



Monday, May 3, 2021 | No. 166

We don't know precisely when our universe was born, but we do know that the Big Bang that created the **Marvel Cinematic Universe** took place May 2, 2008 when *Iron Man* exploded in theatres.

At the time, Marvel was a year away from being purchased by Disney, *IM*'s star Robert Downey Jr. was known for years of making Hollywood Bad Boy headlines, *IM* was considered a second tier Marvel property and the idea of a shared universe with storylines for individual Marvel comic book superheroes was in its infancy. In fact, the next step in that direction was a misstep with *The Incredible Hulk*, which had a not very muscular opening June 13, 2008. *IM* had opened to \$98.6 million and did \$585.8 million worldwide, but *Hulk* kicked-off to just \$55.4 million and only grossed \$264.8 million globally.

Nonetheless, Marvel stayed the course and moviegoers began gravitating to new MCU titles, Downey's life took a happy turn for the better and *Iron Man* spawned hit sequels (*IM2* with \$623.9 million worldwide in 2010 and *IM3* with \$1.2 billion globally in 2013). Disney purchased Marvel August 31, 2009 in a deal worth \$4 billion. Since then, MCU films have grossed about \$22 billion – some \$18 billion more than Disney paid.

We've already seen three phases of the MCU and are now entering the fourth. Phase One began with *IM* and ended with the first crossover film *The Avengers* (2012). Phase Two started with *IM3* (2013) and wrapped up with *Ant-Man* (2015). Phase Three got going with *Captain America: Civil War* (2016) and culminated in *Spider-Man: Far from Home* (2019 via Sony). Phase Four kicks off 7/9 with *Black Widow*, followed by *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings* (Sept. 3), *Eternals* (Nov. 5) and *Spider-Man: No Way Home* (Dec. 17).



Iron Man Suits Up -Click to Play



Marvel Cinematic Universe Explained – [Click to Play](#)

Of course, in 2009 when Disney CEO Robert Iger decided to acquire Marvel, there were considerable risks. Earlier this week, Iger, who's now Disney's executive chairman, reflected at the Clio Awards (for creative advertising) on green-lighting costly Disney acquisitions over the years like Marvel, Lucasfilm, Pixar and 21st Century Fox's entertainment assets. While acknowledging that

there were risks, he added it wasn't "as risky in my mind because of my confidence in our ability to execute." Clearly, Iger was right and great execution over the past dozen years by Disney and Marvel (under studio chief/president Kevin Feige) has made the MCU an astronomical success.

Weekend Box Office Results... 4/30 – 5/2

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

Rank	Title	Week	Theatres	Wknd \$	% Chg	Per Theatre Average \$	Total \$
1	Demon Slayer the Movie: Mugen Train (FunFactory)	2	1,905	6,421,514	-70	3,371	34,100,000
2	Mortal Kombat (Warner Bros.)	2	3,114	6,235,000	-73	2,002	34,087,000
3	Godzilla vs. Kong (Warner Bros.)	5	2,753	2,740,000	-36	995	90,310,000
4	Separation (Open Road/Briarcliff)	1	1,751	1,831,000		1,046	1,831,000
5	Raya and the Last Dragon (Disney)	9	1,810	1,335,000	-23	738	41,580,947
6	Nobody (Universal)	6	2,056	1,260,000	-28	613	23,368,000
7	The Unholy (Sony)	5	1,538	1,065,000	-27	692	13,130,000
8	Scott Pilgrim vs. The World (Universal)	560	152	720,000		4,737	32,394,000
9	Tom & Jerry (Warner Bros.)	10	1,801	515,000	-29	286	44,203,000
10	Together Together (Bleecker Street)	2	659	313,051	-41	475	1,018,378

▪ Opening in 1751 locations, Open Road/Briarcliff's *Separation* took in an estimated weekend gross of \$1,831,000.

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- Moving into the top spot, FUNimation's **Demon Slayer -Kimetsu no Yaiba- The Movie: Mugen Train** had a solid second weekend taking in \$6.42M from 1,905 theaters for a PTA of \$3,371 and a cume to date in N.A. of \$32,218,778. Set after the events of the television series, has the main characters embarking on a new mission as they investigate the mysterious disappearance of over 40 people aboard the Mugen train.
- Warner Bros.' **Mortal Kombat** now in its second weekend earned \$6.235M in 3,114 locations for a PTA of \$2002 and a N.A. cume to date of \$34.087M. The R-rated action adventure is inspired by the hugely popular video game stars Lewis Tan, Jessica McNamee, Josh Lawson, Tadanobu Asano, Hiroyuki Sanada, Chin Han and is directed by Simon McQuoid.
- Warner Bros.' **Godzilla Vs. Kong** earned \$2.74M in this, its fifth weekend for a N.A. cume through Sunday of \$90.31M.
- Disney's **Raya and the Last Dragon** now in weekend 9 earned \$1.335M in 1,810 theaters for a N.A. cume through Sunday of \$41,580,947.
- Universal's **Nobody** in its 5th weekend in N.A. earned \$1.26M in 2,056 locations for a PTA of \$613 and a N.A. cume through Sunday of \$23.36M.
- Bleeker Street's **Together Together** in weekend 2 earned \$313K in 659 locations for a PTA of \$475 and a N.A. cume through Sunday of \$1.01M.
- Universal's repertory title **Scott Pilgrim Vs. The World** had a terrific weekend bringing in fans to the tune of \$720K in 152 locations for a strong PTA of \$4,737.
- Vertical Entertainment opened **Four Good Days** in 298 locations to \$303,000 for a PTA of \$1,017.
- Vertical Entertainment opened **The Resort** in 114 locations to \$95,000 for a PTA of \$833.
- Focus Features opened **Limbo** in 208 locations to a debut of \$90,000 for a PTA of \$433.
- Atlas Distribution's **The Girl Who Believes in Miracles** in 728 locations earned \$195,000 in its fifth weekend for a cume to date of \$2,707,725.
- Roadside Attractions spy thriller **The Courier**, now in its seventh weekend earned \$139,550 in 390 locations for a cume to date of \$6,227,448.
- A24's **Minari** now in its 12th weekend took in \$80K this weekend in 501 locations for a cume to date of \$2,850,651.
- Lionsgate's **Voyagers** now in its fourth weekend took in an estimated \$79,000 in 937 locations for a domestic cume to date of \$3.104M. The sci-fi thriller is written and directed by Neil Burger. Lionsgate acquired US rights to the film from AGC Studios.
- Lionsgate's **Chaos Walking** in its 9th weekend earned \$57.5K this weekend from 502 locations lifting its estimated cume to \$13.238M to date.
- Neon's **In the Earth**, now in weekend 3 is in 215 locations earning \$54,400 for a PTA of \$253 and cume to date \$1,070,606.
- Neon's **Gunda** now in week 3 in 15 locations took in \$6,300 for a PTA of \$420 and a cume to date of \$62,633. The film directed by Victor Kossakovsky chronicles the unfiltered lives of a mother pig, a flock of chickens, and a herd of cows with masterful intimacy.
- Sony's **Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway** added \$700K this weekend for an international cume of \$17.4M from 447 screens in Australia (\$14.9M cume) and New Zealand (\$2.5M cume).
- Local Chinese titles **Cliff Walkers** and **Home Sweet Home** led the way to \$5.1M of global IMAX results
- Debuts in China for China Film's **Cliff Walkers** and New Classics' **Home Sweet Home** share the IMAX network with \$3.3M of IMAX box office.
- **Cliff Walkers** won the weekend with \$2.3M of the total with **Home Sweet Home** earing \$1M.
- In N.A., Aniplex's **Demon Slayer** earns \$500K bringing the worldwide IMAX cume to \$29.2M.
- Next weekend MGM's Guy Ritchie actioner **Wrath of Man** launches in the IMAX domestic network and select international markets.

POPCORN Previews

Click to play PART I of our BOXOFFICE BUZZ SUMMER PREVIEW, looking at the steady stream of event films heading to theatres this summer -- from Memorial Day weekend through early July.



Click to play our POPCORN PREVIEW BOXOFFICE BUZZ, looking at some of the family fun films we've all enjoyed over the years. In Part Four of our 4-part series, we begin with SPIDER-MAN: INTO THE SPIDER-VERSE...and the voices of Shameik Moore and Miles Morales.

