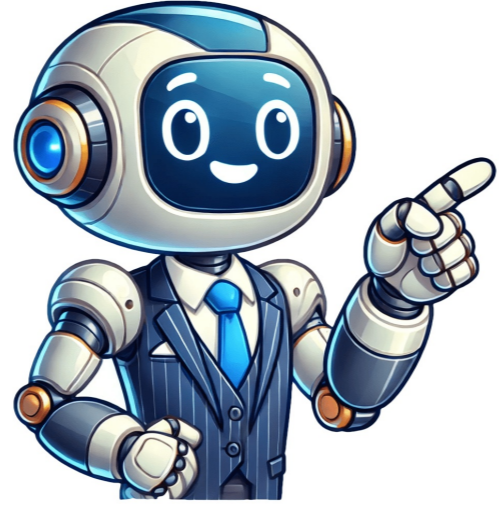


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## Dwayne johnson film 2025

Unfortunately, for now, there is no Dark Souls movie on the horizon, something that would have retold the classic Hidetaka Miyazaki punishing experience through another medium of expression. Moreover, while there might not be a movie in the works, the better part is that nothing is stopping the fans from making their own fan casts if a Dark Souls adaptation had to be made. Perhaps, at the top of this fancast list would be Dwayne The Rock Johnson as Oscar, Knight of Astora, a choice that, at first glance, feels like a meme, but is surprisingly a well-chosen role for the actor. Dwayne The Rock Johnson is perfect for playing this one character | FromSoftware To those who don't know the game well, Oscar might seem like a minor character. He's the knight who gives the player their Estus Flask, one of the most important items in the game that helps the player heal up on health points. The best part? The character does not really hold much significance after the game's starting moments. This, well, according to fans at least, makes Oscar's character the best role to be played by Dwayne The Rock Johnson. Don't believe us? Check out the following Reddit thread for yourself, where a user has made a fun fan cast for a supposed Dark Souls movie. Just discovered movies, here's my dark souls fancast byu/vladimir\_427 indarksouls Once again, why is The Rock more than a perfect fit for this role? Well, seeing his performance in past movies, starting with one of his earliest roles in the Doom movie, fans are more than sure how much value he really adds to the production of a video game's live adaptation. An Elden Ring Movie is currently in the works | FromSoftware I am sorry if this post brought up any unresolved issues you might have with understanding the fact that FromSoftware is completely done with the Dark Souls trilogy for now. Perhaps, the alleged news about an Elden Ring movie being in the works might cheer up your mood. There is not much information on what's going to happen in it just yet, or who will be cast. But we are sure The Rock would make a great fit once again, perhaps as the Soldier of Godrick this time around, often considered to be the most powerful NPC in The Lands Between. Someone that even Malenia and Radahn would be afraid of. In Dark Souls, the player eventually becomes what Oscar couldn't, the one undead who was able to escape his fate. Casting someone as universally beloved and heroic as The Rock in a role where he fails to fulfill his destiny? It would be as great as the actor finally breaking his contract, where he makes sure "he can't lose." Dwayne Johnson ventures into unfamiliar territory with The Smashing Machine, arriving in theaters October 3. Directed by Benny Safdie, this A24 drama features Johnson in his most demanding role yet as Mark Kerr, the formidable two-time UFC heavyweight tournament champion who left an indelible mark on mixed martial arts history. Moving beyond his blockbuster persona, Johnson embraces the complexity of portraying a real-life combat sports legend in what promises to be a transformative performance for an actor primarily known for action-packed entertainment. Creative evolution The Smashing Machine represents Johnson's deliberate pursuit of artistic growth. In a recent conversation with Pat McAfee, Johnson acknowledged his desire for projects that would challenge him beyond his established action star repertoire. He expressed wanting more from his career, specifically seeking opportunities to disappear into roles that would push his abilities in unprecedented ways. This artistic evolution brings Johnson together with director Benny Safdie, renowned for his distinctive storytelling approach and ability to draw raw, authentic performances from actors. The film also reunites Johnson with Emily Blunt, who portrays Kerr's former wife, Dawn Staples. Their chemistry, previously established in Jungle Cruise, will continue developing as they are also set to collaborate on an upcoming Martin Scorsese project, further highlighting Johnson's movement toward more dramatic work. Legacy of a champion The Smashing Machine borrows its title from John Hyams' respected 2002 documentary that explored Kerr's remarkable journey through the world of professional fighting. Johnson's portrayal aims to capture the multifaceted nature of a fighter whose intimidating nickname reflected his devastating presence in competition but whose life contained struggles and triumphs beyond the octagon. The film's recently released trailer, featuring the nostalgic