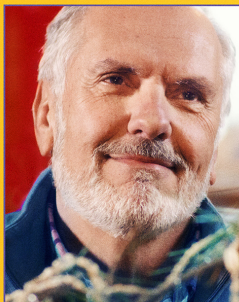


BASED ON *The New York Times* BESTSELLER BY JOAN ANDERSON

**"A TRIUMPH!"**  
Life-affirming, breathtaking and inspirational!"

-AVI OFFER, NYCMOVIEGURU.COM



KAREN ALLEN   YANNICK BISSON   S. EPATHA MERKERSON   MICHAEL CRISTOFER AND CELIA IMRIE

# YEAR BY THE SEA

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO RECLAIM YOUR LIFE



REAL WOMEN MAKE WAVES PRESENTS A B-ARROW ENTERPRISES PICTURE IN ASSOCIATION WITH MONTABELA PRODUCTIONS AND RIVET ENTERTAINMENT  
"YEAR BY THE SEA" KAREN ALLEN YANNICK BISSON S. EPATHA MERKERSON MICHAEL CRISTOFER AND CELIA IMRIE CASTING PAT MCCORKLE  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER CRESSEY BELDEN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CARISA KELLY CINEMATOGRAPHY BRYAN PAPIERSKI EDITOR NORIKO SAKAMOTO SUPERVISOR MATT LILLEY "YEAR BY THE WEEPIES"  
PRODUCED BY LAURA GODDENOW WITH BILL LATKA AND DALE ARMIN JOHNSON DIRECTED & COMPOSED BY ALEXANDER JANKO



COMING SOON



**OPENING NYC SEPT. 8**

It's never too late...

# YEAR BY THE SEA

...to reclaim your life

written, directed & composed by  
**ALEXANDER JANKO**

based upon the *New York Times* bestseller by  
**JOAN ANDERSON**

Film length: 1h54m (114m)  
Credit offsets: 1h49m (109m)  
Trailer length: 2m11s (002m)

2k / 24 fps / 1.85:1  
Filmed on Cape Cod, MA  
EPIC-M RED DRAGON  
unrated

## PRESS CONTACTS

**Sasha Berman (NY & LA)**  
Shotwell Media  
SashaBerman@mac.com

**Laura Goodenow (Regional)**  
Real Women Make Waves  
(317) 250-7771  
[makewaves@yearbythesea.com](mailto:makewaves@yearbythesea.com)



# THE STORY

## TAGLINE

**It's never too late to reclaim your life...**

## LOGLINE

An empty nester retreats to Cape Cod where she embarks upon a quest to set herself free.



## SYNOPSIS

After 30 years as a wife and mother, an empty nester retreats to Cape Cod rather than follow her relocated husband to Kansas. Intent to rediscover herself but plagued with guilt, she questions her decision until stumbling upon a spirited mentor. Supported by her literary agent and a host of locals, including a sexy fisherman, our heroine learns to embrace the ebb and flow of life—ultimately discovering the balance between self and sacrifice, obligation and desire.

## THEMES

**RELATIONSHIP:** Cultivating positive relationships with self, friends, partners, nature

**MENTORSHIP:** Sharing wisdom and knowledge through community and caring

**JOY:** Embracing solitude, seeking fun, recognizing beauty, celebrating life

## THE INSPIRATION

### ALEXANDER JANKO - WRITER/DIRECTOR/COMPOSER

#### THE BOOK FOUND ME

When Joan's book appeared on my kitchen counter, I was at a crossroads. Disenchanted with my studio film composing career, I'd pulled the Hollywood rip cord.

Her opening line—*the decision to separate seemed to happen overnight*—resonated.

Like many midlife readers worldwide, my *raison d'être* was eluding me.

Joan's mission to find herself anew is so honest it's impossible to not ask yourself the questions she poses. One of them—*who are we beyond the roles we play?*—inspired me to dig deep. In doing so, I discovered Joan's quest for authenticity is universal. Her courage to embark upon a journey of self discovery became a story I needed to share with the world on the big screen.



#### THREE WOMEN OVER 60

Two things I knew: I wanted seasoned thespians in command of their craft, and women who personify genuine beauty—the glow that radiates from within sans external enhancements.

Upon first blush, it was clear Karen Allen, S. Epatha Merkerson and Celia Imrie were perfect for their roles, as well as wonderful role models. Joan's story is about accepting oneself no matter your age or stage. And each actress brings wisdom and sensibility to their characters that translates into strong, sensitive and sincere “older” women.

Adding Michael Cristofer and Yannick Bisson rounded out our Golden Globe, Emmy, Tony, and Pulitzer Prize award-winning cast and brought sensitivity to the male's perspective.

