

Company Registration No. 10986069 (England and Wales)

Merryweather Productions Limited

**Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

Merryweather Productions Limited

Company information

Directors	Russell Haywood Paul Steinke Tracy Berm.ingham Chakira Gavazzi Nicholas Rush
Company number	10986069
Registered office	c/o Banner Productions Limited 3 Queen Caroline Street Hammersmith London W6 9PE
Independent auditor	Saffery LLP 71 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4BE

Merryweather Productions Limited

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Merryweather Productions Limited

Directors' report

For the year ended 31 March 2023

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the company continued to be that of motion picture production.

Directors

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

Russell Haywood
Paul Steinke
Tracy Bermingham
Chakira Gavazzi
Nicholas Rush

Future developments

The directors expect to continue the principal activity for the foreseeable future given the continued financial support received from its financiers, Walt Disney Pictures Productions LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of the ultimate parent company, The Walt Disney Company.

Auditor

Saffery LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office.

Statement of disclosure to auditor

So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware. Additionally, the directors individually have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Small companies exemption

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

On behalf of the board

Tracy Bermingham
Director

22 March 2024

Merryweather Productions Limited

**Directors' responsibilities statement
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

The directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Merryweather Productions Limited

Independent auditor's report

To the members of Merryweather Productions Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Merryweather Productions Limited (the 'company') for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Merryweather Productions Limited

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the members of Merryweather Productions Limited

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are detailed below.

Identifying and assessing risks related to irregularities:

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement and how fraud might occur, including through discussions with the directors, discussions within our audit team planning meeting, updating our record of internal controls and ensuring these controls operated as intended. We evaluated possible incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements. We identified laws and regulations that are of significance in the context of the company by discussions with directors and by updating our understanding of the sector in which the company operates.

Laws and regulations of direct significance in the context of the company include The Companies Act 2006 and UK Tax legislation.

Audit response to risks identified

We considered the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items including a review of financial statement disclosures. We reviewed the company's records of breaches of laws and regulations, minutes of meetings and correspondence with relevant authorities to identify potential material misstatements arising. We discussed the company's policies and procedures for compliance with laws and regulations with members of management responsible for compliance.

Merryweather Productions Limited

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the members of Merryweather Productions Limited

During the planning meeting with the audit team, the engagement partner drew attention to the key areas which might involve non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud. We enquired of management whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud. We addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and identifying any significant transactions that were unusual or outside the normal course of business. We assessed whether judgements made in making accounting estimates gave rise to a possible indication of management bias. At the completion stage of the audit, the engagement partner's review included ensuring that the team had approached their work with appropriate professional scepticism and thus the capacity to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

John Graydon

Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

22 March 2024

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

71 Queen Victoria Street

London

EC4V 4BE

Merryweather Productions Limited

**Statement of comprehensive income
For the year ended 31 March 2023**

		2023	2022
	Notes	£	£
Turnover	3	677,887	634,273
Cost of sales		(856,428)	(738,672)
Gross loss		(178,541)	(104,399)
Administrative expenses		18,173	17,778
Loss before taxation		(160,368)	(86,621)
Tax on loss	5	172,811	97,596
Profit for the financial year		12,443	10,975

The income statement has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

Merryweather Productions Limited

Statement of financial position
As at 31 March 2023

			2023		2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	6	2,080,327		1,906,818	
Cash at bank and in hand		23,077		530,166	
		<u>2,103,404</u>		<u>2,436,984</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	7	(2,024,850)		(2,370,874)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			78,554		66,110
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital			1		1
Profit and loss reserves			78,553		66,109
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total equity			78,554		66,110
			<u></u>		<u></u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 22 March 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:

Tracy Bermingham
Director

Company Registration No. 10986069 (England and Wales)

Merryweather Productions Limited

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies

Company information

Merryweather Productions Limited is a private company limited by shares incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is c/o Banner Productions Limited, 3 Queen Caroline Street, Hammersmith, London, W6 9PE.

1.1 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 as applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime. The disclosure requirements of section 1A of FRS 102 have been applied other than where additional disclosure is required to show a true and fair view.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

This company is a qualifying entity for the purposes of FRS 102, being a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements, including this company, which are intended to give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the group. The company has therefore taken advantage of exemptions from the following disclosure requirements:

- Section 4 'Statement of Financial Position' – Reconciliation of the opening and closing number of shares;
- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' – Presentation of a statement of cash flow and related notes and disclosures;
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures' – Compensation for key management personnel.

