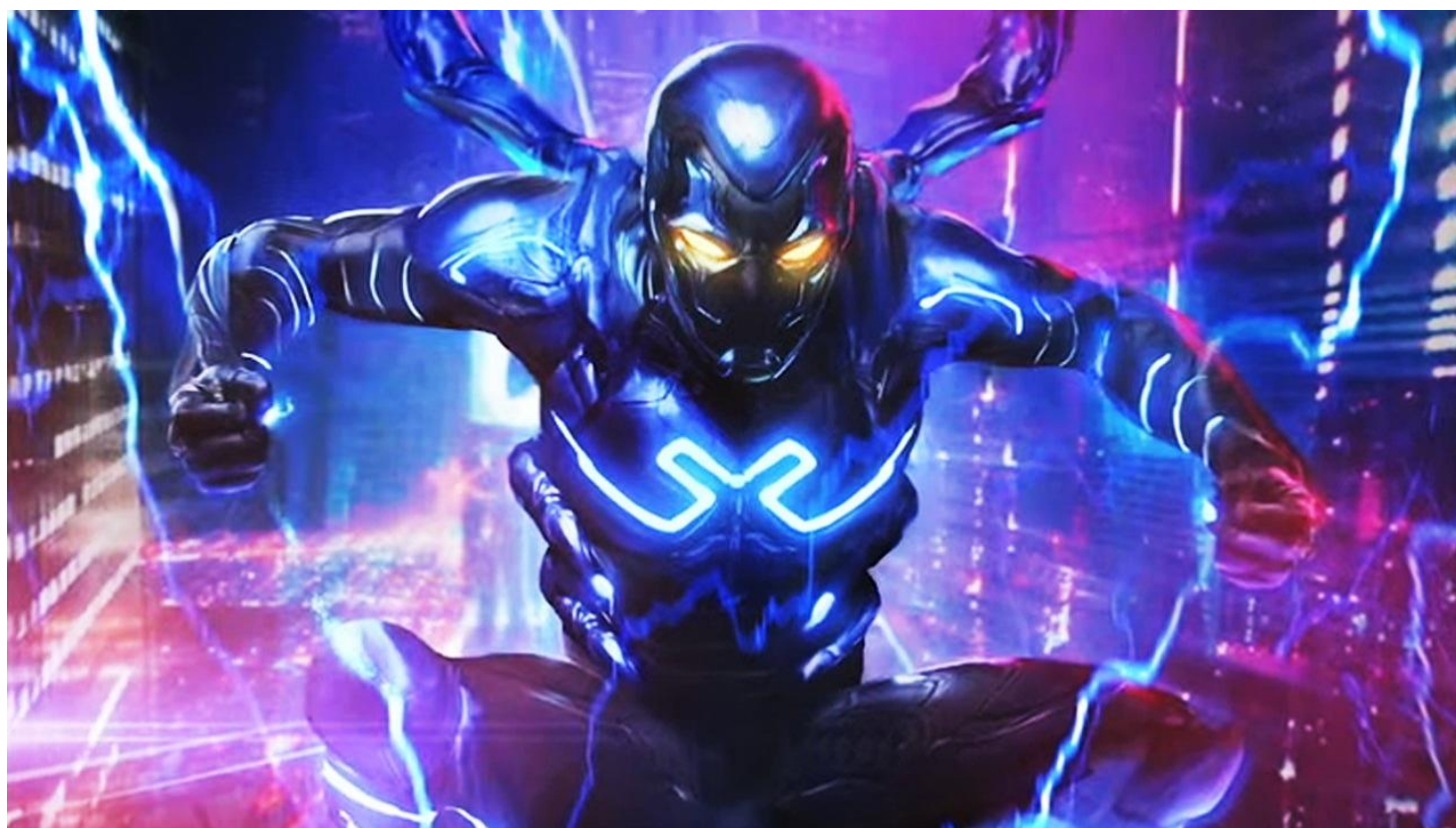




Issue No. 282



Weekend Box Office Results... 8/18– 8/20

Courtesy of [Comscore](https://www.comscore.com)

