



Monday, December 21, 2020 | No. 147

53 years ago on December 12, 1967, Columbia Pictures released ***Guess Who's Coming to Dinner***, which tells the story of a family's reaction to a proposed marriage between a black man and a white woman. It starred Academy Award winners Sidney Poitier, Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn and was produced and directed by Stanley Kramer, who was deft in his use of comedy to defuse the explosive potential of its subject. When the film was made, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 had been newly enacted and America was only beginning to reckon with the implications of becoming a color-blind society. 50 years later, Jordan Peele released his highly acclaimed and successful debut film ***Get Out***, a modern



(Click to Play)



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retelling of a similar story from a much darker perspective. While the film industry may still have a long ways to go, significant progress has been made in seeking out more diverse contributors to tell stories from a wider range of perspectives. This week, the New York Film Critics announced the winners of their [2020 NYFCC Awards](#) which include Best Actor Delroy Lindo and Best Supporting Actor Chadwick Bozeman from Spike Lee's ***Da 5 Bloods***.

"The arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice."
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Weekend Box Office Results... 12/18 – 12/20

With Comments by Paul Dergarabedian, [Comscore](#)

Rank	Title	Week	Theatres	Wknd \$	Per Theatre Average \$	Total \$
1	Monster Hunter (Sony)	1	1,736	2,200,000	1,267	2,200,000
2	The Croods: A New Age (Universal)	4	1,906	2,000,000	1,049	27,029,000
3	Fatale (Lionsgate)	1	1,107	925,000	836	925,000
4	Half Brothers (Focus Features)	3	1,143	260,000	227	1,797,000
5	The War with Grandpa (101 Studios)	11	803	169,730	211	18,186,924
6	Freaky (Universal)	6	785	165,000	210	8,507,000
7	Come Play (Focus Features)	8	427	110,000	258	9,360,000
8	The Muppet Christmas Carol (Disney)	1,463	725	92,000	127	92,000
9	All My Life (Universal)	3	609	70,000	115	829,000
10	Honest Thief (Open Road/Briarcliff)	11	355	66,000	186	14,129,614

Notable North American Openers

- Sony's ***Monster Hunter*** is on track to take the #1 spot at the North American box office this weekend with a 3-day opening weekend of \$2.2M from 1,736 locations.
- Lionsgate's release of Director Deon Taylor's ***Fatale*** took in an estimated \$925K this weekend while playing at 1,107 US locations and 1,534 screens, in line with pre-release expectations.
- IFC Midnight opened survival thriller ***Hunter Hunter*** in 30 theaters across the country, grossing an estimated \$11,250 for a per theatre average of \$281.

International Highlights

- Warner Bros.' ***Wonder Woman 1984*** debuted in 32 markets this weekend to an estimated \$38.5M on 30,221 screens. This week the film will see openings in 9 additional territories including Korea and Australia.
- Universal's ***The Croods: A New Age*** in its 4th weekend earned \$3.2M in 12 international markets. Combined with the North American weekend of \$2M the worldwide weekend generated \$5.2M and the global cume is \$84.5M.

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*Click to play this week's BOX OFFICE BUZZ, with a look at two pre-Christmas openings - Lionsgate's psychological thriller **FATALE** starring Hilary Swank and Sony/Tencent's fantasy action thriller **MONSTER HUNTER**.*

Notable Industry News and Commentary... 12/13 – 12/19

[Cinemark eyes struggling AMC's movie theater locations](#) (NY Post) and [Cinemark CEO Mark Zoradi Sees Movie Theater "Contraction," But His Company Is Not In M&A Mode](#) (Deadline)

First, the New York Post reported that "sources" had told the paper that Cinemark – the nation's third largest exhibitor – was eyeing the possibility of taking over some locations that are currently owned by AMC Theatres, the largest US circuit. AMC continues to burn cash and increase its debts as it struggles with closed or sparsely-attended cinemas due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Cinemark is struggling as well, but with a better looking balance sheet, reporting that it has enough cash and liquid assets on hand to survive into 2022 if necessary. Cinemark's CEO Mark Zoradi denied the Post's reporting, saying that it would evaluate opportunities that present themselves, but that the company's priority was to preserve its capital so that it would be in a strong position when the exhibition sector recovers. Zoradi did tell investors that he expects "some contraction" among exhibitors. CFO Sean Gamble projected confidence in the long-term prospects of the sector, saying "What we've seen over time is that movies released direct to home have always underperformed theatrical releases. [A theatrical run] is a way to eventize a movie, it establishes brand, it's a stamp of quality."



[Comment: Global exhibitors must accept the world has changed and embrace their place in it](#) (Screen Daily)

Screen Daily predicts that exhibitors will "evolve into more nimble operators" as they re-emerge and find their place in the post-pandemic entertainment landscape. While more than a few of the US's 7000+ cinemas and 40,000+ screens will never reopen, the vast majority will survive. Despite the much-publicized shift of some releases to streaming and shortening of the exclusive theatrical window, studio heads are well-aware that "wide theatrical releases are an intrinsic part of revenue waterfalls that bring in billions on the biggest tentpoles."

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[Warner Brothers Under Siege: “No One is Angry at the Streamers-It’s These Guys”](#)

(Hollywood Reporter)

An avalanche of complaints continued to roll this week in response to WB’s announcement that it would release all its 2021 films on HBO Max on the same day that they open in theatres. More of the studio’s top talent and production partners sounded off, complaining that they had been blindsided by the change. Denzel Washington is said to be upset that his upcoming film *The Little Things* would go day-and-date without having any forewarning or opportunity to re-negotiate terms. Director James Wan had negotiated what seemed

to be a sweet deal with WB on the upcoming release of his horror film *Malignant*, with the filmmaker earning 13% of the first dollar gross. However, now that it is a day-and-date release with HBO Max his film is likely to generate much lower box office grosses than he had been expecting. Production companies Legendary (*Dune*, *Godzilla*) and Starlight (*Malignant*) are said to be preparing legal action to force proper compensation after the studio’s change in plans.