soundtrack of a 1999 Sugar Ray hit, offers glimpses into Johnson's committed performance. Throughout the preview, Kerr reflects on how winning provides an unmatched feeling, highlighting the film's exploration of triumph, personal struggles, and the emotional toll of athletic excellence. The period setting of the film also allows audiences to witness the earlier, less commercialized days of UFC and mixed martial arts, adding historical significance to the narrative. Safdie brothers' creative momentum While Benny Safdie guides Johnson through this character-driven project, his brother Josh is simultaneously preparing for the December release of Marty Supreme, which features an impressive ensemble including Timothée Chalamet, Gwyneth Paltrow, and Tyler, The Creator. This parallel project demonstrates the brothers' ongoing commitment to creating impactful independent cinema that focuses on complex characters navigating challenging circumstances. The Safdie brothers have established themselves as filmmakers who excel at portraying intense, often painful human experiences with authenticity and empathy. Their involvement with The Smashing Machine suggests the film will avoid sports movie clichés in favor of a more nuanced exploration of Kerr's life and career. Beyond action stardom For Johnson, The Smashing Machine marks a significant departure from the high-energy blockbusters that established his Hollywood career. By immersing himself in Kerr's nuanced story, Johnson pursues the kind of critical recognition that action stars often find elusive in an industry that frequently undervalues performances in commercial entertainment. The October theatrical release strategically positions the film for potential awards consideration while allowing audiences to witness Johnson's most vulnerable on-screen performance to date. Longtime fans familiar with his charismatic action roles will discover new dimensions of his acting capabilities through this dramatic portrayal, which required both physical transformation and emotional depth. MMA's cultural significance Beyond showcasing Johnson's artistic journey, The Smashing Machine arrives during a period of increased mainstream interest in mixed martial arts history and culture. By centering on Kerr's pioneering career, the film provides both dedicated MMA enthusiasts and newcomers with insights into the sport's evolution and the formidable challenges faced by its early champions. The film also examines the physical and psychological toll of combat sports during an era when the understanding of long-term health impacts was less developed. Through Kerr's story, audiences will witness not just the glory of championship victories but also the personal costs that accompanied his professional success. As the October 3 release date approaches, The Smashing Machine stands ready to deliver both a compelling sports biopic and a showcase for Johnson's growth as a dramatic performer. For viewers accustomed to seeing "The Rock" command action sequences, this intimate portrayal of vulnerability, strength, and personal struggle offers a fresh perspective on one of Hollywood's most recognizable talents and provides insight into a pivotal period in combat sports history. After years of being one of the biggest names in Hollywood and putting on some of the most remarkable wrestling matches of all time, Dwayne Johnson is about to show a more dramatic side with The Smashing Machine, an upcoming A24 movie about UFC legend Mark Kerr.This is a movie that I've been following for a while now and something that I think will take the wrestler-turned-actor to new heights on the big screen. With one of his closest Hollywood friends and Jungle Cruise co-star Emily Blunt sharing the screen with the Rock in a sports biopic directed by Benny Safdie, this could be one of the biggest releases on the 2025 movie schedule. Here's everything that's been announced for this potential game-changer of a movie.(Image credit: A24)I'm not entirely sure when the movie is going to come out as A24 has yet to announce The Smashing Machine release date, but Deadline has reported that it will make its big debut at some point in 2025. You may like With Dwayne Johnson's return to the Fast & Furious franchise and his role in the upcoming Disney live-action remake of the 2016 animated hit, Moana, both set to come out in the next couple of years, it's going to be a busy stretch for one of the hardest-working names in the business.