Rank	Title	Wk	Theatres	Wknd \$	% Change	\$ Avg/ Theatre	Total \$
1	Blue Beetle (Warner Bros.)	1	3,871	25,400,000	-	6,562	25,400,000
2	Barbie (Warner Bros.)	5	4,003	21,500,000	-36	5,371	567,282,865
3	Oppenheimer (Universal)	5	3,321	10,600,000	-44	3,192	285,231,735
4	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem (Paramount)	3	3,477	8,425,000	-45	2,423	88,130,087
5	Strays (Universal)	1	3,223	8,300,000	-	2,575	8,300,000
6	Meg 2: The Trench (Warner Bros.)	3	3,402	6,730,000	-48	1,978	6,657,236
7	Talk to Me (A24)	4	1,789	3,157,683	-37	1,765	37,366,393
8	Haunted Mansion (Disney)	4	2,180	3,000,000	-48	1,376	58,832,155
9	Mission: Impossible – Dead Reckoning Part One (Paramount)	6	1,608	2,725,000	-41	1,695	164,614,000
10	The Last Voyage of the Demeter (Universal)	2	2,715	2,500,000	-62	921	11,361,500

BARBIE Served Eviction Notice as BLUE BEETLE Moves into First Place



DC's BLUE BEETLE pushed BARBIE aside after four weeks to take top spot on the box office charts. BLUE BEETLE's \$25.4M this weekend was the second lowest opening among the 14 movies to-date from the DC Extended Universe, with only WONDER WOMAN 1984 earning less with \$16.7M in its debut beginning on Christmas Day in 2020, at the height of the pandemic. It's also worth noting that Warner Bros. chose to release WW1984 simultaneously in theatres and on HBO Max streaming.

BLUE BEETLE's storyline focuses on the fictional character of Jaime Reyes, who first appeared in 2005 in a DC comic book titled "Infinite Crisis." After graduating high school, Jaime is chosen as the human host of the mystical "Scarab," an ancient alien biotechnological relic that turns him into the superhero Blue Beetle, empowered with an exoskeleton of armor. Originally, Warner Bros. imagined BLUE BEETLE would arrive on-screen in a direct-to-streaming production for HBO Max, but as production began its profile was raised to a full theatrical exclusive status.

BLUE BEETLE is seen as the first Latino superhero movie, from a story focused on a predominately Latino cast, peppered with Spanish dialogue and touches of Latino culture throughout. The backdrop of Palmyra City is based on the Texas border town of El Paso, giving the movie a memorable and unique setting in the same vein as to

Superman's Metropolis and Batman's Gotham City.

A 2019 industry study by the Motion Picture Association identified that Latino Americans make up 19% of the U.S. population but purchased 25% of the movie tickets sold by U.S. theatres. This segment of the overall population has been given short shrift in the media, especially as lead characters in feature films. We applaud Warner Bros. for its decision to tell this Latino American story, and perhaps this was one reason why BLUE BEETLE won the weekend.

BLUE BEETLE has also arrived at a time when the popularity of superhero movies is declining, both with traditional comic book fans and the general moviegoing audience. All three of the most recent DC Studios features have underperformed expectations and lost a significant amount of money.

RECENT WARNER BROS./DC MOVIES

THE FLASH (6/14/2023)

- Box Office: Domestic - \$108.1M
International - \$160.4M
Worldwide - \$268.5M
- Production Budget: \$200M
- Ratio of Worldwide Box Office to Production Budget: 1.3
- Estimated Loss: \$231.5M

SHAZAM! FURY OF THE GODS

(3/15/2023)

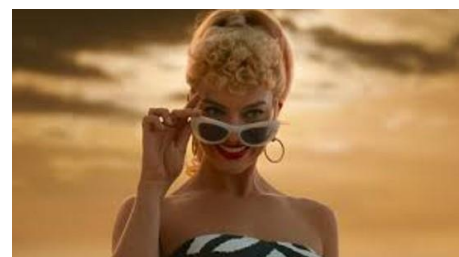
- Box Office: Domestic - \$57.6M,
International - \$76.2M,
Worldwide - \$133.8M
- Production Budget: \$100M
- Ratio of Worldwide Box Office to Production Budget: 1.3
- Estimated Loss: \$116.2

BLACK ADAM (10/21/2022)

- Box Office: Domestic - \$168.2M,
International - \$225.1M,
Worldwide - \$393.3M
- Production Budget: \$190M

- Ratio of Worldwide Box Office to Production Budget: 2.1
- Estimated Loss: \$81.7

With a production cost of \$120M, BLUE BEETLE will need to earn \$300M worldwide to reach the widely-accepted 2.5X multiple of its production cost that is required to break even. It seems that this may be a heavy lift, based on a so-so start and the downward impact of the actors strike which has prohibited the movie's stars from promoting their picture. On the other hand, the critics have chimed in with mostly positive reviews and audiences are loving it, with 75% and 92% scores on Rotten Tomatoes respectively.