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Notable Industry News and Commentary... 4/26 -5/2

[After Oscar Ratings Tank, Do the Academy Awards Need Another Makeover?](#) (Variety)

The most widely circulated headline about the 93rd Academy Awards was the extremely low ratings for the broadcast. The unusual presentation capped off an unusual year, and drew only 9.8M viewers, down 60% from last year's program 14 months ago. The show was also impacted by numerous COVID related challenges, with arrival, entrance and seating organized to ensure proper social distancing for the stars. A notable scheduling miscue was the Academy's decision to move the "Best Actor" award to the end of the program, with the expectation the late Chadwick Boseman would win for his performance in *Ma Raney's Black Bottom* which would end the program on a sentimental note.

However, Anthony Hopkins wound up winning in the category for his role in *The Father*.

Alas, Hopkins was not present in person to accept the award, and presenter Joaquin Phoenix simply stated this fact and announced the end of the show.



While this was a noteworthy anticlimax to a challenging year, the downward trend for the Oscars and most other major awards programs have been well documented and cannot be written off as a COVID problem. One important factor in this spiral down is the fact that audiences are less and less familiar with the films receiving nominations. Variety's Owen Gleiberman suggests, "Here's the real way to solve the Oscar problem...Hollywood has to rediscover a way to do two things at once: 1) make crowd-pleasing films that are artful acts of storytelling not aimed at 14-year-olds; and 2) nominate those movies for Oscars."

See also: [The Best and Worst Moments of the 2021 Oscars](#) (NY Times)

[Peacock Hits 42M Signups, a Third Are Monthly Active Accounts](#) (Hollywood Reporter)



The streaming market certainly requires deep pockets and patience. Last week, NBCUniversal's CEO Jeff Shell announced that its streaming service Peacock had reached 42M signups, an increase of 9M since January when it last reported its subscriber numbers. He highlighted that they had reached this level after only one year in operation, whereas Hulu has only three times that number of subscribers after being in the market for 13 years. Revenues for Peacock came in at \$100M last year, with a reported net loss of \$700M for the year. Parent company Comcast expects to lose approximately \$2B on Peacock during

2020 and 2021 combined, while it builds the brand with consumers. The company has said that the recent addition of exclusive streaming rights to the WWE Network and *The Office* have been a magnet for new subscribers. Going forward, a further investment in live sports is expected to be a key differentiator for Peacock.

[IMAX Q1 Box Office Posts First Year-To-Year Gain Since Start of Pandemic as Results Hit Wall Street Targets](#) (Deadline)

IMAX announced its earnings for Q1 2021 and for the first time since the onset of the pandemic it reported an increase in box office receipts when compared with receipts from the same quarter in the prior year. In Q1 2021, IMAX's box office receipts came in \$110M globally, up from \$95.2M in Q1 2020. As with any exhibitor, IMAX retains only a portion of these box office receipts after sharing the proceeds with its studio



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partners. IMAX reported a net loss of 25 cents per share for the quarter, compared with a net loss in 82 cents per share in Q1 2020.

During last week's earnings call, IMAX's CEO Rich Gelfond emphasized the company's relative strengths in the market, most notably strong results from China, Japan and other Asian markets where IMAX maintains an extensive network of theatres, and the interest that audiences have demonstrated in going to big-screen environments to watch the blockbuster titles that IMAX specializes in presenting. Gelfond also claimed that the industry movement towards shorter theatrical windows should have minimal impact on revenues, since IMAX typically plays films for limited runs of one to two weeks before moving on new titles. Upcoming releases like *A Quiet Place Part 2*, *F9* and *Black Widow* all stand to perform well at IMAX locations, supporting a rosy outlook for the summer.

[Pixar staffers frustrated by decision to send movies straight to Disney Plus: 'It's hard to grasp'](#) (Business Insider and Yahoo! News)

Last Sunday at the 93rd Academy Awards, Pixar notched its 16th Oscar with *Soul's* win for "Best Animated Feature". While it's not unusual for a Pixar film to win an Oscar, this was the first time that it had won for a film that did not play in theatres. Last year at the height of the pandemic, Disney made a bold decision to nix the planned theatrical release for *Soul* and instead release it on Disney+ exclusively. Disney's logic was that the pandemic would have limited ticket sales at theatres, but by offering it as a Disney+ exclusive the studio could entice family audiences to check out their streaming service, and perhaps remain as long-term subscribers. Disney's gamble appears to have paid off, since other films that opened in theatres last Christmas struggled at the box office, while audiences for Disney+ and other streaming services were taking off.



Among the staff at Pixar, Disney's strategy to re-direct films to Disney+ has been met with mixed reviews. Many among Pixar's creative staff have reported that the dazzling effects they put into their films can only be appreciated fully on the big screen, in theatres. Disney appears to be doubling down on its streaming ambitions by opening *Luca*, the studio's next major production, on Disney+ exclusively on June 18th, despite a marked improvement in the conditions for moviegoing in theatres. Some at the studio are expressing concern that streaming releases may become the standard for Pixar titles, even after the COVID crisis has faded. Exhibitors are equally concerned. Certainly, Disney's strategists are hard at work projecting the financial impact of these decisions. If movie fans demonstrate that they are interested in returning to theatres, then studios will likely follow them there with their most appealing titles.

[France's Cinemas and Cultural Venues to Reopen May 19](#) (Variety)

Last week during a nationwide address, French president Emmanuel Macron announced a timeline for re-opening cinemas in Europe's largest theatrical market. Beginning on May 19th, cinemas will be allowed to resume public screenings with a maximum seating capacity of 35%.

Capacity limits will be eased in stages over six weeks until June 30th when theatres will be able to sell tickets up to their full capacity, just in time for the July 6th opening of the 2021 Cannes Film Festival and the July 9th global release of Disney's *Black Widow*.

European nations have struggled to balance the competing imperatives of assuring public health during the pandemic while maintaining some level of economic activity in the society. Cinemas in France have been shuttered since last October 30th, when a second wave of coronavirus



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infections was washing over Europe. However, over the past month the number of new infections has come down, the pace of vaccinations has increased, and warmer weather brought with it a return to outdoor lifestyles with better ventilation and lower risk person-to-person transmission of the virus. Exhibitors are optimistic that moviegoing will resume, due in part to the strong pipeline of new releases that studios have withheld during the pandemic.

See also: [New York City will reopen 100% on July 1, Mayor Bill de Blasio says](#) (CNBC)

MARTIN GROVE'S *Hollywood Report*

They're right when they say the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Consider today's column about exhibitors' streaming worries and how exhibs & distribs must work together for either to have a future. It's 3 years old, but I could have written it now.



EXCERPTED FROM 4/29/18:

It's perfect timing for AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR (pictured) to open to \$250M+ just as exhibitors were assessing Hollywood's health at CinemaCon...

Distributors, of course, were previewing their biggest new titles to generate exhibitor excitement. Exhibitors typically want people to go to "the movies" – any movie will do since most of them will be playing in a big multiplex and virtually everyone will buy popcorn or other snacks. Distributors want people to go see "a movie" – theirs!

Theatrical exhibition and the marketing money linked to it adds tremendous value to movies, creating awareness for subsequent digital streaming and other video distribution. The two camps may have their own points of view, but they're really joined at the hip and need each other. They do have a future – and it's likely to be brightest if they can manage to keep working together.

* * *

Now that the distractions of the Oscars are finally over, we can get back to worrying about the Golden Globes.

While the Academy faces problems, they don't endanger its survival. The Globes-giving HFPA, however, is dealing with a diversity crisis that could spell disaster. All we know right now is that Comcast/Universal/NBC & Dick Clark Productions have both said they're very unhappy with HFPA. We don't know if that might lead to the GG's demise, but there's no law against playing "What If?"

It's a safe bet that other awards givers would immediately throw their hats into the ring to elevate themselves into being Hollywood's biggest event of the year aside from the Oscars. Some might not be qualified and some who are might have conflicts or not be interested.

Anyone hoping to succeed HFPA and reap the same rewards – NBC reportedly pays about \$60M annually for the privilege of telecasting GG – would need impeccable credentials, real voter diversity, full access to A-List stars (pictured – Brad & Jen at 2020 SAG Awards) & enough film & TV awards giving history to be taken seriously. It's a short list, but I can think of a good one. Can you?