(Image credit: Walt Disney Studios)The Smashing Machine will be detailing the life and legacy of the larger-than-life UFC fighter Mark Kerr, so it only seems natural for the upcoming sports biopic to have a cast with all kinds of energy and charisma. That said, let's break down who's been officially announced for the highly anticipated flick, so far.Dwayne Johnson as Mark Kerr(Image credit: Amazon Video)Over the past decade or so, Dwayne Johnson has spent the majority of his time appearing in over-the-top action franchises like the Fast & Furious movies, end-of-the-world disaster films, and multiple movies with Kevin Hart. One genre he hasn't dove into all that much is drama, but that will soon change with The Smashing Machine, in which he'll play Mark Kerr.In December 2023, outlets like The Hollywood Reporter announced that Johnson would be playing the former UFC and PRIDE fighter in the A24 biographical drama.Your Daily Blend of Entertainment NewsEmily Blunt as Dawn Staples (Image credit: Universal Pictures)Johnson and Emily Blunt really seemed to hit it off when they were cast alongside one another in Jungle Cruise, and the pair will now attempt to capture lightning in a bottle a second time. In February 2024, Variety reported that Blunt was in talks to portray Dawn Staples, Kerr's former wife. It didn't long, but her old friend and once-again co-star confirmed the news in March.The Smashing Machine will also see Blunt reunite with Oppenheimer co-star and director Benny Safdie, though he probably won't be on the receiving end of any brutal staredowns this time around.What Is The Smashing Machine About?(Image credit: UFC)When The Smashing Machine hits the big screen, it will tell one of the most dramatic stories in the history of MMA: that of Mark Kerr. A24 has announced that the movie will follow the trailblazing UFC, PRIDE, and UFC fighter at the peak of his career in 2000, detailing the good, the bad, and the ugly of his rise to the top of the sport. His struggles with drug addiction, success in the octagon, and various friendships and relationships will be detailed in the upcoming sports biopic.For those unfamiliar with Kerr, the former mixed martial artist was a two-time UFC Heavyweight Tournament Champion, an NCAA National Wrestling Champion, a four-time ADCC World Submission Champion, and a PRIDE FC Heavyweight Champion, who received many other accolades and honors throughout his tumultuous career.Benny Safdie Is Writing And Directing The Smashing Machine. His First Directorial Effort Since Uncut Gems(Image credit: Universal)Benny Safdie, who has spent the past few years giving great performances in movies like Licorice Pizza, Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret, and Oppenheimer, will sit behind the director's chair on a feature film for the first time since Uncut Gems when he helms The Smashing Machine. As pointed out by Deadline, the upcoming Dwayne Johnson movie will also be Safdie's first solo directorial credit, as his previous movies have all been co-directed with his brother, Josh.According to IndieWire, an untitled Netflix movie set in the world of sports memorabilia will see Josh Safdie work with Uncut Gems star Adam Sandler once again, it's just that his brother and longtime collaborator won't be along for the ride. Not a whole lot is known about the project at this time, but there was word of a 340-page script at one point. Though Benny isn't involved with that project, he is set to appear in Sandler's Happy Gilmore 2.When Can We Expect A Trailer For The Smashing Machine?(Image credit: WWE)There was that first-look image of Dwayne Johnson as Mark Kerr that took the internet by storm in May 2024, but when will we get to see a trailer for The Smashing Machine? A24 hasn't announced a release date, which makes pinpointing a trailer, or even a teaser, a difficult task. That being said, it wouldn't be all that shocking to see our first proper glimpse of The Rock in the octagon at some point in early-to-mid 2025.Production On The Smashing Machine Wrapped In August 2024(Image credit: WWE)Between having his best WWE run in years by reinventing himself as the Final Boss, filming and promoting multiple high-profile projects, and filming The Smashing Machine, Johnson has had one remarkable year. Now at least some of the hard work is finished , as production on Benny Safdie's next movie wrapped up in August 2024, according to Deadline.Considering the movie is set in the world of combat sports, it shouldn't be all that surprising that there was an injury on set. In June 2024, Johnson suffered an on-set injury while filming the movie, and even shared a picture of his gnarly bruised elbow on Instagram for the world to see. But, the battle scar wasn't enough to derail the shoot, as the former WWE Champion was able to finish what he started.Dwayne Johnson Has Said He