting.

The final third of the film is set during Calgary´s 1988 Winter Olympics, where a stray line references another in-development film

project: the Jamaican bobsled team.

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