Update – Studio Release Calendar

5/7-13: Mother's Day 5/9 (2020 Wk 19 Box Office: \$268,876) 2020 openings: N/A				
Wrath of Man (UA Releasing) A man must move hundreds of millions of dollars for an armored truck company in Los Angeles. Action Thriller. Based on the 2004 French film, Le convoyeur (Cash Truck) by Nicolas Boukhrief. <i>This is Ritchie's fourth directorial collaboration with lead actor Jason Statham, following Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels (1998), Snatch (2000), and Revolver (2005). SCREENING: Jason Statham increases the body count once more. Few words, zero humor appealing most to males. All in all, moderate box office, better in international markets. Interest levels are similar to Nobody (\$6.8M, \$21.8M domestic, 2460 locations opening day.</i>	R	118	Scope (2.35 : 1), IMAX	Wide
Here Today (Sony) When veteran comedy writer Charlie Burnz meets New York street singer Emma Payge, they form an unlikely yet hilarious and touching friendship that kicks the generation gap aside and redefines the meaning of love and trust. Comedy. <i>In April 2021, Stage 6 Films acquired distribution rights and set it for a 5/7/21 release. Billy Crystal, Tiffany Haddish. SCREENING: A well written screenplay with genuine performances expected from Billy Crystal and cast. This is a sweet/somber blend of the best of Billy Crystal and the entertaining evolving talent of Tiffany Haddish along with her original vocals. Wonderful jazz accompaniment. Entertaining, moderately commercial film.</i>	PG13	117	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Moderate
Above Suspicion (Lionsgate) The story that led to the first conviction for murder of an FBI agent. Biography Crime. <i>This is a 2019 thriller film directed by Phillip Noyce, from a screenplay by Chris Gerolmo, based upon the non-fiction book of the same name revolving around the murder of Susan Smith.</i>	R	104	Scope (2.39 : 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. <i>A cogent and involving view of the Israeli-Palestinian peace efforts, mainly from 1991 until the end of Bill Clinton's first term, told through the recollections of United States negotiators charged with brokering a peace.</i>	PG13	108	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
Monster (Netflix) A talented teen implicated in a robbery-turned-murder fights for his innocence and integrity against a criminal justice system that's already judged him. Starring Kelvin Harrison Jr., Jennifer Hudson, Jeffrey Wright. Drama. <i>The screenplay is based on the New York Times bestseller of the same name.</i>	R	98	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Fried Green Tomatoes 30th Anniversary (Fathom/TCM Big Screen Classics) On one of tapped housewife Evelyn Couch's (Kathy Bates) Wednesday nursing home visits, she encounters Ninny Threadgoode (Jessica Tandy), a colorful old woman who brightens Evelyn's outlook by sharing tales from her past. Drama. <i>Like all good Southern gothic stories, "Fried Green Tomatoes" serves up a heaping portion of tall tales, scary situations, and explorations of social issues. Highly rated.</i>	PG13	137	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Event Cinema 5/9 & 5/12-13
DAZN: Canelo vs. Saunders (Iconic Events) One of the biggest fights of the year is set for May 8 at the AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, as WBA, WBC and Ring Magazine champion Saul Canelo Alvarez meets Billy Joe Saunders, the holder of the WBO belt. Sports. <i>Bout begins approximately 11 PM EDT.</i>	NR	NA	AT&T Stadium	Theatrical Stream
In Action (Independent) Two screenwriters land in hot water when the government mistakes their movie script for a terrorist plot. Comedy. <i>Generally favorable reviews for this low budget entertaining film.</i>	NR	79	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Paper Spiders (Entertainment Squad) This award-winning coming-of-age drama is about a high-schooler trying to help her mother's deteriorating mental health after she starts showing signs of paranoid delusions. Drama. <i>The film celebrates the start of Mental Health Awareness Month.</i>	NR	109	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Walking with Herb (Aloha Releasing) Joe Amable-Amo is a bank executive and former amateur golfer struggling with his faith after an unexpected tragedy. Faced with doubts about himself, his purpose, and his belief in God, Joe is stunned when God tells him that he's been chosen to inspire the world and play in a world championship golf tournament. Comedy. <i>Guided by God's eccentric personal messenger, Herb, Joe learns that the seemingly impossible is possible...through faith, family, and second chances. Features an exclusive introduction from stars Edward James Olmos and George Lopez.</i>	PG	107	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited theatrical



The Devil's Child (Vertical Entertainment) A young American nurse finds herself haunted by childhood trauma, when she is employed at a remote house to care for a sinister old man with psychic powers. Horror Thriller. <i>The film focuses on an abandoned place nestled deep in Appalachian country where underground coal mines have been ablaze for decades. When a team of researchers try to find out how the fires started, they soon discover something more startling than the mystery that sent them there: they're not alone.</i>	NR	89	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Select/VOD
Silo (Oscilloscope) Disaster strikes in a small American farm town when a teenager becomes the victim of a grain entrapment accident. Drama. <i>First feature film about a grain entrapment. Well reviewed with 90% positive audience reactions.</i>	NR	76	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select/VOD
Duty Free (Fourth Act Film) After a 75-year-old immigrant mother gets fired without cause from her lifelong job as a hotel housekeeper, her son takes her on a bucket-list adventure to reclaim her life. As she struggles to find work, he documents a journey that uncovers the economic insecurity shaping not only her future, but that of an entire generation. Documentary. <i>A son's warm, socially relevant love letter to his mom. (Hollywood Reporter).</i>	NR	75	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select/Virtual Expansion to follow
The Unthinkable (Magnolia/Magnet) <i>Original title: Den blomstertid nu kommer.</i> The film is a mysterious disaster-thriller about time running away. When the unthinkable happens and Sweden is attacked, it dramatically changes people and question what's really important. What would we change before it is too late? Action Romance Sci-Fi. <i>The film was released in Sweden on 6/9/18, two days before Midsummer in Sweden, with the film itself being set during Midsummer. The Swedish title of the film is the name of a traditional hymn strongly associated with summer, Den blomstertid nu kommer.</i>	NR	129	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Things Heard or Seen (Netflix) Based on book: All Things Cease to Appear; by Elizabeth Brundage. A young woman discovers that both her husband and their new home harbor sinister secrets after they leave Manhattan for small-town life. Amanda Seyfried, James Norton, Natalia Dyer. Horror, Mystery and Thriller.	NR	121	Flat (2.00 : 1)	SVOD on 4/29
White People Money (Vertical Entertainment) MacKenzie Scott the ex-wife of multi-billionaire Jeff Bezos pledges to give way \$15B to 15 winners. Written and directed by self-taught American filmmaker Mark Harris, director of the films Holla If You Hear Me, I Used to Love Her, Black Butterfly, Black Coffee. Comedy.	NR	80	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Paper Tigers (Well Go USA) Middle-aged martial artists escape their day jobs to avenge their fallen master. Action Comedy. <i>The film was created due to director and producers' strong admiration of martial arts and old school, fun martial art films.</i>	PG13	108	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Emily on the Edge of Chaos (Kino Marquee) interweaves Emily Levine's live performance with animation, appearances by scientists, and animated characters (John Lithgow as Sir Isaac Newton, Lily Tomlin as Ayn Rand, Leonard Nimoy as Sigmund Freud, Richard Lewis as Aristotle, Matt Groening as Aldo Leopold). Documentary. <i>Clémence Taillandier, booking contact.</i>	NR	61	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Virtual Cinema
The Water Man (RLJE Films) A boy sets out on a quest to save his ill mother by searching for a mythic figure said to have magical healing powers. Drama. <i>A family film in more ways than one, this youth-skewing thriller follows a courageous kid who faces his fears to potentially save his parents.</i>	PG	92	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Benny Loves You (Dread) Jack (Karl Holt), a man desperate to improve his life throws away his beloved childhood plush, Benny. It's a move that has disastrous consequences when Benny springs to life with deadly intentions. Comedy Horror. <i>Hell hath no fury like a teddy scorned. The film takes the killer doll premise you're familiar with from classics like the Child's Play franchise and Puppet Master to interesting new places.</i>	NR	94	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Select VOD on 5/11 Blu-Ray on 6/8
Mainstream (IFC) In this cautionary tale, three people struggle to preserve their identities as they form an eccentric love triangle within the fast-moving internet age. Comedy Drama. <i>Johnny Knoxville and Andrew Garfield are the draw to what review services deemed "unfavorable reviews."</i>	R	95	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Chicago: America's Hidden War (CineLife) deals with the title city's epidemic of gun violence and "pulls back the curtain to expose the pervasive genocidal-like behavior in Chicago. <i>This movie will help all Americans learn how to tackle the urgent crisis that is going on in America's heartland and take actions to stop it, regardless of where they are from or how they are different. (Producers Dimas and Tiffany Salaberrios).</i>				Event Cinema