Wants 'More Humanity,' And His Most Dramatic Role Yet Could Do The Trick(Image credit: Lionsgate)For as long as everyone has been talking about this film, one thing that keeps coming up is the fact that this will be Johnson's most dramatic role. And, that's one of the reasons he's been pursuing the project. In a voicemail sent to Variety in January 2024, he had this to say about his desires with the project:I want to be clear not to say that this is an abandonment of big, four-quadrant movies. I love making them, and there is tremendous value and importance in [them] ... but there's a time and a place for them. I'm at this point in my career where I want more. And I don't mean I want more box office. I mean I want more humanity. And that is why Benny Safdie is the perfect, collaborative, hungry partner for me. The idea of The Rock trying more dramatic and vulnerable roles is something I've been wanting for a long time, and if this biopic starts the next stage of his career, even better.Dwayne Johnson Has Been Trying To Get The Smashing Machine Off The Ground Since 2019(Image credit: WWE)Though The Smashing Machine was formally announced as an A24 project in December 2023, the movie has been in the works for the past five years. In November 2019, at the press conference before the ceremonial UFC 244 weigh-ins, Johnson revealed (via ESPN MMA ) to the audience that he was working on the film with his Seven Bucks Productions, and his reasons behind doing so:Mark Kerr's story is such an incredible story... Like all of us, and like a lot of these fighters, he battled these demons — these demons of addiction, these demons of mental health, these demons of getting out and the pressure of fighting in front of 20, 30, 40, 50,000 people and what that does to somebody. So, here's a guy who has gone through it all, hit rock bottom, but the best part about Mark Kerr is that, like all of us in this room and all these fighters, all these warriors, is that every day, you get up and you want to do a little bit better tomorrow than we did today. It wasn't revealed until a few years later that Johnson, who made a name for himself in the wrestling ring, would be stepping into the octagon for the highly anticipated sports drama. And, judging by The Rock's physique in recent years, he's up to the task of portraying such a formidable and in-shape fighter.Mark Kerr's Story Was Previously Told In The Documentary, The Smashing Machine: The Life And Times Of Extreme Fighter Mark Kerr(Image credit: Solaris)If the name Mark Kerr and the title The Smashing Machine both sound familiar, it could have something to do with the fact that the fighter was the subject of a 2003 HBO documentary, The Smashing Machine: The Life and Times of Extreme Fighter Mark Kerr. This in-depth documentary, which can no longer be found online, followed Kerr for an extended period of time and showcased his talents in the world of MMA and struggles outside of it. The various stages of his career — UFC, PRIDE, and Vale Tudo — are explored throughout the documentary and provide further context for the man, the myth, and the legend of combat sports.Expect to hear much more about The Smashing Machine in the coming weeks and months, but in the meantime, don't forget to check out our breakdown of the best A24 movies and how to watch them. Entertainment gossip and news from Newsweek's network of contributorsThe Smashing Machine is A24's upcoming biopic of legendary MMA fighter Mark Kerr. In this article you'll find everything you need to know about it, from when we can expect a trailer to drop, to the release date.The film stars Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt. Since wrapping production in summer 2024, only one official image has been released. It shows an unrecognizable Johnson, now sporting thick black hair, panting in the corner during a bout.Despite much secrecy, The Smashing Machine has been drip-feeding details for a while. Here's what we know. Dwayne Johnson in training for The Smashing Machine Dwayne Johnson in training for The Smashing Machine Dwayne Johnson The Smashing Machine Story The Smashing Machine is based on the life of mixed martial arts pioneer Mark Kerr, who was an active fighter in the late '90s and early 2000s. Kerr fought in several fight promotions around the world, including Pride in Japan, and the UFC during its brutal no-holds-barred era. The film, which apparently has a budget of \$40M, will have some crossover with 2002 documentary The Smashing Machine: The Life and Times of Extreme Fighter Mark Kerr. It covers Kerr's first MMA tournament, as well as his struggles with mounting injuries and addiction.Dwayne