Illustration By Tim Peacock - Hollywood Reporter



Daniel Craig stars as James Bond in *No Time to Die*, Opening 4/2/21

office over the past 47 years. What was once unthinkable – a Hollywood blockbuster postponing its release only four weeks before opening weekend – became commonplace throughout the year as studios scrambled to find a safe harbor for their films in the storm of 2020.

[Sony Pictures Chief Tony Vinciguerra Anticipates a Weekly Blockbuster for 18 Months Straight Once Theaters Reopen](#) (Variety)

This week’s cover story from Variety Magazine is entitled “2020...An Earth Shattering Year”, including [interviews](#) with seven leaders from the film industry who offer perspectives on the cataclysm of the last ten months and an outlook for what’s to come. Sony Pictures Chief Tony Vinciguerra comments that the pandemic has greatly accelerated the pace of industry response to changes in “how our customers are operating.” In other words, the rigid 90-day theatrical window was already breaking down so that consumers would have more choice in when, where and how to watch movies. Studios have new flexibility to decide when to release a film to theatres or on home entertainment. Vinciguerra predicts that theatres will experience a steady growth in attendance throughout the spring, as the huge backlog of studio releases results in “a blockbuster movie every week in theaters for 18 months. We think consumers will be in theaters.”



Tony Vinciguerra, Chairman and CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment

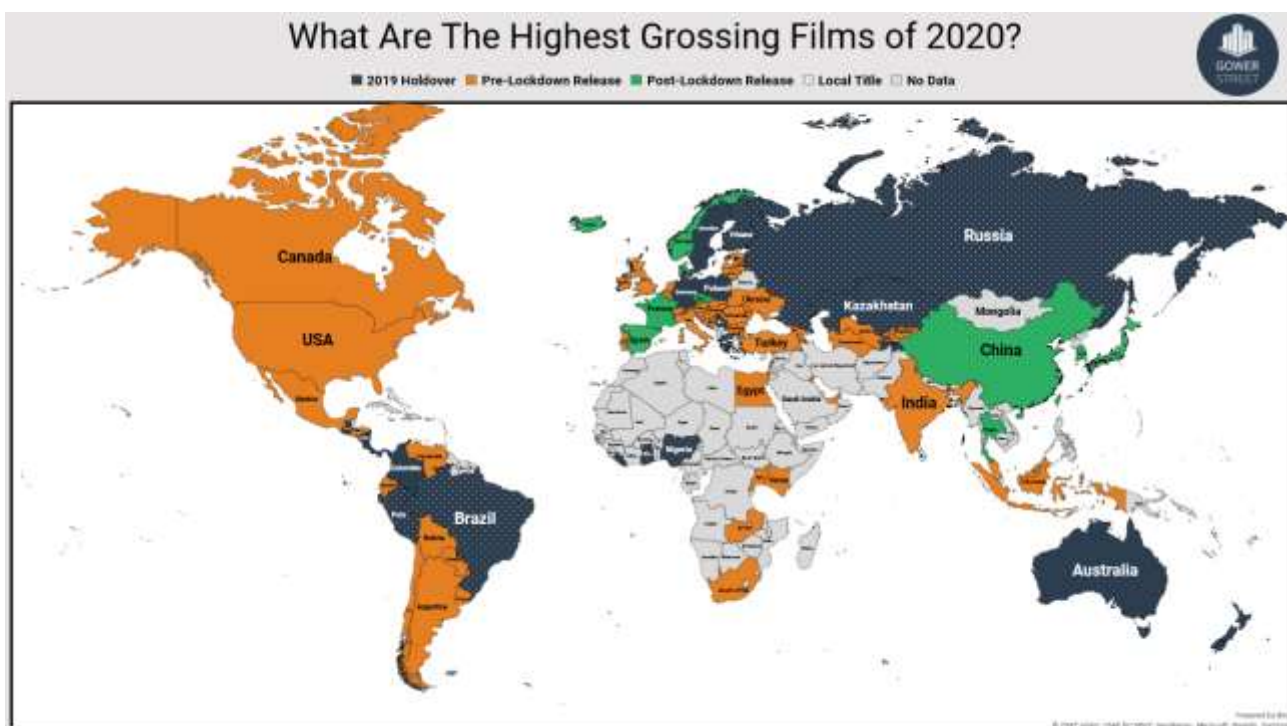
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GOWER STREET'S *Box Office Outlook* 2020 Vision: Part 2 – Top Films of 2020 by Market

There are many factors that will mark 2020 out as a unique year at the global box office. Perhaps one of the most notable is the lack of a unifying global hit proving a dominant force at the box office.

The virtual absence of major Hollywood releases since March has resulted in an end-of-year map that looks very different from normal years. There have been opportunities for local titles to dominate in many more territories than just the usual suspects. The 2020 release landing at #1 in the most markets was a Q1 release. However, the top performer in more than a quarter (20) of 79 markets surveyed was actually a 2019 holdover!