Scavenger (Cleopatra Entertainment) In a post-apocalyptic world with its own rules, Tisha, an assassin and organ dealer with a dark past, seeks revenge for a crime that marked her life. Horror Thriller. <i>Recently screened at popular genre festivals such as FrightFest in the UK and Obscura in Germany, among many others.</i>	NR	75	Scope (2.33 : 1)	VOD Digital on 5/11
5/14-20 (2020 Wk 20 Box Office: \$454,202) 2020 openings: N/A				
Those Who Wish Me Dead (Warner Bros.) A teenage murder witness finds himself pursued by twin assassins in the Montana wilderness with a survival expert tasked with protecting him - and a forest fire threatening to consume them all. Thriller. <i>An interesting action film with Angelina Jolie cast for box office and VOD revenue. Entertaining and drawing public interest, look for a moderately commercial and profitable film for WB.</i>	R	100	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide/HBOMax
Spiral: From The Book of Saw (Lionsgate) A sadistic mastermind unleashes a twisted form of justice in Spiral, the terrifying new chapter from the book of Saw. Crime Horror Mystery Thriller. <i>Here is another take on the so-called torture porn aspect of the SAW series. Bloody gratuitous violence is part of a story that looks to be a moderately commercial success.</i>	R	93	Scope (2.35 : 1), IMAX	Wide/Early VOD
Profile (Focus Features) An undercover British journalist in her quest to bait and expose a terrorist recruiter through social media, tries not to be sucked in by her recruiter and lured into becoming a militant extremist herself. Thriller. <i>Inspired by the 2015 nonfiction bestseller "In the Skin of a Jihadist" by a French journalist who now has round-the-clock police protection and has changed her name to Anna Érelle. Director Timur Bekmambetov's (Wanted) made its world premiere at the Berlin Film Festival in 2018 and won the Audience Award.</i>	NR	106	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Wide/Early VOD
Finding You (Roadside Attractions) A talented aspiring violinist meets 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 she leads him on an adventurous reawakening, and she emboldens him to take charge of his future, until the pressures of his stardom get in the way. Based on the book There You'll Find Me by Jenny B. Jones. Coming of Age Drama Romance. <i>The film was shot in Ireland, in and around Dublin, Clare, Offaly, and Kildare. Pre-Thursday shows at 7pm.</i>	PG	119	Scope (2.35 : 1), 4K Resolution	Limited
Mission: Impossible 25th Anniversary (Fathom Events) An American agent, under false suspicion of disloyalty, must discover and expose the real spy without the help of his organization. Action Adventure. <i>The television series inspired a series of theatrical motion pictures starring Tom Cruise beginning in 1996. By 2011, the franchise generated over \$4 billion in revenue making Mission: Impossible one of the highest-grossing media franchises of all time.</i>	PG13	110	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Event Cinema 5/16-17 & 5/19
Knots: A Forced Marriage Story (Global Digital Releasing) Explore the sinister truth about forced and child marriage in the United States through the harrowing experiences of those who have survived it. Documentary. <i>Forced and child marriage is happening all across the United States, legally. Three survivors - Nina, Sara, and Fraidy - take us on a journey into the depths of this human rights abuse hiding in plain sight.</i>	NR	76	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select
The Djinn (IFC Midnight) A mute boy is trapped in his apartment with a sinister monster when he makes a wish to fulfill his heart's greatest desire. Supernatural Horror Thriller. <i>The horror genre has been successful for IFC. This latest acquisition looks to continue the popularity of the genre.</i>	R	82	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
UFC 262: Oliveira vs. Chandler (Iconic Events) UFC 262: Oliveira vs. Chandler is an upcoming mixed martial arts event produced by the Ultimate Fighting Championship at the Toyota Center in Houston, TX, USA. <i>For the first time since 2019, Nate Diaz is back on a fight poster.</i>	NR	NA	Ultimate Fighting Championship	Theatrical, ESPN+PPV
The Man in the Hat (Independent) The Man in the Hat journeys through France in a Fiat 500 accompanied by a framed photograph of an unknown woman. He is pursued by five angry men in a Citroën Dyane. Why are they chasing him? And how can he shake them off? Comedy. <i>A 2020 British independent comedy film that features the directorial debut of composer Stephen Warbeck. The film is a musically rooted road trip comedy.</i>	NR	95	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD

The Killing of Two Lovers (NEON) David desperately tries to keep his family of six together during a separation from his wife. They both agree to see other people but David struggles to grapple with his wife's new relationship. Drama. <i>Reviews on review aggregators have been overwhelmingly positive. the film premiered at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival.</i>	R	85	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
RK/RKAY (Outsider Pictures) Director, writer and star, Rajat Kapoor, the “godfather” of Indian independent film (Raghunath, Ankhon Dekhi), has created a charming “meta-movie” about filmmaking itself in his newest, RK/RKAY. Drama. <i>“An intelligent and playful...self-reflective take on filmmaking.” – Festival Scope. Bucheon Fantastic Film Festival/Shanghai International Film Festival. Language: Hindi & English.</i>	NR	95	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Theatrical/ Virtual 120 Day Exclusive Window
Riders of Justice (Magnet Releasing) follows recently deployed Markus (Mads Mikkelsen), who is forced to return home to care for his teenage daughter after his wife is killed in a tragic train accident. But when a survivor of the wrecked train surfaces claiming foul play, Markus begins to suspect his wife was murdered and embarks on a revenge-fueled mission to find those responsible. Action Thriller. <i>The film is a fable, set in a framework of realism. It is the tale of a group of people all of whom, on the same day, lose their sense of security as well as their lives foundation.</i>	NR	112	Flat (1.85 : 1)	NY/LA Expansion on 5/21
The Perfect Candidate (Music Box Films) A determined young Saudi doctor's surprise run for office in the local city elections sweeps up her family and community as they struggle to accept their town's first female candidate. Drama. <i>Well reviewed film not unlike her movie's lead character, director Haifaa Al-Mansour is a trailblazer, becoming in 2012 the first Saudi woman to direct a feature. In Arabic. The film plays in English subtitles.</i>	NR	105	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Select Theatrical 45 Day Window
Black Easter (Shoreline Entertainment) An Extremist group travels back in time to assassinate Christ before the Crucifixion. The fate of the world now depends on a genius with no faith...and a man who has lost his. Action Adventure.	NR	NA	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Los Hermanos/The Brothers (First Run) Virtuoso brothers Ilmar and Aldo live on opposite sides of a chasm a half-century wide. LOS HERMANOS/THE BROTHERS tracks their parallel lives in New York and Havana, viewing estranged nations through the lens of music and family. Documentary. <i>“A joyful U.S. tour featuring Aldo's blood-pumping compositions that meld jazz, classical and Latin music.” -KQED, San Francisco Public Media</i>	NR	84	Flat (1.85 : 1)	limited/Virtual
Oxygen (Netflix) Oxygène (original title) A woman wakes up in a cryogenic chamber with no recollection of how she got there, and she must find a way out before running out of air. Sci-Fi Thriller. <i>Directed and produced by Alexandre Aja, from a screenplay by Christie LeBlanc. An American French co-production in French.</i>	NR	100	NA	SVOD on 5/12
The Woman in the Window (Netflix) Confined to her home by agoraphobia, a psychologist becomes obsessed with her new neighbors — and solving a brutal crime she witnesses from her window. Crime Thriller. Amy Adams, Gary Oldman, Anthony Mackie. Crime Drama Mystery. <i>The production is the final film released under the Fox 2000 label; as part of the Walt Disney Company's acquisition of 21st Century Fox, the label will be discontinued after the film's release.</i>	R	101	Scope (2.35 : 1)	SVOD
North Hollywood (Brainstorm Media) A slice of life film about a kid who must decide between choosing the future his father wants, or following his dream of becoming a pro skater. Comedy Drama. <i>Set against the backdrop of the eponymous Los Angeles neighborhood, NORTH HOLLYWOOD is a humorous and poignant slice of life that brings together a cast of established actors with real professional skaters to tell an authentic and personal story.</i>	NR	93	Flat (1.85 : 1)	limited/VOD
Punk the Capital (Passion River Films) A documentary tracing the birth of punk-rock in Washington D.C.(1976-1983) <i>“...a love letter to the city's punk scene.” Washington Post.</i>	NR	90	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Theatrical only Blu Ray on 6/8
Us Kids (Greenwich Entertainment) Students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida speak out against the national gun-violence epidemic after a mass shooting at their school kills 17 people. Documentary. <i>Director Kim A. Snyder (Newtown, 2016 Sundance Film Festival) carefully chronicles 18 pivotal months in the development of the March for Our Lives movement.</i>	NR	98	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select/VOD