Johnson and The Smashing MachineDwayne The Rock Johnson got in serious shape for The Smashing Machine - even more than usual. The WWE wrestler immersed himself in MMA culture and spent months learning the moves to better capture his character. "I've gone from a pro wrestling ring to an MMA cage," Johnson told his follows on Instagram. "I want to make sure in my training camp I'm training with UFC legends."The Smashing Machine Release DateThe Smashing Machine has a theatrical release date of October 3, 2025. This is earlier than anticipated, with A24 bringing the film forwards in its 2025 schedule. Who is Mark Kerr?Mark Kerr is a former mixed martial arts fighter. Known as The Smashing Machine due to his aggressive style, Kerr was at one time arguably the greatest fighter in the world.The 6ft3, 250lb heavyweight is a pivotal figure in the MMA world. Kerr is a two-time UFC Heavyweight Tournament Champion, World Vale Tudo Championship tournament winner, NCAA Division I champion, four-time ADCC World Champion, and former PRIDE FC competitor.The Smashing Machine TrailerThere is no trailer for The Smashing Machine yet. However, with a release date of October 3, 2025, it can't be far away. Preview footage has also been shown off behind closed doors. Scroll up to read the first reactions if you missed them. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, a household name in the entertainment industry, has carved an extraordinary career path that has taken him from the wrestling ring to Hollywood's A-list. Born on May 2, 1972, in Hayward, California, Johnson's journey to stardom began with his wrestling career in the 1990s. His charisma and athleticism quickly propelled him to become one of the most iconic figures in the World Wrestling Federation (WWF, now WWE), earning him numerous championships and legions of fans. Transitioning seamlessly from wrestling to acting, Johnson made his cinematic debut in 2001's "The Mummy Returns," where he portrayed the Scorpion King. This marked the beginning of a remarkable film career that has seen him tackle diverse roles, from action-packed blockbusters like "Fast & Furious" and "Jumanji: The Next Level" to heartfelt family films like "Moana," where he lent his voice to the character Maui, a role that showcased his versatility and emotional range. Beyond the silver screen, Johnson's influence extends to entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and motivational speaking, making him a multifaceted and inspirational figure in the entertainment world. His journey from a wrestling ring to a Hollywood Walk of Fame star is a testament to his talent, dedication, and undeniable charisma. Should reports surface claiming that Dwayne Johnson allocates merely one hour per night for slumber, it would hardly come as a surprise. Undoubtedly one of the most industrious individuals in the entertainment industry, Johnson consistently amazes as he effortlessly embraces project after project with unwavering dedication and zeal. Here is a comprehensive look at his upcoming projects. 1. The Smashing Machine (2025) 'Smashing Machine' is a riveting biographical film chronicling the life of UFC Champion Mark Kerr. Hailing from Ohio, Kerr was an unstoppable force during his heyday. His compelling journey was previously documented in the hard-hitting 2002 HBO documentary 'The Smashing Machine'. Johnson confirmed his involvement in portraying Kerr's life on the big screen, while simultaneously taking on a producer's role for the project. Emily Blunt will play the role of Kerr's wife, Dawn Staples. Other members of the cast include Oleksandr Usyk, Lyndsey Gavin, Ryan Bader, Zoe Kosovic, Whitney Moore, and Paul Lazenby. The film is in its post-production phase and is expected to arrive sometime in 2025. 2. Moana (July 10, 2026) 'Moana' is on the horizon as an eagerly anticipated live-action fantasy musical film based on Disney's "Moana" (2016). The original movie revolves around Moana's journey to return the heart of the goddess Te Fiti from Maui after the plants and the fish on her island start dying due to a blight. The exciting news comes with the confirmation that Johnson is reprising his charismatic role as Maui in this upcoming adaptation. However, Catherine Laga'aia, and not Auli'i Cravalho (the voice of Moana in the animated version), will voice the titular character. The rest of the voice cast includes Frankie Adams as Sina, Rena Owen as Gramma Tala, and John Tui as Chief Tui. The film is helmed by Thomas Kail, with Dwayne Johnson also taking on a producing role. As of now, 'Moana' is in its post-production phase, steadily working its way toward a highly anticipated release scheduled for July 10, 2026. 