#### IT'S NEVER TOO LATE...

Our film's message—*it's never too late to reclaim your life*—counters the agism prevalent in today's film industry...and nation. No one should ever feel they've outlived their usefulness.

No matter how “old” you are, you still have the power to celebrate life, change in meaningful ways, experience new adventures and find happiness. If audiences are inspired by this message, we've done service to Joan's story. If *YEAR BY THE SEA* entertains, stirs emotions and provokes a dialogue, then I've accomplished my goal as an indie filmmaker.



## THE DETAILS

### MEDIA

#### TRAILER

<http://preview.YBTS.film>

#### WEBSITE

[www.YearByTheSea.com](http://www.YearByTheSea.com)

#### SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook/YearByTheSea](#)

Twitter: [@YearByTheSea](#)

Instagram: [YearByTheSea](#)

#### EPK / CLIPS / IMAGES / SCREENER

[www.YearByTheSea.com/press](http://www.YearByTheSea.com/press)

*\*\*\*higher-resolution images available upon request\*\*\**

### 16 FESTIVAL AWARDS

#### 4 AUDIENCE CHOICE

Rhode Island International Film Festival  
Naperville Independent Film Festival  
Berkshire International Film Festival  
Vail Film Festival

#### 2 BEST FEATURE

On Location: Memphis International Film & Music Festival  
Carpe Diem Andretta Award — Woodstock Film Festival

#### 2 BEST SCREENPLAY

Grand Prize — Rhode Island International Film Festival  
Outstanding Achievement in Filmmaking: Screenwriting — Newport Beach Film Festival

#### 1 BEST MUSIC

Alexander Janko — Hamilton Film Festival

#### 7 ACTOR AWARDS

Best Actress (Karen Allen) — Hamilton Film Festival  
Best Actress (Karen Allen) — Naperville Independent Film Festival  
Women in Film Award (Karen Allen) — St. Louis International Film Festival  
Creative Vision Award (Karen Allen) — Rhode Island International Film Festival  
Renaissance Award (Karen Allen) — Port Townsend Film Festival  
Vanguard Award (Karen Allen) — Vail Film Festival  
Best Ensemble Cast — Best Actors Film Festival

## THE TALENT

**KAREN ALLEN** — JOAN Anderson — is a highly acclaimed screen and stage actor and director whose vast film repertoire includes such blockbusters as **ANIMAL HOUSE**, **RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK**, **STARMAN**, **THE GLASS MENAGERIE**, **SCROOGED**, **THE SANDLOT**, **THE PERFECT STORM** and **INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL**. Among her myriad theatrical performances, she portrayed Helen Keller in William Gibson's **THE MONDAY AFTER THE MIRACLE** directed by Arthur Penn at the Actor's Studio, the Spoleto Festival, the Kennedy Center and on Broadway, for which she won a Theatre World Award. Ms Allen's film directorial debut is the short **A TREE. A ROCK. A CLOUD.** based upon the story by Carson McCullers. Named to the Bard College Theatre Department faculty, she is a lifetime member of the Actor's Studio.

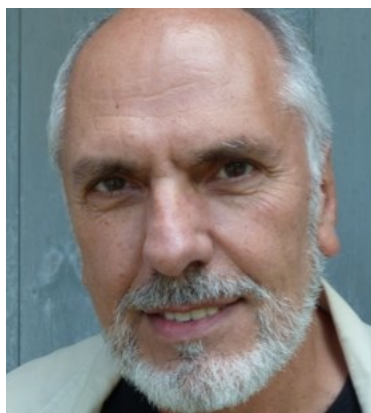


**YANNICK BISSON** — John CAHOON — is an internationally known and award-winning actor best recognized as the clever Detective William Murdoch in the 10-season TV crime drama **MURDOCH MYSTERIES**, sold in 110 territories, including China. Feature film credits include Toronto International Film Festival selection **CASINO JACK**, **NOTHING REALLY MATTERS**, **TOO LATE TO SAY GOODBYE**, **THE SECRETS OF COMFORT HOUSE**, and **ANIMAL 2**. He also has appeared on the TV series **SUE THOMAS: F.B.EYE**, **HIGH TIDE**, **NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR A COWBOY**, and the Showtime drama **SOUL FOOD**.