5/21-27

(2020 Wk 21 Box Office: \$840,179)

2020 openings: N/A

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Dream Horse (Bleecker Street) Dream Alliance is an unlikely racehorse bred by small-town Welsh bartender Jan Vokes. With no experience, Jan convinces her neighbors to chip in their meager earnings to help raise Dream in the hopes he can compete with the racing elites. Biography Comedy Drama. <i>Originally scheduled for a 5/1/20 release but cancelled due to the pandemic. Reviews were generally positive for this entertaining film.</i>	PG	113	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Moderate
Final Account (Focus Features) Filmmaker Luke Holland interviews nearly 300 elderly perpetrators and witnesses of the Holocaust from the Nazi side. Documentary. <i>Follows the last living generation of German participants in the Third Reich. It premiered at the Venice Film Festival on 9/2/20. Holland died shortly after filming was complete on 6/10/20.</i>	PG13	91	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
New Order (NEON) (Spanish: Nuevo orden) A lavish high society wedding unexpectedly turns into a class struggle that leads to a violent coup. Drama. <i>Well reviewed film. Michel Franco 's most overtly political, most provocative and most brutal film to date, and that's saying a lot. Nando Salvá, Cinemanía (Spain).</i>	R	88	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Limited
Stand by Me (Fathom Events) 35th Anniversary. The film is based on the novella "The Body" by Stephen King, screenplay by Raynold Gideon & Bruce A. Evans. The film was produced by Bruce A. Evans, Raynold Gideon, Andrew Scheinman, and directed by Rob Reiner. <i>This special 35th anniversary event will also include a pre-recorded conversation with author Stephen King as he recalls what led him to write the stories of his childhood, how they impacted the development of the movie, and about the casting of the four leads that was so special.</i>	R	89	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Event Cinema 5/23 & 5/26
Bon Jovi (Encore Drive in Nights) Exclusive access to Bon Jovi's pre-sale tickets TODAY ONLY beginning at 12pm EST/ 11am CST/ 10am MST/ 9am PST. LIMITED QUANTITIES available at early bird pricing starting at \$68 per vehicle, good for up to 6 people. <i>An epic live concert recorded exclusively to broadcast on the big screen to enjoy from the comfort of your own space at your local drive-in and select cinemas.</i>	NR	NA	NA	Event Cinema and indoors on 5/22 (300+ locations)
Army of the Dead (Netflix) Following a zombie outbreak in Las Vegas, a group of mercenaries take the ultimate gamble, venturing into the quarantine zone to pull off the greatest heist ever attempted. Action Horror. <i>Based on a story by Zack Snyder on a reported budget of \$90M. This marks the second zombie film directed by Snyder following his 2004 directorial debut, Dawn of the Dead.</i>	R	148	Flat (1.78 : 1)	SVOD
Beyond Horror: The History and Sub-Culture of Red Films, (9393 Pictures) The film covers the history of some of the most controversial films ever made and includes interviews with underground cinema's most storied directors. Documentary. <i>Designed to be informative to both fans and critics of the genre, the festival cut of BEYOND HORROR took home best director during the 2019 Nightmares Film Festival.</i>	NR	77	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select/VOD & Blu Ray
Counter Column (Nova Vento Entertainment) Anthony Mendoza, an inner-city drug dealer on the run, joins the Army, only to clash with Chris Wright, a hard-headed Christian determined to share his faith despite persecution. Drama. <i>Every Life Has A Turning Point. Counter Column is a fast-paced, drama-intense movie about a rebellious teen who joins the Army.</i>	PG13	98	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Riders of Justice (Magnet Releasing) Retfærdighedens ryttere (original title) The story follows recently deployed Markus (Mads Mikkelsen), who is forced to return home to care for his teenage daughter after his wife is killed in a tragic train accident. Action Comedy Drama. <i>Riders of Justice "Anders Thomas Jensen's best movie since Flickering Lights"</i>	NR	116	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
Two Gods (8Above) A unique and intimate portrait of members of the African American Muslim community. We meet Hanif, a Muslim ritual body washer and casket maker in a neighborhood filled with violence and death as he mentors 2 teenagers that feel the pull of the streets. It's an important and revealing look at a community we don't often see and can be a road to greater understanding of race and religion, so desperately needed in our time. Documentary. Shown in Black and white. <i>Available for In-house exhibition in Éclair Play, DCP and Blu-ray and virtual cinema. VOD release in 3rd quarter. "A poetic meditation on life, death and the struggle in between" Filmmaker Magazine.</i>	NR	82	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select
My Love (CMC Films) Chinese Title: 你的婚礼 / Ni De Hun Li. In high school, the gifted swimmer fell in love with the transfer student at first sight. His love was pure and innocent as he silently stood by her, but she left without saying goodbye. In this 15-year long marathon of love, your wedding is my coming-of-age gift. Romance. <i>A Chinese remake of the 2017 Korean film On Your Wedding Day. Language: Mandarin</i>	NR	NA	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited

When Hitler Stole the Pink Rabbit (Greenwich Entertainment) This is the real-life story of exile from Germany during WWII. Nine-year-old Anna harnesses all the courage she can when her family flees Nazi Germany to live as refugees in unfamiliar territory. This tender historical family drama emphasizes the importance of upholding strength and love in the face of fear. Drama History. <i>Based on Judith Kerr's When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit was first published in 1971, it quickly became a sensation, selling more than a million copies.</i>	NR	119	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Select/VOD
Into the Darkness (Samuel Goldwyn) De forbandede år (original title) Denmark, April 9th, 1940: Danish industrialist (portrayed by Jesper Christensen of James Bond fame), cooperates and profits from the German occupation of Denmark while his family finds themselves on opposite sides of the conflict. War Drama. <i>If you have 152 minutes to sink into this morass of moral complexity and finely observed period detail, then it may well be worth it, although the ending is bizarrely, perplexingly abrupt. -The Guardian</i>	NR	152	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
The Dry (IFC Films) Aaron Falk returns to his drought-stricken hometown to attend a tragic funeral. But his return opens a decades-old wound - the unsolved death of a teenage girl. Crime Drama Mystery Thriller. <i>Well reviewed film of Jane Harper's Goodreads Choice Awards for Best Mystery and Thriller.</i>	R	117	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Limited
5/28-6/3: Memorial Day 5/31 (2020 Wk 22 Box Office: \$794,132) 2020 openings: N/A 				
Cruella (Disney/Disney+) A live-action prequel feature film following a young Cruella de Vil. Crime Comedy . The film is based on the character Cruella de Vil, introduced in Dodie Smith's 1956 novel The Hundred and One Dalmatians and Walt Disney's 1961 animated film "101 Dalmatians". <i>Audiences in all four quadrants showing a high interest in what appears to be a major box office hit.</i>	PG13	NA	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Wide
A Quiet Place Part II (Paramount) Following the events at home, the Abbott family now face the terrors of the outside world. Forced to venture into the unknown, they realize the creatures that hunt by sound are not the only threats lurking beyond the sand path. Sci-Fi Horror. <i>The highly anticipated sequel film had its world premiere in New York City on 3/8/20 and after many postponements opens on Memorial Day weekend. Paramount+ will stream the film 45 days after release. Strong early interest indicative of a major box office holiday hit.</i>	PG13	97	Scope (2.39 : 1), IMAX	Wide
Endangered Species (Lionsgate) Jack Halsey takes his wife (Romijn), their adult kids, and a friend for a dream vacation in Kenya. But as they venture off alone into a wilderness park, their safari van is flipped over by an angry rhino, leaving them injured and desperate. Then, as two of them go in search of rescue, a bloody, vicious encounter with a leopard and a clan of hyenas incites a desperate fight for survival. Action Thriller. <i>Starring Rebecca Romijn (X-Men) and Jerry O'Connell (Showtime's "Billions") this gripping adventure tale unfolds beneath a brutal African sun.</i>	R	101	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited VOD on 5/29
Moby Doc (Greenwich Entertainment) A surrealist biographical documentary about trailblazing electronic musician and animal rights activist Moby. <i>The film, directed by Rob Bralver, will be released in theatres and via digital platforms on the same day the punk rocker-turned-electronic music pioneer has a new record out.</i>	NR	92	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select
Funhouse (Magnolia) When 8 celebrities from around the globe are invited to compete in an online reality show, they soon realize that they are playing for their very lives, as those voted off suffer horrific consequences, broadcast live to the entire world. Horror. <i>Celebrity culture and the TMZ style media coverage that follows, plays out on the backdrop of a Saw style torture tournament.</i>	NR	106	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Blue Miracle (Netflix) To save their cash-strapped orphanage, a guardian and his kids partner with a washed-up boat captain for a chance to win a lucrative fishing competition. Jimmy Gonzales, Dennis Quaid, Anthony Gonzalez. Biography Drama. <i>The film was inspired by a true story: residents and caregivers from the Casa Hogar orphanage, which struggled financially after being hit by Hurricane Odile, won a Cabo San Lucas fishing tournament in 2014.</i>	NR	95	NA	SVOD on 5/27
New French Shorts 2021 (Kino Lorber) This annual showcase of some of the most exciting new cinematic voices from France includes the Oscar-nominated animated short Genius Loci and César Award winners And Then the Bear and So What if the Goats Die? <i>Haute Cuisine \$24M, So What if the Goats Die? \$23M, And Then the Bear 14m, Sukar \$10M, Olla \$27M.</i>	NR	See each film	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Virtual Cinema