Of course, there is no year where all markets would crown the same #1. Even global mega-hits AVATAR and AVENGERS: ENDGAME were not #1 in all markets. In 2019 for example THE LION KING was dominant in much of the EMEA region, scoring the #1 spot in major markets France, Italy, Russia and Spain, as well as in smaller markets including Austria, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, and Sweden. Disney also had alternate #1's to AVENGERS in Argentina (TOY STORY 4) and Venezuela (FROZEN II), while Greece ducked the Disney dominance completely with Warner's JOKER coming out top. There were also a number of markets, typically dominated by local titles like China, Japan, South Korea, and Turkey where local titles prevailed. However, across the 79 box office markets surveyed there were less than a dozen titles that occupied the #1 spots around the world in 2019.

In 2020, 38 different movies claimed a market #1 among the 79 surveyed markets!

On the map (above) we have split the #1s into three main groups. Markets where the #1 film for 2020 was a pre-lockdown release are shown in orange. Those with a post-lockdown #1 are shown in green. The blue-shaded markets saw a 2019 holdover remain the biggest earner in 2020. Additionally, markets with a local film at #1 (e.g., China, Russia, Brazil) are textured within the color. (If you want to explore the map in more detail a higher resolution image will be accessible on the Gower Street website – see below).

The #1 of #1s

The title landing the #1 position in the most markets was Sony's BAD BOYS FOR LIFE. The highest grossing US release of the year globally, the January title grossed \$426.5 million worldwide. That may not have been enough to score it the position of global #1 (as discussed last week, that honor went to China's THE EIGHT HUNDRED), but the Will Smith-Martin Lawrence reteam came out top in 21 of the 79 markets surveyed. This would expand to 27 if only looking at 2020 releases.

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The action film was #1 in the Domestic market (\$206.3m) but was unable to land the top spot in any of the 12 major international territories. It did succeed in becoming the #1 2020 release in Germany (€16.7m), but was actually beaten in-year by 2019 holdover STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (€17.6m).

BAD BOYS was a strong performer across Eastern Europe, claiming #1s in territories including Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Hungary, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Slovenia and Uzbekistan. It was also the #1 2020 release in Kazakhstan, where it was pipped by 2019 local holdover BIZNES PO-KAZAKHSKI VS KOREE, and in Tajikistan.

It also claimed the 2020 all-releases #1 spot in other EMEA markets including Austria, Belgium, Egypt, Israel, UAE, South Africa and East Africa (which encompasses Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia).

It was the top performing 2020 release in West Africa (grossing 180m Nigerian Naira), but ultimately lost out to Nollywood smash-hit SUGAR RUSH. The action comedy, which opened Christmas Day 2019, delivered Naira 206 million (\$530,200) of a Naira 288m total within 2020. SUGAR RUSH is the 4th highest grossing Nigerian film of all-time. The West African market encompasses Nigeria, Ghana and Liberia).

Other markets where the BAD BOYS sequel lost out to a 2019 holdover included Colombia, Panama and Tajikistan, which all saw another Sony title, JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL, dominating. JUMANJI was actually the title with the second highest number of #1 positions across the surveyed markets in 2020 at 11. However, only one (Paraguay) saw it actually release within 2020. Others, where the JUMANJI sequel remained the top 2020 grosser despite opening in 2019 included: Australia and New Zealand (where 1917 was the top 2020 release), Peru (local film THE FOQUITA: 10TH OF THE STREET was the top 2020 opener), Poland (SCOOB!); and Costa Rica, Guatemala and Nicaragua (all SONIC THE HEDGEHOG).

Pre-lockdown vs Post-lockdown

Of the markets surveyed 46 (59.5%) look to finish 2020 with a pre-lockdown release at #1. Outside of BAD BOYS other multi-market chart toppers in this bracket included SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, 1917, FROZEN II and THE GENTLEMEN.

SONIC played particularly well across Latin America. It is to date the #1 film of 2020 in four markets in the region, including Mexico, and the top 2020 release in another three. Two of the other markets in the region (Argentina and Bolivia) released FROZEN II in January, which claimed #1. Brazil also released FROZEN II in January. With a Brazilian result of Real 124.8 million (\$30.6m) it was the top 2020 release but narrowly lost out on the #1 spot to local holdover MY MOM IS A CHARACTER 3, which released December 26, 2019 and delivered Real 143.7 million (\$35m) of a Real 182.2 million total within 2020. FROZEN II also topped the 2020 charts in Finland despite being a 2019 holdover.

Guy Ritchie's THE GENTLEMAN topped the charts in Ukraine and Croatia, while also proving the top 2020 release in Serbia & Montenegro - where it lost out on the year's #1 spot to Russian holdover PEASANT (KHOLOP).

Sam Mendes multi-award-winning First World War drama, 1917, was by far the biggest release of the year in UK/Ireland, taking £44 million (\$57.3m). No other film topped £20 million at the UK/Ireland box office in 2020. The film was also #1 in Netherlands and Portugal, while it additionally delivered the top gross for a 2020 release in another three markets: Greece, where local holdover HAPPINESS (EFTIHIA) was the top earner; and, as mentioned above, Australia and New Zealand.

1917's UK triumph marked just one of 11 markets where local productions releases pre-lockdown dominated the year. Italy's New Year's Day opener TOLO TOLO (€46m) easily dominated there, while other markets with local pre-lockdown leaders included South Korea, India, Estonia, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland, and Turkey. Meanwhile Argentina's ROBBERY OF THE CENTURY was #1 in neighboring Uruguay; and Hong Kong action comedy ENTER THE FAT DRAGON, starring Donnie Yen, proved the biggest earner in Malaysia.

In contrast to the dominating pre-lockdown films, only 12 markets have seen a post-lockdown release take the #1 slot (although this weekend's release of WONDER WOMAN 1984 may hope to add some more). Warner Bros' TENET tops the chart in five markets: France, Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Thailand. It was also the top earning 2020 release in Sweden (where holdover FROZEN II was the year's #1).