After four weeks, BARBIE's supreme reign came to an end after dropping down into second-place at the box office earning an additional \$21.5M this weekend, and a decline of 36% from last weekend. However, the hit movie of the summer is far from exhausted, even if it is not able to move back into first place in the weeks ahead. In every week since its record-breaking opening, BARBIE has held up exceptionally well, with week-to-week declines of approximately 40%. After 31 days, the Warner Bros. and Hasbro hit has grossed \$567.3M domestic and \$1.2B worldwide. By the end of next weekend, BARBIE will surpass the \$574.2M earned by THE SUPER MARIO BROS. MOVIE this spring to become the highest grossing movie of 2023 in the domestic market.



OPPENHEIMER continues its successful march alongside BARBIE to finish third with an additional \$10.6M this weekend and a drop of only 44%. Despite losing some of the IMAX screens in the market to BLUE BEETLE, Christopher Nolan's WW II drama was still able to hold onto much of its audience. Next week, GRAN TURISMO: BASED ON A TRUE STORY will take over even more IMAX screens, while OPPENHEIMER maintains its place at 13 amazing IMAX 70MM screens. To-date, the picture has already earned \$285.2M domestic and will likely finish up with \$300M. The Barbenheimer duo is on track to gross \$900M across the U.S. and Canada, nearly as much as the \$936.7M earned by STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS in 2015, which represents the highest domestic grossing film of all time. This shows the profound financial boost that

Barbenheimer has had on the summer box office.

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: MUTANT MAYHEM finished fourth with an additional \$8.4M and a drop of 45% from last weekend. The turtles have turned out family audiences to the tune of \$88.1M domestic and will most likely pass \$100M domestic and \$150M worldwide by Labor Day weekend. This would make it a profitable venture for Paramount and Nickelodeon, and secure the opportunity for another sequel in the future.

Universal's raunchy R-Rated comedy STRAYS opened in a disappointing fifth place with \$8.3M. The studio was attempting to re-capitalize on a successful formula it pioneered in 2012 with TED, a wise-cracking stuffed bear loaded with obscene commentary and sexual innuendo. The juxtaposition of the cuddly and the vulgar delivered \$54.4M domestic in its opening weekend \$549.4M overall for its worldwide run, making it one of the highest grossing pictures of its year. Three years later, Universal tried again with TED 2 but much of the novelty of the original

had worn off, with the worldwide gross coming in at \$215.9M, less than 40% of the original.

STRAYS stars Will Ferrell, Jamie Foxx, Will Forte and Sofia Vergara, and tells the story of a cute, gullible border terrier named Reggie (Ferrell) who is abandoned by his selfish and ruthless owner Doug (Forte), an animal hating, drug addicted galoot who never wanted him. Reggie teams up with other strays to get revenge on Doug. Laced with a stream of sexual commentary and saucy language, the core audience for this picture is... fans of cute dogs and vulgarity?

Critics didn't buy into STRAYS, giving it only 55% on Rotten Tomatoes compared with the 69% TED earned in 2012. After this weekend's opening disappointment, it seems unlikely to earn the \$100M worldwide required for it to be profitable, after spending \$46M on its production.

All movies in theatres this weekend earned \$99.0M domestic, compared with \$81.2M last year when the anime title DRAGON BALL SUPER: SUPER HERO led the way with \$21.1M in its opening weekend.

Where Are We as of 8/17

After 32 weeks, the current year-to-date totals are 125% of the amount earned during 2022 through this point and 87% of the amount from 2019.