6/4-10

(2020 Wk 23 Box Office: \$936,039)

2020 openings: N/A

The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It (Warner Bros./HBOMax) A chilling story of terror, murder and unknown evil that shocked even experienced real-life paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren. One of the most sensational cases from their files, it starts with a fight for the soul of a young boy, then takes them beyond anything they'd ever seen before, to mark the first time in U.S. history that a murder suspect would claim demonic possession as a defense. Horror Mystery Thriller.	R	NA	Scope (2.39 : 1), IMAX, Atmos	Wide
Vivo (Sony) Vivo, Sony Pictures Animation's first-ever musical adventure featuring all-new original songs from Lin-Manuel Miranda, will take audiences on an epic adventure to gorgeous and vibrant locations never before seen in animation. Adventure Animation Family Musical.	NA	NA	Scope (2.39 : 1), 3D	Wide
Spirit Untamed (Universal) Lucky Prescott's life is changed forever when she moves from her home in the city to a small frontier town and befriends a wild mustang named Spirit. Adventure Animation Family.	PG	88	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide
Bridesmaids 10th Anniversary (Fathom Events) Competition between the maid of honor and a bridesmaid, over who is the bride's best friend, threatens to upend the life of an out-of-work pastry chef. Romantic Comedy. <i>Bridesmaids was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy. It received multiple other accolades. In 2012, the film was nominated for both the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for Melissa McCarthy and Best Original Screenplay.</i>	R	125	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Event Cinema 6/6, 6/9-10
Chasing Wonders (Gravitas Ventures) Set in the lush wine country landscapes of Australia and Spain, the heart-warming tale follows 12-year-old Savino, who, encouraged by his maternal grandfather to live a life of hope and possibility, takes off on the adventure of a lifetime to find the magical Emu Plains. Drama. <i>A coming-of-age story set across the lush wine country of both Australia and Spain, a young man explores the nature of father-son relationships and the pathway toward understanding and forgiveness.</i>	NR	86	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select Theatres/ VOD Platforms
Undine (IFC) Undine works as a historian lecturing on Berlin's urban development. But when the man she loves leaves her, the ancient myth catches up with her. Undine has to kill the man who betrays her and return to the water. <i>German French drama film directed by Christian Petzold. It was selected to compete for the Golden Bear in the competition section at the 70th Berlin International Film Festival.[3][4] At Berlin, Paula Beer won the Silver Bear for Best Actress.</i>	NR	91	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Hero Mode (Blue Fox Entertainment) With her indie video game business on the brink of bankruptcy, Kate (Mira Sorvino) throws a Hail Mary and puts Troy (Chris Carpenter), her teenage coding genius son, in charge of creating a video game to save the company. It's a dream come true for Troy. But quite the opposite for the company's disgruntled coders (Sean Astin, Mary Lynn Rajksub, Erik Griffin) and their rival CEO (Nelson Franklin). Comedy. <i>Here is a fast-paced movie, which both video-game lovers and people who enjoy their co-workers will love. (dove.org).</i>	NR	88	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Super Frenchie (Greenwich Entertainment) Professional skier and BASE jumper Matthias Giraud pursues his passion for adventure while also starting a family. Documentary. <i>Super Frenchie - a title that comes from the nickname that Giraud has given himself. Matthias is known for combining BASE jumping with skiing and completed several first descents and ski BASE jumps across the globe including the first ski BASE jump off the Matterhorn in Switzerland.</i>	NR	77	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD

6/11-17

(2020 Wk 24 Box Office: \$1,306,056)


2020 openings: N/A

In the Heights (Warner Bros.) A feature version of the Broadway musical, in which a bodega owner has mixed feelings about closing his store and retiring to the Dominican Republic after inheriting his grandmother's fortune. Drama Music Romance. <i>Film adaptation of the Broadway musical. Lin-Manuel Miranda, producer. SCREENING: Great music, sets and excellent choreography, Anthony Ramos is excellent. A movie to look forward to this summer.</i>	PG13	143	Scope (2.39 : 1) Dolby Atmos	Wide
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Queen Bees (Gravitas Ventures) It's never too late to laugh with friends - to fall in love again - and to put the "mean girls" in their place. Comedy. <i>An all-star cast of Ellen Burstyn, James Caan, Ann-Margaret, Jane Curtain, Christopher Lloyd makes this pleasant comedy directed by Michael Lembeck (Tooth Fairy, Santa Clause 2 & 3) good all-around entertainment.</i>	PG13	100	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Moderate (250-300)/ VOD Platforms
12 Mighty Orphans (Sony Pictures Classics) Haunted by his mysterious past, a devoted high school football coach leads a scrawny team of orphans to the state championship during the Great Depression and inspires a broken nation along the way. Sports History. Robert Duvall, Luke Wilson, Martin Sheen. History Sport. <i>Based upon the non-fiction book Twelve Mighty Orphans: The Inspiring True Story of the Mighty Mites Who Ruled Texas Football by Jim Dent.</i>	PG13	NA	Flat (1.85 : 1)	NY/TX Limited 6/18 Expansion
GKIDS Presents: Children of The Sea (Fathom Events) Japanese: 海獣のこども When Ruka was younger, she saw a ghost in the water at the aquarium where her dad works. Now she feels drawn toward the aquarium and the two mysterious boys she meets there, Umi and Sora. <i>Children of the Sea is the latest feature from Japan's STUDIO4C (known for Tekkonkinkreet, MFKZ, Mind Game, Animatrix, Batman: Gotham Knight, and others), and is directed by Ayumu Watanabe, with a score by award-winning composer and longtime Studio Ghibli collaborator Joe Hisaishi (Spirited Away, Howl's Moving Castle).</i>	NR	115	Scope (2.39 : 1)	Event Cinema 6/13 Dubbed 6/15
A Father's Legacy (Fathom Events/Emagine Entertainment) On the run from the law, a young man searching for his father forces his way into the life of a secluded old man in the woods. As the days pass and the secrets about their past are revealed, they learn that they might not have been looking for each other ... but they may have been brought together for a reason. <i>The event features a conversation with director/star Jason Mac and Pastor Brannon Shortt from Bayside Church about the importance of fatherhood, how the choices you make have consequences and additional key takeaways from the film.</i>	PG13	95	Flat (1.85 : 1)	6/17 Event Cinema
Occupation Rainfall (Saban Films) Bursting with spectacular special effects and exhilarating action sequences, Occupation: Rainfall unfolds two years into an intergalactic invasion of Earth, as survivors fight back in a desperate ground war. Science Fiction Action. <i>The highly anticipated follow-up to Sparke's 2018 alien invasion hit OCCUPATION, OCCUPATION: RAINFALL picks up two years into an intergalactic invasion of Earth where survivors are fighting back in a desperate ground war. The film features eye-popping visual effects with a top-line cast.</i>	NA	128	NA	Theatrical and VOD/ Digital
Censor (Magnolia/Magnet) After viewing a strangely familiar video nasty, Enid, a film censor, sets out to solve the past mystery of her sister's disappearance, embarking on a quest that dissolves the line between fiction and reality. Horror. <i>The film had its world premiere at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival on January 28, 2021 in the Midnight section. Reviews have been generally positive and a good move forward for British horror.</i>	NR	84	Flat (1.33 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Sublet (Greenwich Entertainment) A New York Times travel writer comes to Tel Aviv after suffering a tragedy. The energy of the city and his relationship with a younger man brings him back to life. Romantic Comedy Drama. <i>"Structured around the passing days of his trip, the film has a walk-and-talk quality reminiscent of Before Sunrise, giving the viewer snapshots of the hedonistic vibe of the city. Eytan Fox has entertained us for three decades with gems like Yossi & Jagger and The Bubble, and now gifts us this significantly more personal film, a heartfelt and heartwarming ode to gay men and to aging." —Lucy Mukerjee</i>	NR	89	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Holler (IFC Films) To pay for her education, and the chance of a better life, a young woman joins a dangerous scrap metal crew. Drama. <i>Nicole Riegel makes her directorial debut with Holler, a familiar coming-of-age film about a young woman trying to find a way out of her hometown in Southern Ohio.</i>	R	90	Flat (1.66 : 1)	Limited/VOD
6/18-23: Father's Day 6/20 (2020 Wk 25 Box Office: \$931,155) 2020 openings: N/A				
The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard (Lionsgate) Michael Bryce and Darius Kincaid join forces with an Interpol agent to prevent a cyberattack in Europe. Action Adventure Comedy. <i>The film is a sequel to the 2017 film The Hitman's Bodyguard and stars Ryan Reynolds, Samuel L. Jackson, Salma Hayek, Frank Grillo, Richard E. Grant, Tom Hopper, Antonio Banderas and Morgan Freeman.</i>	NA	NA	Scope (2.39 : 1), IMAX, Atmos	Wide on 6/16