Disney's MULAN was not available to many key markets as a theatrical release due to the decision to release it as a Premium Access Disney+ title in markets where the platform has launched. However, the live action remake did finish 2020 as the #1 film in Singapore.

China's THE EIGHT HUNDRED (the first ever non-US global #1) was a post-lockdown release, launching Aug. 21; while Japanese record-breaker DEMON SLAYER THE MOVIE: MUGEN TRAIN opened in mid-October.

Other local post-lockdown titles dominating their market included FATHER THERE IS ONLY ONE 2 (PADRE NO HAY MAS QUE UNO 2) in Spain; ANOTHER ROUND (DRUK) in Denmark; AMMA HOFI in Iceland; and ASPHALT BURNING (BORNING 3) in Norway. Meanwhile in West Africa, post-lockdown release FATE OF ALAKADA: THE PARTY PLANNER proved another Nollywood hit, coming in third for the year (behind SUGAR RUSH and BAD BOYS FOR LIFE) with Naira 111 million – only the 14th Nollywood film to top Naira 100 million.

Whether a holdover, a pre-lockdown release, or a post-lockdown release, across the 79 markets surveyed local titles came in at #1 in 23 markets – beneficiaries in many markets of the absence of Hollywood product. Local titles in Finland (LADIES OF STEEL) and Peru (THE FOQUITA) were the top releases in 2020, but missed out on #1 to 2019 holdovers.

If you have comments or questions about Gower Street's charts and articles; to see higher-resolution images; sign up for our free newsletter; or subscribe to our Road to Recovery reports, which track all the latest news and information around the world, please visit our website at: <https://gower.st>

MARTIN GROVE'S *Hollywood Report*

As 2020 races to an end, it's a good time to recognize that we're looking at better times ahead.

The pandemic took its toll on moviegoing and was made all the worse by politicians in NY & LA who wouldn't acknowledge that people weren't catching COVID-19 at cinemas. Hollywood's failure to lobby effectively didn't help.

Now as multiple vaccines roll out, there's good reason to think positively about moviegoing's future. The virus surged nationally after people traveled to celebrate Thanksgiving as if there was no pandemic. Hopefully, we'll see some restraint over Christmas & New Year's. That could spark a January/February downturn in cases and help get cinemas back in business.

An indication that Hollywood sees light at the end of this tunnel is that 4 high profile animated titles will open by early April. WB/Hanna-Barbera's TOM & JERRY (pictured) hits theatres 2/26. Disney's RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON arrives 3/12. Universal/ DreamWorks' THE BOSS BABY: FAMILY BUSINESS is due 3/26. Sony/MRC's PETER RABBIT 2 hops in 4/2 for Easter.

Families are the target audience for animation and that's a very hopeful sign as we head into the New Year.

* * *

2021 is stocked with event films likely to bring moviegoers back to cinemas.

After a bleak 2020 that saw Hollywood plant its tentpoles in the then distant sands of '21, we're now about to benefit from those painful moves. 2020's exiles will start to surface for Easter (4/2) with MGM/Universal/Eon's NO TIME TO DIE (pictured – Daniel Craig & Ana de Armas). Paramount's A QUIET PLACE 2 makes noise 4/23. Disney/Marvel's BLACK WIDOW bites 5/7.

Universal/Original's F9 speeds into theatres Memorial Day (5/28). WB/NL's THE CONJURING: THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT appears 6/4. Sony's GHOSTBUSTERS: AFTERLIFE materializes 6/11. July 4th should sizzle (7/2) with Paramount's TOP GUN: MAVERICK & Universal's MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU.

Also pushed to summer: Disney's JUNGLE CRUISE (7/30), Sony's HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 4 (8/6), MGM/UAR's RESPECT (8/13) & Universal's CANDYMAN (8/27).



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And that's not including the fall or holiday season. As the vaccinated population increases, we'll see moviegoing resume – driven by a particularly powerful product pipeline. People who spent 2020 working from home will be eager to get out finally and be able to enjoy dinner-and-a movie!

Update – Studio Release Calendar

12/25-31: Christmas 12/25

(2019 Wk 52 Box Office: \$199,821,873)


2019 openings: Spies in Disguise \$13.4M FSS, \$66.8M Total; Little Women \$16.8M FSS, \$108.0M Total.