**S. EPATHA MERKERSON** — LIZ Bloomington — is a theatrical force on stage and screen in both television and film. Exalted for her three-time Image Award-nominated role as the smart and shrewd Lieutenant Anita Van Buren on the TV crime drama **LAW & ORDER**, she now plays Sharon Goodwin on **CHICAGO MED**. Feature film credits include **THE CHALLENGER**, **LINCOLN**, **MOTHER AND CHILD** and **SEXUAL HEALING**. She also claims a long list of Broadway and off-Broadway credits and honors that include Drama Desk Award and Tony Award nominations for Best Actress in **THE PIANO LESSON**, a 1992 Obie Award for her performance in **I'M NOT STUPID**, and a 1998 Helen Hayes Award for her starring role in the Washington DC Studio Theater production of **THE OLD SETTLER**.







**MICHAEL CRISTOFER** — ROBIN Wilcox — is a distinguished screen and stage actor, writer and director whose credits include **EMOTICON**, **THE GIRL IN THE BOOK**, **THE OTHER WOMAN**, **FIVE FLIGHTS UP**, and **CHRONIC**, as well TV series **RUBICON**, **SMASH** and, currently, **MR ROBOT**. Stage performances include **ROMEO AND JULIET** (NY Shakespeare Festival), **TRUMPERY**, **BODY OF WATER**, **DON'T GO GENTLE** (MCC Theater), and **A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE**. Awarded a Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award for the Broadway production of his play, **THE SHADOW BOX**, he also wrote the script. Directing credits include **GIA**, which won a Director's Guild Award and was nominated for 5 Emmys, **BODY SHOTS** and **ORIGINAL SIN**.

**CELIA IMRIE** — Joan ERIKSON — is an accomplished and celebrated award-winning actor who starred in the critically acclaimed **THE BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL** and its sequel **THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL** as well as **BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY**, **CALENDAR GIRLS**, **THE EDGE OF REASON**, **WIMBLEDON**, **NANNY MCPHEE**, and **STAR WARS - THE PHANTOM MENACE**. Nominated for Best Actress in the Tony and Olivier Award-winning comedy **NOISES OFF** at The Old Vic Theatre, she possesses a rich theatrical repertoire that includes an Oliver Award for Best Actress in **ACORN ANTIQUES: THE MUSICAL** and The Clarence Derwent Award for Best Supporting Actress in **THE SEA**. A novelist, Celia penned the *Sunday Times* best-selling novel "*Not Quite Nice*" and its sequel "*Nice Work (If You Can Get It)*". Her recent film releases include **BRIDGET JONES'S BABY** and **ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS - The Movie**.



## SUPPORTING CAST



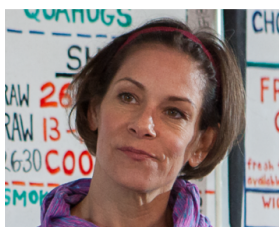
ANDREW  
Tyler Haines



BILLY  
Kohler McKenzie



ERIK  
Alvin Epstein



JUDY  
Jane Hajduk



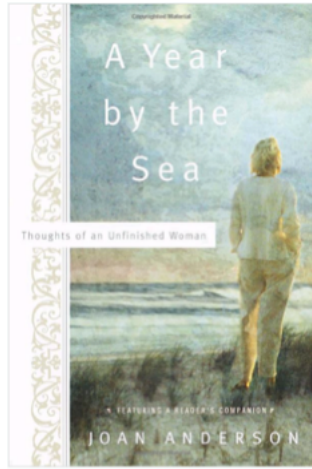
LUCE  
Monique Curnen



LUKE  
Graham King

## THE SOURCE

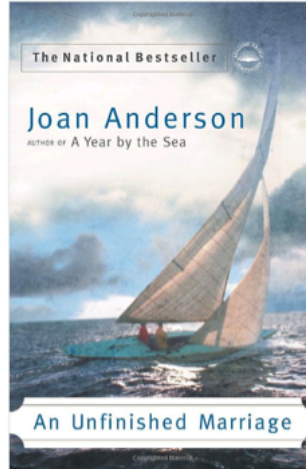
From 3 **New York Times** best-selling memoirs comes a journey of self-discovery:



### YEAR BY THE SEA

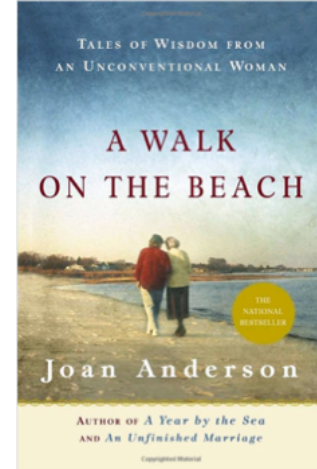
**NYT LIST:**

30+ weeks



### UNFINISHED MARRIAGE

extended list



### WALK ON THE BEACH

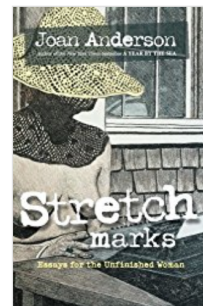
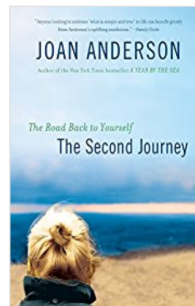
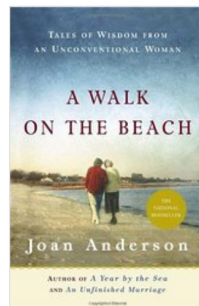
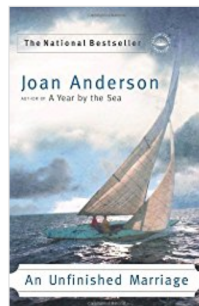
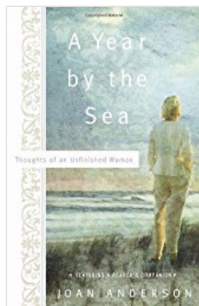
10 weeks

## ABOUT JOAN ANDERSON

A celebrated author, **Joan inspires women** as a motivational speaker by hosting retreats and sharing through media outlets, which will be revisited upon distribution.

- **Weekend Today Show**, NBC (four appearances)
- **Good Morning America**
- **Carolyn Myss Show** (Oxygen Channel)
- ABC/CBS/NBC affiliates in Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Denver
- *The Faith Middleton Show*, NPR; *Morning Edition*, Bob Edwards, NPR
- *Fox Morning Show*, Chicago
- *Good Morning America Read*

Anderson's catalogue includes **6 published titles**:





## THE FILMMAKERS

**ALEXANDER JANKO** — writer/director/composer — has worked on more than 65 major motion pictures. A career milestone, he composed the music for **MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING**. His first script, **HOME TOWN**, became a semifinalist in Final Draft's "Big Break" screenwriting competition. His directing debut, **YEAR BY THE SEA**, won 16 festival awards (including Best Feature, Best Actress, Best Screenplay and Best Music) before its national release.

**LAURA GOODENOW** — producer/distributor — is an award-winning reporter, photojournalist and news editor who transitioned to the creative arts to follow her passion for storytelling. Now a producer, book editor, writer, lyricist, librettist and graphic designer, she's the driving force behind **YEAR BY THE SEA**'s successful Kickstarter and marketing campaigns. Editor of *New York Times* best-selling author Joan Anderson's sixth memoir, **STRETCH MARKS**, Ms Goodenow's first musical, **EMERGING FROM THE NIGHT**, is currently in development.

**CRESSEY BELDEN** — executive producer — began her film career at Hanna-Barbera as a Marketing Manager for the Licensing & Merchandising, Publishing, Home Video, Interactive, Music and Networks plan for **CAVE KIDS**. She then joined Turner Broadcasting to supervise Classic Characters, World Premiere 'Toons and **CAPTAIN PLANET**. Her experience maximizing episodic library revenues led to an invitation to join the Academy of TV Arts & Sciences and Women in Film. **YEAR BY THE SEA** is her foray into features.

**PAT McCORKLE** — casting director — one of New York's top casting directors, Pat McCorkle earned a graduate degree from New York University in theatre education. Invited by Alan Wasser to join **THE CIRCLE IN THE SQUARE** as assistant Artistic Director, she moved to Theater Communication Group and ran the National Student Auditions discovering such future stars as Kelsey Grammer, Harriott Harrison and Jamey Sheridan. Linda Hunt's Oscar-winning role in **THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY** and Stanley Jaffe's **SCHOOL TIES**—introducing Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, Brendan Fraser and Chris O'Donnell—are highlights.

**BRUCE RAWLING** — singer/songwriter — performed his first film track "Prairie Castles" in the National Film Board of Canada's **DEATH OF A SKYLINE**. His subsequent album **FORGIVEN** features his YouTube video sensation **THIRSTY**. In addition to studio recording and his YoungLife.org leadership, Bruce is co-founder of the Tree of Life-Hope Foundation, a non-denominational Christian mission that fosters "Unity in the Spirit." His single **WALK ON FAITH** was inspired by the **YEAR BY THE SEA** screenplay years before filming began.

**NORIKO SAKAMOTO** — film editor — began her career as a television editor on the NYT TV reality series **TRAUMA: LIFE IN THE ER**. Since then, she has edited dozens of reality shows and documentaries for HGTV, Discovery, History, A&E and TLC, currently serving as editor of the popular series **SAY YES TO THE DRESS**. She filmed and directed the documentary short **THE HERON AND THE GEISHA: A LIFE IN DANCE**, a story about Japanese dance, and graduated from The Edit Center shortly before coming on board **YEAR BY THE SEA**.