*Happy
Father's Day!*

Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway (Sony) Thomas and Bea are now married and living with Peter and his rabbit family. Bored of life in the garden, Peter goes to the big city, where he meets shady characters and ends up creating chaos for the whole family. Adventure Comedy Family Fantasy. <i>Unlike the first film, the sequel will be released under the Columbia Pictures label, instead of Sony Pictures Animation. EARLY SHOWS ON THURSDAY, 6/17 STARTING AT 4 PM LOCAL TIME.</i>	PG	85	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide
12 Mighty Orphans (Sony Pictures Classics) Haunted by his mysterious past, a devoted high school football coach leads a scrawny team of orphans to the state championship during the Great Depression and inspires a broken nation along the way. Sports History. <i>Based upon the nonfiction book Twelve Mighty Orphans: The Inspiring True Story of the Mighty Mites Who Ruled Texas Football by Jim Dent.</i>	PG13	NA	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Expansion
Luca (Disney/Pixar) On the Italian Riviera, an unlikely but strong friendship grows between a human being and a sea monster disguised as a human. Animated Adventure Comedy. <i>7/30/20, Pixar announced a new film titled Luca as an "Italy-set coming-of-age story", directed by Enrico Casarosa who previously directed the 2011 Academy Award-nominated short movie La Luna.</i>	NA	NA	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Disney+
The Sparks Brothers (Focus Features) Filmmaker Edgar Wright chronicles the five-decade career of the enigmatic music duo Sparks. <i>A 2021 documentary directed by Edgar Wright. The film had its world premiere at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival on January 30, 2021.</i>	R	140	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Moderate
Rita Moreno: Just A Girl Who Decided to Go for It (Roadside Attractions) A look at the life and work of Rita Moreno from her humble beginnings in Puerto Rico to her success on Broadway and in Hollywood. Documentary. <i>Over a career spanning more than 70 years, Rita Moreno defied both her humble upbringing and relentless racism to become a celebrated and award-winning actor.</i>	PG13	90	16:9 HD Scope (2.35 : 1)	Moderate
Fatherhood (Netflix) A father brings up his baby girl as a single dad after the unexpected death of his wife who died a day after their daughter's birth. Drama. Kevin Hart, Alfre Woodard, Melody Hurd. Drama. <i>Delayed multiple times due to the pandemic, Netflix acquired the film from Sony Pictures Releasing and will be releasing it digitally on 6/18/21.</i>	PG13	NA	Flat (1.85 : 1)	SVOD
6/25-7/1 (2020 Wk 26 Box Office: \$815,577) 2020 openings: N/A				
F9: The Fast Saga (Universal) Cypher enlists the help of Jakob, Dom's younger brother to take revenge on Dom and his team. Action Adventure Crime Thriller.	PG13	143	Scope (2.35 : 1), IMAX	Wide Early VOD
Blue Bayou (Focus Features) As a Korean American man raised in the Louisiana bayou works hard to make a life for his family, he must confront the ghosts of his past as he discovers that he could be deported from the only country he has ever called home. Drama. <i>Written and directed by Justin Chon. It stars Chon, Alicia Vikander, Mark O'Brien, Linh Dan Pham and Emory Cohen. In July 2020, Focus Features acquired distribution rights to the film</i>	R	117	Aspect Ratio (1.65: 1)	Moderate Early VOD
I Carry You with Me (Sony Pictures Classics) AKA: Te Llevo Conmigo. Ambition and societal pressure propel an aspiring chef to leave his soulmate in Mexico and make the treacherous journey to New York, where life will never be the same. Drama. <i>The film is a co-production between Mexico and the United States, and was shot in Mexico City, Puebla City, Jilotepec, Zapotitlán, Lerma, and New York City. Well reviewed, critics said "A remarkable feature debut for director Heidi Ewing, I Carry You with Me finds universally resonant themes in a specific, richly detailed time and place."</i>	R	111	Scope (16:9 HD)	NY/LA
Too Late (Gravitas Ventures) A lonely assistant finally finds love and must escape her monster of a boss before she and her new love become his next meal. Horror Comedy. <i>In recent years, horror comedies have continued to increase in popularity. There are several movies in the sub-genre in the works as well, such as The Hills Have Eyes for You, a horror romantic comedy based on Wes Craven's The Hills Have Eyes.</i>	NR	80	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Select Theatres/ VOD Platforms
The Evil Next Door (Magnolia/Magnet) (Andra sidan, original title) A dad moves into a new house with his girlfriend and son. When he goes out of town on business, his son makes a new friend next door. Horror (Sweden). <i>Inspired by real events. Sarah, her boyfriend and his five-year-old son Lucas move into a semi-detached house. But the other side is haunted by an evil – an evil that wants Lucas at any cost. International title: The Other Side</i>	NR	105	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD

Werewolves Within (IFC Films) Feature adaptation of the video game where werewolves attack a small town. Horror Comedy. <i>It will have its world premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in June 2021. Based upon the video game of the same name from Red Storm Entertainment.</i>	R	97	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited VOD on 7/2
A Crime on the Bayou (DaDa Films) In 1966, 19-year-old Duncan faces the white supremacist court system in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, for daring to touch a white boy's arm. Standing united, the pair takes Duncan's case all the way to the US Supreme Court to fight for the rights of all Americans to a fair trial. Documentary. <i>Filmmaker Nancy Buirski (The Loving Story) tells the story of a lasting bond formed between an unjustly arrested Black man, Gary Duncan, and Richard Sobol, his young Jewish attorney.</i>	NR	89	Flat (1.85 : 1)	NY/LA theatrical 45-day window for VOD
The Birdcage 25th Anniversary (Fathom/Big Screen Classics) A gay cabaret owner and his drag queen companion agree to put up a false straight front so that their son can introduce them to his fiancée's right-wing moralistic parents. Comedy. <i>The film opened on 3/8/96, and grossed \$18,275,828 in its opening weekend, leading the box office. The film was well received and remains a favorite.</i>	R	117	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Event Cinema 6/27-28, 6/30
Kenny Scharf: When Worlds Collide (Greenwich Entertainment) the film was made over 11 years and features interviews and rare archival footage with Kenny Scharf, Andy Warhol, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Keith Haring, Ed Ruscha, Dennis Hopper, Yoko Ono, Kaws, Marilyn Minter, and Jeffrey Deitch. Documentary. <i>Well reviewed specialized documentary about the life of Kenny Scharf.</i>	NR	77	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited/VOD
Summertime (Good Deed Entertainment) Over the course of a hot summer day in Los Angeles, the lives of 25 young Angelinos intersect. Comedy Drama Music.	R	95	NA	Limited
7/2-8: Independence Day 7/4 (2020 Wk 27 Box Office: \$1,557,667) 2020 openings: N/A				
The Forever Purge (Universal) Like basically every other major franchise in Hollywood, the Purge movies have been known to maintain a certain air of secrecy, not wanting to divulge too much information prior to release. Horror.	R	102	Scope (2.35 : 1)	Wide
Zola (A24) A stripper named Zola embarks on a wild road trip to Florida. Biography Comedy Drama. <i>The film is based on an infamous 148-tweet Twitter thread in which Zola meets a sex worker named Stefani at a restaurant where Zola waitresses, and the two immediately bond over pole dancing. Only a day after they exchange numbers, Stefani invites Zola on a cross-country road trip, where the goal is to make as much money as possible dancing in Florida strip clubs.</i>	R	87	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Wide on 6/30
Summer of Soul (Or, When the Revolution Could Not be Televised) (Searchlight Pictures) Feature documentary about the legendary 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival which celebrated African American music and culture and promoted Black pride and unity. <i>The Roots drummer's directorial debut delves into the little-known history of the Harlem Cultural Festival, dubbed "the Black Woodstock," which took place the same summer as Woodstock in 1969 over the course of six weeks at Harlem's Mount Morris Park (now Marcus Garvey Park). The lineup for those shows featured Sly and the Family Stone, Nina Simone, B.B. King, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Stevie Wonder, and more.</i>	NA	117	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Wide
The Tomorrow War (Amazon Prime) A man is drafted to fight in a future war where the fate of humanity relies on his ability to confront his past. Action Adventure Sci-Fi. <i>The film, which is set in the near future, focuses on humanity's war against an alien invasion, hoping to win it by using scientists' new ability to draft soldiers from the past to the war.</i>	PG13	140	Scope (2.39 : 1)	SVOD (Prime Video)
7/9-15 (2020 Wk 28 Box Office: \$901,825) 2020 openings: N/A				
Black Widow (Disney/Marvel) At birth the Black Widow (aka Natasha Romanova) is given to the KGB, which grooms her to become its ultimate operative. When the U.S.S.R. breaks up, the government tries to kill her as the action moves to present-day New York, where she is a freelance operative. Action Adventure.	PG13	133	(Scope 2.39 : 1), IMAX, D-Vision, Atmos, Screen X, 7.1 Surround	Wide/Disney+
The Loneliest Whale: The Search for 52 (Blecker Street) The documentary follows the quest to find the 52 Hertz Whale, which scientists believe has spent its entire life in solitude calling out at a frequency that is different from any other whale. <i>"The story of the 52 Hertz Whale resonates with so many of us right now, especially as we try to navigate our current issues of isolation and loneliness," says producer Joshua Zeman.</i>	NA	90	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited

Summertime (Good Deed Entertainment) Over the course of a hot summer day in Los Angeles, the lives of 25 young Angelinos intersect. Comedy Drama Music. <i>Generally favorable reviews. Peter Debruge of Variety called the film "inspirational".</i>	R	95	Flat (1.85 : 1)	Limited
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Update – Studio Release Changes

Title	Runs	New	Former
Escape Room 2 (Sony) Sequel to 2019 original: \$18M FSS, \$57M domestic, \$155.7M WW. Horror.	Wide	7/16/21	1/7/22
Vivo (Sony) Follows the adventures of Vivo, a musically gifted kinkajou (voiced by Lin-Manuel Miranda), who leaves Havana to deliver a love song in Miami. Documentary.	Netflix	TBA	6/4/21
The Black Phone (Universal) New title from Untitled Blumhouse Project. An adaptation of a cast of characters are also ghosts in this impressive short story by New York Times Best Seller JOE HILL. Horror.	Wide	1/28/22	NEW
Protégé (Lionsgate) AKA: The Asset Anna (Maggie Q) and Rembrandt (Michael Keaton) - two of the world's premiere assassins who share a mysterious past from Vietnam. For years, they traversed the globe competing for high profile contracts. But when Anna's mentor Moody (Samuel L. Jackson) is murdered, she and Rembrandt must form an uneasy alliance and return to Vietnam to track down his killer. Thriller.	Wide	8/20/21	TBD
Shotgun Wedding (Lionsgate) Darcy (Jennifer Lopez) and Tom (Josh Duhamel) gather their lovable but very opinionated families for the ultimate destination wedding just as the couple begin to get cold feet. And if that wasn't enough of a threat to the celebration, suddenly everyone's lives are in danger when the entire party is taken hostage. Action.	Wide	6/29/22	NEW
White Bird: A Wonder Story (Lionsgate) For millions of readers and moviegoers, WONDER is the captivating, inspiring, and uplifting story of the power of kindness -- how it can build bridges and change hearts. In WHITE BIRD: A WONDER STORY, kindness even has the power to save lives, as Julian Albans, the bully who left Beecher Prep, is visited by his Grandmère from Paris and is transformed by her remarkable story of compassion and courage. Biography Drama.	Wide	9/16/22	NEW
Morbis (Sony/Marvel) Biochemist Michael Morbius tries to cure himself of a rare blood disease, but when his experiment goes wrong, he inadvertently infects himself with a form of vampirism instead. Action Drama.	Wide	1/28/22	1/21/22

MPAA Ratings

Title	Rating	Reason
Black Easter (Shoreline Entertainment)	PG13	violence throughout and thematic elements.
Die in A Gunfight (Lionsgate)	R	violence, language and drug use.
MEHAMOOD (Smart Made Studios) Subtitled	G	
Show Me the Father (Sony)	PG	Thematic material

Screening Room – New Trailers



Title: Black Widow (Disney)

Release Date: 7/9/21 - Wide

Director: Cate Shortland

Starring: Scarlett Johansson, Florence Pugh, David Harbour

Comment: A film about Natasha Romanoff in her quests between the films Civil War and Infinity War. Action Adventure.



Title: Dream Horse (Bleecker Street)

Release Date: 5/21/21 - Moderate

Director: Euros Lyn (The Library Suicides, Veteran TV director)

Starring: Damian Lewis, Toni Collette, Owen Teale

Synopsis: Dream Alliance is an unlikely racehorse bred by small-town Welsh bartender Jan Vokes. With no experience, Jan convinces her neighbors to chip in their meager earnings to help raise Dream in the hopes he can compete with the racing elites. Comedy Drama. *Dream Horse had its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival on 24 January 2020. The film was originally scheduled to be released in the United Kingdom on 17 April 2020, and in the United States on 1 May 2020, but these were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*



Title: A Quiet Place Part II (Paramount)

Release Date: 5/28/21 - Wide

Director: John Krasinski

Starring: Emily Blunt, Millicent Simmonds, Cillian Murphy

Synopsis: Following the events at home, the Abbott family now face the terrors of the outside world. Forced to venture into the unknown, they realize the creatures that hunt by sound are not the only threats lurking beyond the sand path. Drama Horror Sci-Fi



Title: Cruella (Disney)

Release Date: 5/28/21- Wide

Director: Craig Gillespie

Starring: Emma Stone, Emma Thompson, Mark Strong

Synopsis: A live-action prequel feature film following a young Cruella de Vil. Comedy Crime.



Title: F9 (Universal)

Release Date: 6/25/21 - Wide

Director: Justin Lin

Starring: Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez, Amber Sienna

Synopsis: Cypher enlists the help of Jakob, Dom's younger brother to take revenge on Dom and his team.



Title: Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway (Sony)

Release Date: 6/18/21

Director: Will Gluck

Starring: James Corden, Elizabeth Debicki, Lennie James

Synopsis: Thomas and Bea are now married and living with Peter and his rabbit family. Bored of life in the garden, Peter goes to the big city, where he meets shady characters and ends up creating chaos for the whole family. Family Adventure Comedy.