2023 VS. 2022	2023 VS. 2019
YEAR TO DATE – 32 WEEKS – 2023: \$6,274,987,000 2022: \$5,038,095,000 125%	YEAR TO DATE – 32WEEKS – 2023: \$ 6,274,987,000 2019: \$7,248,556,000 87%

BLUE BEETLE is estimated to pull in approximately 2M moviegoers this weekend representing 23% of the foot traffic in theaters.

	Title	Distributor	Release Date	Rating	Price per General	Foot Traffic
	Blue Beetle	WB	8/18/23	PG-13	\$12.59	23%
	Barbie	WB	7/21/23	PG-13	\$12.24	19%
	Oppenheimer	Universal	7/21/23	R	\$12.70	10%
	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem	Paramount	8/2/23	PG	\$11.25	9%
	Strays	Universal	8/18/23	PG-13	\$11.24	8%
	The Meg 2: The Trench	WB	8/4/23	PG-13	\$11.23	6%

Dayparts:

Both films with a family appeal had similar Saturday foot traffic patterns.

Pre 1PM	15%
1PM to 5PM	35%
5PM to 8PM	32%
Post 8PM	18%

Notable Industry News & Commentary

WGA, Hollywood studios appear to bend on some items, but strike continues

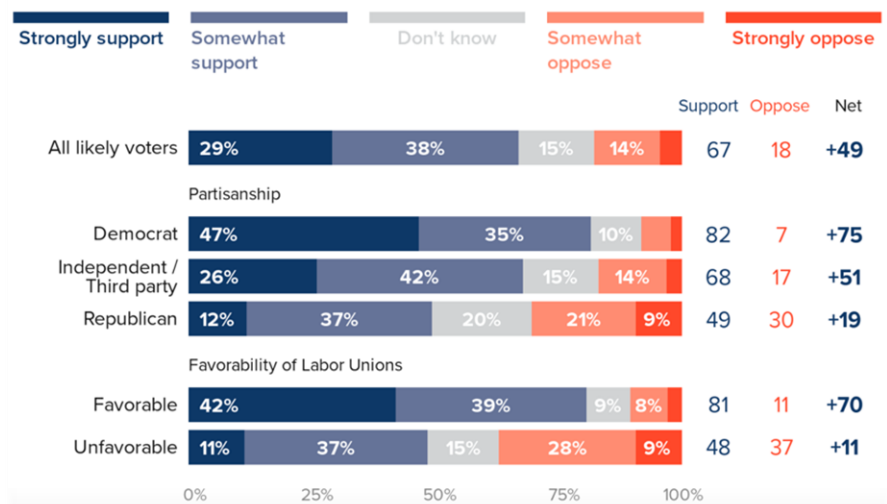
CBS News

Negotiations on a labor contract between the writers and producers continued throughout the week, with the WGA union negotiators delivering a counter-proposal to the AMPTP on Tuesday followed by daily talks through Thursday. While both sides are demonstrating their interest in continuing these discussions, they are said to be far apart on resolving key issues such as residual pay and staffing levels.

While studios are offering more transparency on viewership for their streaming platforms, they remain unwilling to directly link writers' compensation to online viewership. As for staffing levels, the studios have offered commitments to employ a set number of writers for larger productions, but are asking for more flexibility on smaller ones. The writers have rejected both proposals, holding firm on their demands to have residuals calculated on streaming viewership and employ an "industry standard" number of writers on all productions.

Voters Across Party Lines Support the WGA and SAG-AFTRA Strikes

Do you support or oppose the Writers Guild of America (WGA) and Screen Actors Guild - American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA) strikes?



On the bright side, the sides are closer to agreement on the uses of Artificial Intelligence in production.



The writers and actors appear to be winning the public relations war, with polls showing broad support for the striking unions rather than the studios. Polling firm Data for Progress found that 67% of the respondents to its survey where either “strongly” or “somewhat” supportive of WGA while only 18% felt similar about the studio position. 86% of those expressing support for the WGA, said that they would continue to support the strikers even if their favorite series or anticipated movies were delayed. As long as the WGA has this level of public support, the unions may feel emboldened to stay the course until all their key demands have been met.