Wonder Woman 1984 (Warner Bros.) Fast forward to the 1980s as Wonder Woman's next big screen adventure finds her facing two all-new foes: Max Lord and The Cheetah. Action Adventure Fantasy. <i>Early reviews have been outstanding for this major worldwide box office hit.</i>	PG13	151	Scope (2.39 : 1), 3D, IMAX, Atmos	Wide (2000+) HBO Max
News of the World (Universal) A Texan traveling across the wild West bringing the news of the world to local townspeople, agrees to help rescue a young girl who was kidnapped. Drama Western. <i>Directed by Paul Greengrass (The Bourne franchise, Captain Phillips) and based on the 2016 American Western novel by Paulette Jiles (nominated for the National Book Award for fiction). One of the best audience films of 2020.</i>	PG13	119A	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide (2000+) 17-24-day VOD
Promising Young Woman (Focus Features) A young woman, traumatized by a tragic event in her past, seeks out vengeance against those who cross her path. Crime Drama Thriller. <i>Originally scheduled earlier this year and interrupted by the pandemic. Look for generally profitable business with strong female appeal.</i>	R	113	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide (1200+)
Pinocchio (Roadside Attractions) Pinocchio, played by nine-year-old Federico Jelapi, gets caught up in a series of adventures that bring him into contact with bandits, the belly of a giant fish, the Land of Toys, and the Field of Miracles. Roberto Benigni. Live Action. <i>Premiered at the Berlin Film Festival and has already been released internationally (\$20.31M) Screenings indicate a film with beautiful scenery and settings with a purposeful pacing. Moderate business. NO THURSDAY PRE SHOW SCREENINGS.</i>	PG13	125	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Wide (2000+)
The Dissident (Open Road/Briarcliff) When Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi disappears in Istanbul, his fiancée and dissidents around the world piece together the clues to a murder and expose a global cover up. Documentary Drama. <i>This is a documentary both tragic and poignant, not to mention maddening in that only a few underlings, and not the perpetrators, will pay for the crime committed in Istanbul. The evidence is all here for the world to see. (HR).</i>	NA	117	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Moderate
The Midnight Sky (Netflix) A lone scientist in the Arctic races to contact a crew of astronauts returning home to a mysterious global catastrophe. Sci Fi Fantasy Drama. Directed by George Clooney, based on the novel Good Morning, Midnight by Lily Brooks-Dalton. <i>Mixed though generally positive reviews.</i>	PG13	122	Scope (2.22 : 1)	Theatrical SVOD 12/23
One Night in Miami (Amazon Studios) A fictionalized story of Cassius Clay, Malcolm X, Jim Brown and Sam Cooke, as the group celebrate Clay's surprise title win over Sonny Liston in a Miami hotel room in February 1964. <i>The world premiere was at the Venice Film Festival on 9/7/20 and was the first film directed by an African American woman (actress Regina King) to be selected in the festival's history. It received overwhelmingly positive reviews, with critics praising King's direction, the performances and the writing.</i>	NA	110	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Theatrical/ Amazon Prime
Sylvie's Love (Amazon Studios) Sylvie has a summer romance with a saxophonist who takes a summer job at her father's record store in Harlem. When they reconnect years later, they discover that their feelings for each other have not faded with the years. Romantic Drama. <i>Writer/director Eugene Ashe delicately melds romance and music into a sweeping romantic story that transcends changing times, geography, and professional success.</i>	PG13	114	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited/ Amazon Prime
The One You Feed (Gravitas Ventures) The story is a sort of mirage. The Stranger is lost and he's running from something. Ultimately, what he runs away from, he runs into. He finds someone he cannot leave. These two people, the Stranger and the Man, spend lifetimes finding and losing each other. Written by Drew Harwood (Drifter, God Send) and based on a story by Harwood and Gareth Koorzen (The Bone Box). Specialized film.	NR	86	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited 12/29 All video platforms

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Kung Fu Mulan (Gold Valley Films) Whether or not the film becomes a hit, the creators' views on the project illuminate the style of patriotism being encouraged in Chinese storytelling and on full display in this year's biggest films. <i>A Chinese studio recently released a new "Mulan" film called "Kung Fu Mulan" in China, but the film saw little to no success at the box office. The film's studio — Gold Valley Films — said the film was being pulled because the studio didn't have enough resources to promote the film during the holidays.</i>	NR	95	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited
Lost Girls: Angie's Story (Freestyle Digital Media) AKA: Angie: Lost Girl. After escaping from a sex trafficking ring, one teenage girl struggles to reconnect with herself and her family. To rescue her helpless friends, she must confront her own fears and help lead the police to her traffickers - at all costs. Drama. <i>Julia Verdin's 'Lost Girls: Angie's Story' is a powerful story with a gripping real world message revolving around the victims of sex trafficking. Specialized film.</i>	NR	Naq	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
1/1-7: New Year's Day 1/1 (2020 Wk 1 Box Office: \$144,110,143) 2020 openings: The Grudge \$11.4M FSS, \$21.2M Total.				
Herself (Amazon Studios) A young mother escapes her abusive husband and fights back against a broken housing system. She sets out to build her own home and, in the process, rebuilds her life and re-discovers herself. <i>'Mamma Mia!' director Phyllida Lloyd's latest, about a battered wife who builds her own house, is the standout of the 2020 Sundance Film Festival.</i>	R	97	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Theatrical/ Amazon Prime
Shadow in the Cloud (Vertical Entertainment) A female WWII pilot traveling with top secret documents on a B-17 Flying Fortress encounters an evil presence on board the flight. Horror Action. <i>World premiere on 9/12/20 at the 2020 Toronto International Film Festival, where it won the People's Choice Award for Midnight Madness (cult and underground films).</i>	R	83	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited
1/8-14 (2020 Wk 2 Box Office: \$137,097,370) 2020 openings: Like a Boss \$10.0M FSS, \$22.2M FSS; Underwater \$7.0M FSS, \$17.3M Total.				
The Devil's Light (Lionsgate) A nun prepares to perform an exorcism and comes face to face with a demonic force with mysterious ties to her past. Horror. <i>The supernatural horror film stars Virginia Madsen and Ben Cross (Chariots of Fire) who passed away a month after filming and to whom the film is dedicated.</i>	NA	NA	NA	Wide
The Bid (GVN Releasing) Two Philadelphia rappers, Marquis Boone and Richard Harris get framed by an overzealous police officer. Comedy.	NR	90	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited on 1/12
The Reason I Jump (Kino Marquee) The award-winning, immersive, cinematic portrait of five nonspeaking autistic young people, based on the bestselling book by Naoki Higashida, translated by KA Yoshida & David Mitchell (Cloud Atlas). <i>Winner! Sundance Film Festival - Audience Award, World Documentary.</i>	NR	82	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Virtual Cinemas
1/15-21 (2020 Wk 3 Box Office: \$207,632,898) 2020 openings: Bad Boys for life \$62.5M FSS, \$206.3M Total; Dolittle \$21.8M FSS, \$77.0M Total.				
The Marksman (Open Road) (formerly titled The Minuteman) A rancher on the Arizona border becomes the unlikely defender of a young Mexican boy desperately fleeing the cartel assassins who've pursued him into the U.S. Action Thriller. <i>Open Road has experienced success with previous Liam Neeson action films such as The Grey and recently Honest Thief. The film combines the action expected along with a deeply drawn character study of the human condition.</i>	R	95	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide
Wrath of Man (MGM/JA Releasing) A cold and mysterious character working at a cash truck company is responsible for moving hundreds of millions of dollars around Los Angeles each week. Written and directed by Guy Ritchie, based on the 2004 French film, Cash Truck by Nicolas Boukhrief. It is Ritchie's fourth directorial collaboration with lead actor Jason Statham. Action thriller.	R	NA	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide
Some Kind of Heaven (Magnolia) Filmmaker Lance Oppenheim examines life at The Villages, a Florida retirement community where seniors enjoy their golden years. Documentary. <i>The film presents issues that make the viewer, regardless of age, think of aging, self-fulfillment, love, and happiness.</i>	NR	83	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD

Goodbye Butterfly (Gravitas Ventures) Ryan, a loving family man 5-year-old daughter is murdered. When the police investigation hits a dead end, he has a chance encounter with an oddball neighbor named Stan (Andy Lauer) and becomes convinced he is the killer. After the police ignore his suspicions, Ryan's obsession with Stan quickly turns violent. It begs the question: Just how far would you go for justice? Thriller.	NA	NA	NA	Limited/VOD
MLK/FBI (IFC Films) Based on newly declassified files, Sam Pollard's resonant film explores the US government's surveillance and harassment of Martin Luther King, Jr. Documentary.	NR	104	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Bloody Hell (Entertainment Squad) Held captive in a mysterious basement, a man on the run must find a way to escape from a violent and demented family. Horror Comedy. <i>Well reviewed film is certain to make audiences laugh at inappropriate times and gross some out. Playable in drive ins and indoors.</i>	R	94	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
Rock Camp: The Movie (MTuckmanMedia) Summer camp meets Spinal Tap as we journey to Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy Camp, where dreamers from across America and around the world gather to shred with their heroes - and learn to rock like the legends. <i>Rock Camp is an institution and cultural phenomenon that has been going on in Los Angeles, New York and other cities since 1996. The brainchild of music producer David Fishof, Rock Camp boasts a jaw-dropping array of rock star "counselors" that include Roger Daltrey, Alice Cooper, Paul Stanley and Gene Simmons, Nancy Wilson, Joe Perry, Jeff Beck, Slash and countless other rock legends. The counselors teach, inspire and jam with the campers over the course of four days.</i>	NR	87	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Virtual
The Wake of Light (Independent) In this timely, heartfelt film, a young woman has to choose between caring for her aging father or a chance at love. Romantic Drama. <i>The film has won over 20 Film Festival Awards during its festival run. The film is written, directed, and produced by Renji Phillip and stars Rome Brooks and Matt Bush ("The Goldbergs").</i>	NR	80	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Select/Virtual VOD 2/15
1/22-28 (2020 Wk 4 Box Office: \$123,000,798) 2020 openings: The Gentlemen \$10.7M FSS, \$36.5M Total; The Turning \$7.0M FSS, \$15.5M Total.				
Our Friend (Gravitas Ventures) An inspiring and extraordinary true story of the Teague family—journalist Matt (Casey Affleck), his vibrant wife Nicole (Dakota Johnson) and their two young daughters—and how their lives are upended by Nicole's heartbreaking diagnosis of terminal cancer. Dakota Johnson, Jason Segel, Casey Affleck. Drama. <i>Devastated by his wife's passing, Matthew Teague wrote an article that dared to describe the death, and now it's become a disingenuous tearjerker. (TIFFreview). Specialized film.</i>	NA	126	Flat (1.78 : 1)	Moderate (300)/VOD
No Man's Land (IFC Films) When a vigilante border patrol turns fatal, a man flees on horseback to Mexico, seeking forgiveness from the victim's father. Action Adventure Thriller Western. <i>Well written screenplay creates a story of redemption and forgiveness in a journey across deserts and mountains to seek forgiveness from a dead boy's vengeful father.</i>	NR	115	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited/VOD
1/29-2/4 (2020 Wk 5 Box Office: \$84,115,579) 2020 openings: Gretel & Hansel \$6.2M FSS, \$15.3M Total; The Rhythm Section \$2.7M FSS, \$5.4M Total.				
The Little Things (Warner Bros.) A burned-out deputy sheriff with an eye for detail teams with a detective to reel in a wily serial killer. Written and directed by John Lee Hancock, and produced by Hancock and Mark Johnson. The film stars Denzel Washington, Rami Malek and Jared Leto. Crime Thriller.	R	NA	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide/HBO Max
Finding You (Roadside Attractions) Finley, a talented aspiring violinist, meets Beckett, a famous young movie star, on the way to her college semester abroad program in a small coastal village in Ireland. An unexpected romance emerges as the heartthrob Beckett leads the uptight Finley on an adventurous reawakening, and she emboldens him to take charge of his future, until the pressures of his stardom get in the way. Coming of Age Drama.	PG	97	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Moderate
The Dig (Netflix) Depicts the discovery of the Sutton Hoo burial site on the property of Edith Pretty. Based on the 2007 novel of the same name by John Preston, which reimagines the events of the 1939 excavation of Sutton Hoo. The film is part of Netflix book series adapted for the screen. Biographical History Drama.	PG13	112	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited/SVOD