3. Jumanji 3 (December 11, 2026) 'Jumanji 3' has already reached its scripting stage, implying that while a bit of patience may be required, a fresh installment is indeed in the pipeline. Integral to the resounding success of the recent films has been the stellar cast comprising Johnson, Karen Gillan, Kevin Hart, Jack Black, Awkwafina, and Nick Jonas, whose involvement has been nothing short of pivotal. Encouragingly, the word on the grapevine suggests a strong likelihood of the main cast's return, which promises the viewers to bring back the magic that fans have come to love and expect from this exceptional ensemble. In addition, Bebe Neuwirth, who starred in the Robin Williams-led 'Jumanji' (1995) will also play a role, perhaps reprising her character Nora Shepherd. Danny DeVito and Alex Wolff are also cast. Jake Kasdan is at the helm of the movie, which is slated for release on December 11, 2026. 4. Fast X: Part 2 (2026) The forthcoming sequel is expected to continue the storyline of 'Fast X,' following the precarious situation of Dom and his son Brian after their dramatic encounter with Dante's dam detonation. With Louis Leterrier at the helm and based on a story by Christina Hodson and Oren Uziel, fans are eager to witness the resurrection of Gal Gadot's character Gisele Yashar, and the return of Johnson's Luke Hobbs in the movie, as hinted in a tantalizing post-credits scene. The film will also feature Vin Diesel, Jason Statham, Michelle Rodriguez, Jason Momoa, Nathalie Emmanuel, Sung Kang, Tyrese Gibson, and Chris "Ludacris" Bridges. The project will begin filming in the summer of 2025 in Los Angeles, and a 2026 release date is eagerly awaited. 5. Untitled Hawaiian Gangster Project (TBA) Johnson has been roped in for Martin Scorsese's Hawaii-set gangster drama. The plot is set during the war for the Aloha State's criminal underworld during the 1960s and '70s. It follows a homegrown crime boss, who locks horns with rival crime syndicates and multinational corporations for control over the then-new state. Johnson will star alongside Emily Blunt and Leonardo DiCaprio. Nick Bilton is the writer. The project is currently in its scripting stage and more details are awaited. 6. Red Notice 2 (TBA) While the storyline remains shrouded in secrecy, "Red Notice 2" is in the pipeline and is expected to enter production in late 2024. Fans can look forward to the return of Johnson, Ryan Reynolds, and Gal Gadot as John Hartley, Nolan Booth, and The Bishop, respectively. The appetite for a sequel was evident even before the original 'Red Notice' debuted on Netflix, with Johnson expressing his interest in a follow-up. Johnson's Seven Bucks Productions played a pivotal role in bringing the first installment to the screen, and they are once again involved in the production of the sequel, to be helmed by Rawson Marshall Thurber. The film is currently in its scripting stage. Furthermore, a third 'Red Notice' film was also greenlit by Netflix, with a back-to-back filming schedule in place. There is no release date announced yet. 7. Jungle Cruise 2 (TBA) 'Jungle Cruise 2' serves as a sequel to Disney's 2021 film 'Jungle Cruise,' which revolves around a riverboat captain who takes a scientist and her brother through a jungle in search of the Tree of Life. The plot of the sequel remains cloaked in secrecy, but Johnson (Frank Wolff/Francisco Lopez de Heredia) and Emily Blunt (Dr. Lily Houghton) are set to reprise their beloved roles, and director Jaume Collet-Serra will steer the ship for 'Jungle Cruise 2,' based on a story by Michael Green. At present, the creative team is in the nascent stages of weaving the narrative, and further updates are awaiting. 8. Untitled Fast & Furious Film (TBA) This forthcoming film is distinct from both a sequel and a spin-off of 'Hobbs & Shaw' as it carves its own unique path within the 'Fast & Furious' universe. Chris Morgan, a seasoned collaborator within the 'Fast & Furious' franchise, penned the screenplay, setting the stage for an exciting addition to this action-packed film series. Universal is orchestrating Dwayne Johnson's triumphant return to the 'Fast & Furious' realm, with the actor reprising his iconic role as Luke Hobbs while simultaneously taking on a production role for the project. News also confirms the involvement of Maurice P. Kerry in the cast. As the film currently resides in the pre-production stage, intricate plot details and a comprehensive timeline are safely under wraps. Read More: Where Was Jumanji: The Next Level Filmed? Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. 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