The financial statements of the company are consolidated in the financial statements of The Walt Disney Company. These consolidated financial statements are available from its registered office, 500 Buena Vista Street, Burbank, California 91521, USA.

1.2 Turnover

In respect of long-term contracts and contracts for on-going services, turnover represents the value of work done in the period, including estimates of amounts not invoiced. Value of work done in respect of long-term contracts and contracts for on-going services is determined by reference to the stage of completion.

The "percentage of completion" method is used to determine the appropriate amount to recognise in a given period. The stage of completion is measured by the proportion of contract costs incurred for work performed to date compared to the estimated total contract costs. Costs incurred in the period in connection with future activity on a contract are excluded from contract costs in determining the stage of completion. These costs are presented as stocks, prepayments or other assets depending on their nature, and provided it is probable they will be recovered.

1.3 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

Merryweather Productions Limited

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's statement of financial position when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, loans from fellow group companies and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.5 Equity instruments

Equity instruments issued by the company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of transaction costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the company.

Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as fair value hedges are recognised in profit or loss immediately, together with any changes in the fair value of the hedged asset or liability that are attributable to the hedged risk.

1.6 Taxation

The tax in the profit and loss account represents the sum of the tax currently recoverable and deferred tax.

Merryweather Productions Limited

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Current tax

The tax currently recoverable is based on relievable losses arising in the year as the result of film tax relief legislation. Relievable losses differ from net losses as reported in the profit and loss account because they include an additional deduction relating to qualifying film development expenditure and exclude items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years, as well as items that are never taxable or deductible. The company's tax position is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all timing differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the timing difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the tax profit nor the accounting profit.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting end date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered. Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. Where items recognised in other comprehensive income or equity are chargeable to or deductible for tax purposes, the resulting current or deferred tax expense or income is presented in the same component of comprehensive income or equity as the transaction or other event that resulted in the tax expense or income. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when the company has a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and liabilities and the deferred tax assets and liabilities relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority.

1.7 Foreign exchange

Transactions in currencies other than pounds sterling are recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions. At each reporting end date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the reporting end date. Gains and losses arising on translation in the period are included in profit or loss.

2 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Turnover

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover analysed by class of business		
Sale of film rights	665,444	623,297
Production services fee	12,443	10,976
	<u>677,887</u>	<u>634,273</u>

Merryweather Productions Limited**Notes to the financial statements (continued)****For the year ended 31 March 2023****3 Turnover (continued)**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover analysed by geographical market		
United States of America	677,887	634,273

4 Employees

The average monthly number of persons (including directors) employed by the company during the year was nil (2022:nil).

5 Taxation

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current tax		
UK corporation tax on profits for the current period	(172,811)	(97,596)

The actual credit for the year can be reconciled to the expected credit for the year based on the profit or loss and the standard rate of tax as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Loss before taxation	(160,368)	(86,621)
Expected tax credit based on the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of 19.00% (2022: 19.00%)	(30,470)	(16,458)
Enhanced losses arising from the film tax credit	(130,661)	(80,127)
Difference between the rate of corporation tax and the rate of relief under the film tax credit	(41,475)	(23,423)
Losses carried forward	29,795	22,412
Taxation credit for the year	(172,811)	(97,596)

6 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Corporation tax recoverable	270,408	97,597
Amounts owed by group undertakings	1,802,690	1,807,074
Other debtors	7,229	2,147

Merryweather Productions Limited

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	18,017	12,868
Amounts owed to group undertakings	478,819	798,512
Other creditors	1,528,014	1,559,494
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,024,850	2,370,874
	<hr/>	<hr/>

8 Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption available under FRS 102 Section 33.1A whereby disclosure need not be given of transactions entered into between two or more members of a group, provided that any subsidiary which is party to the transaction is wholly owned by such a member.

9 Parent company

The company's immediate parent is Banner Productions Limited, a company registered in England and Wales.

The directors regard The Walt Disney Company, a company registered in the United States of America, as the ultimate parent company.

The largest group for which accounts are prepared and of which the company is a member is The Walt Disney Company. Copies of group accounts can be obtained from 50 Buena Vista Street, Burbank, California 91521, USA.

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.