Supernova (Bleecker Street) Sam (Colin Firth) and Tusker (Stanley Tucci), partners of 20 years, who are travelling across England in their old campervan visiting friends, family and places from their past. Following a life-changing diagnosis, their time together has become more important than ever until secret plans test their love like never before. Drama Romance. <i>As always, two respected actors give excellent performances in this human interest drama with beautiful natural scenery. Overall a very melancholy art film. Specialty audience.</i>	R	93	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
Balloon Man (Gravitas Ventures) The rubber met the road in the early 1970s for Bill Costen. After being drafted by the Buffalo Bills, tragedy forced him out of his dream. Saying goodbye to a career on the turf, Bill takes to the air, becoming the first African American Hot-Air Balloon Master Pilot in the world. Documentary. <i>An intimate portrait of a former NFL athlete who learned how to navigate through the clouds, told through the lens of his daughter, award-winning filmmaker, Chantal Potter.</i>	NA	98	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select/Virtual VOD 2/2
Palmer (AppleTV+) An ex-convict strikes up a friendship with a boy from a troubled home. Drama. <i>Justin Timberlake returns to acting in this highly praised story. Apple TV+ is available on all Apple devices as well as on Amazon Fire and Google Chromecast.</i>	R	110	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Limited/SVOD
The Night (IFC Films) An Iranian couple living in the US become trapped inside a hotel when insidious events force them to face the secrets that have come between them, in a night that never ends. Farsi-Language Horror Thriller Set in an L.A. Hotel Delivers Classy Scares (Variety). a chilling tale of past secrets breaking into the present in a truly haunting way. <i>Well reviewed.</i>	NR	105	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
2/5-11 (2020 Wk 6 Box Office: \$96,113,570) 2020 openings: Birds of Prey: And the Fantabulous Emancipation of One Harley Quinn \$33.0M FSS, \$84.2M Total.				
Cinderella (Sony) A modern musical version of the classic fairy tale "Cinderella". A poor, ambitious orphan gets her wish to meet a prince granted. Comedy Fantasy Musical Romance.	NA	NA	Scope (2.35 : 1) IMAX, 3D, Dolby Cinema	Wide
Minamata (UA Releasing/AIP) War photographer W. Eugene Smith travels back to Japan where he documents the devastating effect of mercury poisoning in coastal communities. Based on the book of the same name by Aileen Mioko Smith and Eugene Smith. Drama.	R	115	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
The Human Factor (Sony Pictures Classics) The epic behind-the-scenes story of the United States' 30-year effort to secure peace in the Middle East. Recounted from the unique perspective of the American mediators on the frontlines. Documentary.	PG13	108	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
Two of Us (Magnolia Pictures) Pensioners Nina and Madeleine have hidden their deep and passionate love for many decades, but their bond is put to the test when they are suddenly unable to move freely between each other's apartments. Comedy Drama. <i>Well-acted chamber piece on the subject of lesbianism among seniors. (Harvey S. Karten). Specialized film.</i>	NR	95	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Little Fish (IFC Films) A couple fights to hold their relationship together as a memory loss virus spreads and threatens to erase the history of their love and courtship. Romance Sci-Fi Drama.	NR	101	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited

Update – Studio Release Changes

Title	Runs	New	Former
Land (Focus Features) The picture centers around a cosmopolitan lawyer consumed by grief. After enduring a personal tragedy, she feels her only escape is to disappear from her life and live completely apart from the rest of humanity. As she learns to survive in a harsh environment, she finds the woman in herself that she felt had long since died. Drama.	Wide	2/12/21	NEW
Nomadland (Searchlight) After losing everything in the Great Recession, a woman embarks on a journey through the American West, living as a van-dwelling modern-day nomad. Drama. Won the People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival, making it the first film ever to win the top prize at both Venice and Toronto. It began as one-week virtual release on 12/4.	Limited	2/19/21	NEW
Everybody's Talking About Jamie (20th Century) A gay teen overcomes adversity to reveal to the other students in his school that he is a drag queen. Musical Drama.	TBD	Cancelled	2/26/21

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Reminiscence (Warner Bros.) A scientist discovers a way to relive your past and uses the technology to search for his long lost love. Science Fiction. Hugh Jackman.	Wide	4/16/21	1/15/21
Tom and Jerry (Warner Bros.) Tom and Jerry get kicked out of their home after an entire destruction of it through all of their slapstick mayhem. After the millionth failed attempt of doing his job as a house cat, Tom gets disowned by his owners and is left without a place to live, as Jerry is also left without a source of food. Live Action Animation.	Wide	2/26/21	3/5/21
My Brother's Keeper (Iconic Releasing) A powerful story of faith and redemption in the wake of PTSD. Drama.	Moderate	3/19/21	2/5/21
Tyson's Run (Iconic Releasing) An unathletic boy with autism strives to become an unlikely marathon champion giving his unfulfilled father purpose and a second chance at putting his family first. Drama.	Moderate	4/9/21	3/5/21
Chaos Walking (Lionsgate) In the not too distant future, Todd Hewitt (Tom Holland) discovers Viola (Daisy Ridley), a mysterious girl who crash lands on his planet, where all the women have disappeared, and the men are afflicted by 'the Noise'. Action.	Wide	3/5/21	1/22/21
Zola (A24) Zola, a Detroit waitress, strikes up a new friendship with a customer, Stefani, who seduces her to join a weekend of dancing and partying in Florida. Drama.	Wide	6/30/21	NEW
The Green Knight (A24) An epic fantasy adventure based on the timeless Arthurian legend, this is the story of Sir Gawain (Dev Patel), King Arthur's reckless and headstrong nephew, who embarks on a daring quest to confront the eponymous Green Knight, a gigantic emerald-skinned stranger and tester of men.	Wide	7/30/21	NEW
The Marksman (Open Road/Briarcliff) A rancher on the Arizona border becomes the unlikely defender of a young Mexican boy desperately fleeing the cartel assassins who've pursued him into the U.S. Action Thriller.	Wide	1/15/21	1/22/21
Dog (UA Releasing) An army ranger and his dog embark on a road trip along the Pacific Coast Highway to attend a friend's funeral. Family Comedy.	Wide	7/30/21	5/7/21