See also: [Poll Shows 67% of Americans Surveyed Support the WGA and SAG-AFTRA Strikes](#) (Variety)

‘Suits’ Ushers In Streaming Boom As Broadcast & Cable Fall To Record Lows In July, Nielsen Says

Deadline

A major milestone was reached last month when Nielsen reported that viewing on “Cable and Broadcast” channels had dropped to less than half of all television usage. This is another milestone in the slow decline of Cable and Broadcast TV with its former dominant market share gobbled up by Streaming. Viewing of Broadcast TV programming is down 5.4% from last year, with Cable down by a remarkable 12.5% in the same period. The Streamers’ share of viewing has increased 25.3% year-over-year, with Netflix making up a large portion of the increase, fueled by the popularity of programs such as SUITS. The series premiered in 2011 on the USA network, and has attained newfound popularity this year with 18 billion viewing minutes in the month of July alone. To put this into perspective, these are the same viewership levels achieved by the wildly popular STRANGER THINGS last July.

While some of the reason for a decline in Cable and Broadcast’s share of viewing is due to a gap in major sporting events in July, it is clear that permanent changes are



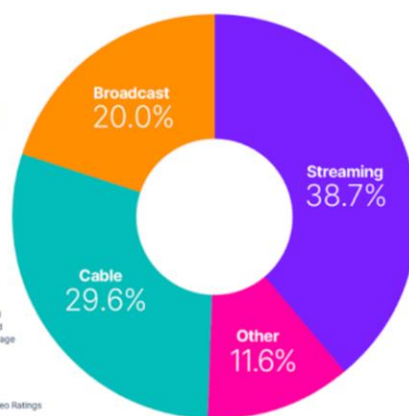
The Gauge™ Nielsen's Total TV and Streaming Snapshot

July 2023

Total Day | Persons 2+

Linear Streaming (MVPD/MVPD) Apps have been removed from the Streaming category. They have also been removed from Other Streaming and Hulu and Youtube now reflect usage to Hulu SVOD and Youtube Main without their respective MVPDs (Hulu Live and Youtube TV).

Methodology available @ [www.nielsen.com/thegauge](#)
Source: Nielsen National TV Panel Data plus Streaming Video Ratings
Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
Copyright © 2023 The Nielsen Company



taking place in viewing patterns. These trends are forcing media CEOs to consider taking radical steps, such as Disney’s Bob Iger discussing openly the possible sale of its traditional TV networks and cable properties including ABC, National Geographic and FX.

For a long time, many have viewed Streaming as being in competition with movie theatres and theatrical distribution. However, it has since become apparent that streaming is taking a bigger bite out of the traditional Cable and Broadcast business.



Meghan Markle and Patrick J. Adams in a scene from 'Suits'

Monster Shark Movie Is Beating ‘Barbie’ and Tom Cruise in China

Bloomberg

Warner Bros. has been enjoying summer fun at the box office, with BARBIE dominating the charts and becoming the studio’s highest grossing movie of all time and their



Jason Statham fights back the megalodon in MEG 2: THE TRENCH

DC superhero film BLUE BEETLE opening in the top spot this weekend. In addition to this domestic success, Warner Bros. is also seeing surging demand in China for their shark sequel MEG 2: THE TRENCH, where it brought in \$53.6M in its opening weekend, which was 77% higher than its domestic opening and more even than the debut of the original THE MEG in 2018. It was a rare bright spot for Hollywood in China, which has struggled to regain its swagger since the pandemic. Major studio titles such as BARBIE, MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE – DEAD RECKONING PART ONE and THE LITTLE MERMAID have all fallen flat in China, while MEG 2 has earned more than all those movies combined.

An obvious reason for MEG 2’s success in China is its fusion of Hollywood with local talent and settings. It was a joint production between Warner Bros. and Chinese Media Capital, features one of China’s biggest stars in Wu Jing, and has many scenes set in and around China. Not only do these elements make the film relatable to a Chinese audience but also they motivate the Chinese government and exhibitors to get behind its promotion, giving it top billing at local movie theatres. The government has a significant role in programming at Chinese multiplexes, and can exert an influence in demand. As a result, many in Hollywood have come to see the Chinese market as tantalizing but unreliable, whereas it was once seen as a prime opportunity for growth.