MPAA Ratings

Title	Rating	Reason
Annette (Amazon Studios)	R	Sexual content including some nudity, and for language
Biggie: I Got a Story to Tell (Netflix)	R	Pervasive language, and drug content Documentary
Dr. Bird's Advice for Sad Poets (Ketchup Ent.)	R	Sexual material, language, teen partying and a graphic nude image
Happily (Saban Films)	R	Sexual content, language throughout and brief violence
The Killing of Two Lovers (NEON)	R	Language
Max and Me (Dos Corazones Films)	PG13	Thematic elements, disturbing images and some violence
Pinocchio (Roadside Attractions)	PG13	Some disturbing images
Six Minutes to Midnight (IFC)	PG13	Some violence
Strip Down, Rise Up (Netflix)	R	Language, sexual material and brief graphic nudity
Thunder Force (Netflix)	PG13	Some action/violence, language and mild suggestive material
The World to Come (Bleecker Street)	R	Some sexuality/nudity

Screening Room – New Trailers



Title: Nobody (Universal)

Release Date: 2/26/21 - Wide

Director: Ilya Naishuller (Hardcore Henry, Biting Elbows, I Am Losing Weight)

Starring: Bob Odenkirk, Connie Nielsen, Christopher Lloyd

Synopsis: A bystander who intervenes to help a woman being harassed by a group of men becomes the target of a vengeful drug lord. Action Thriller. *David Leitch is an American filmmaker, actor, stunt performer and stunt coordinator who made his uncredited directorial debut on the 2014 action film John Wick (executive produced the two John Wick sequels) and later Atomic Blonde. Originally scheduled for an August 14, 2020 release by Universal Pictures, the film's general release was rescheduled to February 26, 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bob Odenkirk goes wild in this nonstop action film. Charles Bronson would be proud.*

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Title: French Exit (Sony Pictures Classics)

Release Date: 2/12/21 - NY/LA

Director: Azazel Jacobs (Momma's Man, Terri, The Lovers)

Starring: Michelle Pfeiffer, Lucas Hedges, Tracy Letts

Synopsis: A widowed New York socialite and her aimless son move to Paris after she spends the last of her husband's inheritance. Comedy Drama. *A surreal comedy film directed by Azazel Jacobs, based on the novel of the same name by Patrick DeWitt, who also wrote the screenplay. A close-to-penniless widow moves to Paris with her son and cat, who also happens to be her reincarnated husband. Michelle Pfeiffer has one of her best performances in this well reviewed sophisticated comedy.*



Title: Nomadland (Searchlight) Trailer #2

Release Date: 2/19/21 - Limited

Director: Chloé Zhao (The Rider, Songs My Brothers Taught Me)

Starring: Frances McDormand, Gay DeForest, Patricia Grier

Synopsis: A woman embarks on a journey through the American West after losing everything during the recession. Drama. *The film began a one-week virtual release on 12/4/20 and won the People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival, making it the first film ever to win the top prize at both Venice and Toronto. One of the best films of 2020.*



Title: Rock Camp: The Movie (mTuckmanMedia)

Release Date: 2/16/21

Director: Renee Barron, Douglas Blush

Starring: Rock n' Roll Legends

Synopsis: Summer camp meets Spinal Tap as we journey to Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy Camp, where dreamers from across America and around the world gather to shred with their heroes - and learn to rock like the legends. Rock Camp is an institution and cultural phenomenon that has been going on in Los Angeles, New York and other cities since 1996. Documentary.



Title: Palmer (Apple TV+)

Release Date: 1/29/21

Director: Fisher Stevens (actor in The Blacklist, The Good Fight, and Succession)

Starring: Juno Temple, June Squibb, Justin Timberlake

Synopsis: An ex-convict strikes up a friendship with a boy from a troubled home. Drama. *While getting to know Sam, Eddie learns that fitting into the box society has prescribed to you isn't all that it's cracked up to be and takes inspiration from the kid who simply wants to be himself and not be hated for it. Justin Timberlake returns to acting in this highly praised story. Apple TV+ is available on all Apple devices as well as on Amazon Fire and Google Chromecast.*



Title: The Dig (Netflix)

Release Date: 1/29/21

Director: Simon Stone (The Daughter, also actor)

Starring: Carey Mulligan, Ralph Fiennes, Lily James

Synopsis: As WWII looms, a wealthy widow (Carey Mulligan) hires an amateur archaeologist (Ralph Fiennes) to excavate the burial mounds on her estate. When they make a historic discovery, the echoes of Britain's past resonate in the face of its uncertain future. Biography Drama History. *The film is adapted from a 2007 historical novel by John Preston, recounting the events of the real Sutton Hoo excavation in the late 1930s. Several historic burial sites dating back to the sixth and seventh centuries were discovered on the property of Edith Pretty (Mulligan) by archaeologist Basil Brown (Fiennes), including an Anglo-Saxon ship.*