Studio Release Calendar (8/25– 9/21)

8/25/23 (Week 34)				
Prior Year Results				
2022 Week 34 Box Office: \$52,972,118				
Gran Turismo: Based on a True Story (Sony) <i>The sneak preview program has successfully increased awareness/ want-to-see. Look for potential opening in the \$20M+ range; \$60M+ total. RT: 58% critics, 98% audience</i>	PG-13 Action Adventure Drama	135	Digital, Flat 1.90:1, 5.1, IMAX 2D, D-Box, Dolby Vision, ScreenX, 4K, CGS, ICE, Atmos, DTS:X	Wide (3,500) \$15M-\$18M Open \$45M-\$54M Total (Current)
Retribution (Roadside Attractions) <i>Remake of "Retribution" (2015)</i>	R Crime Drama	91	Digital,Scope,5.1	Wide (2,500) \$2M-\$3M Open \$4M-\$6M Total (Current)
The Hill (Briarcliff/Open Road) <i>The remarkable true-life story of Rickey Hill's improbable journey to play Major League Baseball.</i>	PG Sports Biography	126	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Wide (1,200) \$1M-\$2M Open \$2M-\$4M Total (Current)
Golda (Bleecker Street) <i>Early access screening 8/23, 4pm & 7pm, Fathom Events special screening 8/23</i>	PG-13 Biography Drama	100	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Moderate (750)
KANG DANIEL: MY PARADE (Trafalgar)	NR Documentary	102	Digital, Flat, 5.1	8/30 & 9/2 Event
Slotherhouse (Iconic Releasing/Gravitas Ventures)	PG-13 Horror Comedy	93	Digital, Flat, SRD	8/30 Special Engagement
Coraline (Fathom)	PG Classics	115	Digital, Flat, 5.1 DTS, Atmos	8/28, 8/29 Event

Bottoms (MGM)	R Comedy	92	Digital, Scope, 5.1 4K	Limited
Landscape with Invisible Hand (MGM)	R Adventure	93	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
The Dive (RLJE/IFC)	NR Suspense Thriller	91	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
The Adults (Variance)	NR Comedy/Drama	91	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
The Owners (Big World)	NR Comedy	97	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Fremont (Music Box) <i>Female translator in Afghanistan</i>	NR Documentary	91	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Warrior King (Cineverse) 雪域少年 格萨尔王之磨炼	PG-13 Animation	78	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Bank of Dave (Samuel Goldwyn)	NR Drama	108	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Our Father, the Devil (Cineverse) <i>Language: French</i>	NR Drama	107	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
The Engineer (Lionsgate Premiere)	R Action	94	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited, Stream, Blu-Ray
King of Kotha (Wayfarer Films/Zee Studios)	NR Thriller (India)	123	Digital, Scope, 5.1	8/24 Limited
Renee Fleming Cities that Sing: Paris (IMAX/Fathom)	NR Documentary	80	Digital, IMAX, 5.1	Event
The Elephant 6 Recording Co. (Greenwich Ent.)	NR Documentary	93	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Jurassic Park (Universal) <i>30th Anniversary 3D</i>	PG-13 Fantasy	127	Digital, Scope, 5.1	Event
American Graffiti (Fathom Events) <i>50th Anniversary</i>	PG Comedy	120	Digital, Scope, 5.1	8/27, 8/30 Event
Scrapper (Kino Lorber)	NR Drama	84	Digital, Scope, SR	NYC

9/1/23 (Week 35)

Prior Year Results

2022 Week 35 Box Office: \$72,401,854

The Equalizer 3 (Sony) <i>There is very good interest/awareness for Denzel Washington's popular character (Robert McCall). THE EQUALIZER: 9/26/14, (\$34M open, \$101M total, 3.0 multiple). THE EQUALIZER 2: 7/20/18 (\$36M open, \$102M total, 2.8 multiple).</i>	R Action Sequel	109	Digital, Scope,, 5.1/7.1, PLF, Atmos	Wide (3,500+) \$37M-\$42M Open \$102M-\$115M Total (Current)
Bottoms (MGM)	R Comedy	92	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Moderate Expansion (500)
Ernest And Celestine: A Trip To Gibberitia (GKids)	NR Animation	80	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
The Good Mother (Vertical Ent.) <i>AKA: Mother's Milk</i>	R Thriller	84	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Moderate
Escalation (Vertical Ent.)	NR Action	93	Digital, Scope, 5.1	Limited
All Fun And Games (Vertical Ent.)	NR Horror Thriller	76	Digital, Scope, 5.1	Limited
What Doesn't Float (Circle Collective)	NR Comedy Drama	70	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Perpetrator (Shudder)	NR Horror	100	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
King Of Killers (Lionsgate Premiere)	R Adventure	92	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Mr. Jimmy (Abramorama) ミスタージミ	NR Concert	112	Digital, Flat, 5.1	9/1 Event
They Live (Fathom) <i>John Carpenter</i>	R Sci-Fi Action	100	Digital, Scope, Surround	9/3 Event
Orca (Blue Fox) <i>Iran, Qatar</i>	NR Drama	103	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Moderate
Goldfish (Outsider Pictures)	NR Drama	103	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Beaten to Death (Welcome Villain)	NR Horror	90	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Late Shows Only
The Mountain (Strand Releasing) <i>France (French w/ English subtitles)</i>	NR Drama	113	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited

9/8/23 (Week 36)

Prior Year Results

2022 Week 36 Box Office: \$44,110,214

The Nun II (New Line/Warner Bros.) <i>The NUN (2018), 3,870 locations, \$53M open, \$117M total. After a strong opening, the film played best the first six weeks experiencing a 66% decrease the second week and finishing in eleven weeks.</i>	R Horror Thriller	N/A	Digital, Scope, 5.1/7.1	Wide (3,500) \$28M-\$30M Open \$84M-\$90M Total (Current)
My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3 (Focus Features) <i>A predictable, enjoyable film for all ages.</i>	PG-13 Sequel	92	Digital, Scope, 5.1/7.1 4K	Wide (3,000) \$9M-\$11M Open \$20M-\$25M Total (Current)
Satanic Hispanics (Iconic Releasing) <i>Re-release</i>	R Horror	105	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited to Moderate
Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake (Trafalgar)	NR Ballet	120	Digital, Flat, 5.1	9/13 Event
AXCN: Perfect Blue 25th Anniversary Satoshi Kon Fest (Iconic Events)	R Anime	82	Digital, Flat, 5.1	9/6 (Sub) 9/7 (Dub) 9/10 Encore Event
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Universe (Blue Fox)	NR Drama	96	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Amerikatsi (Variance) <i>Language: Armenian, English, Russian (w/ English subtitles)</i>	BR Comedy	117	Digital, Scope, 5.1	NY/LA 9/15 Expand
Jawan (Yash Raj)	NR Action	165	Digital, Scope, IMAX, 5.1	Moderate
Perpetrator (Shudder)	NR Horror	100	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Winter Kills (Rialto) <i>Reissue</i>	R Thriller Drama	117	Digital, Flat, 5.1	8/11 NY 8/25 LA
Joyce Carol Oates: A Body in the Service of Mind (Greenwich)	NR Documentary	93	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited, Stream
UFC 293 ADESYANA VS. STRICKLAND (Iconic Releasing)	NR Live Martial Arts	180	Digital, Flat, 5.1	9/9 Event
Hunting for the Hag (Into the Night MP)	NR Horror	86	Digital, Flat, 5.1	9/10 Select
Christine (Fathom) <i>40th Anniversary, John Carpenter-D, Stephen King-Author, screenwriter</i>	R Horror Thriller	115	Digital, Scope, 5.1	9/10 Event

9/15/23 (Week 3/17)

Prior Year Results

2022 Week 37 Box Office: \$52,454,550

A Haunting in Venice (20th Century)	PG-13 Drama	146	Digital, Flat, IMAX, 5.1/7.1, Motion	Wide (3,000) \$14M-\$17M Open \$38M-\$46M Total
The Retirement Plan (Falling Forward Films)	R Action Comedy	103	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Moderate to Wide
Camp Hideout (Roadside)	PG Family Adventure	100	Digital, Flat, 5.1, 4K	Moderate
The Inventor (Blue Fox)	PG Animation	89	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Moderate
Dumb Money (Sony)	Biography Comedy Drama			Limited
Satanic Hispanics (Iconic Events)	R Horror	113	Digital, Flat, 5.1	9/14 Event
Cassandro (Amazon Studios) <i>Wrestling star</i>	R Drama	99	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Freelance (Relativity Media)	R Action Comedy	109	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Outlaw Johnny Black (Samuel Goldwyn)	NR Comedy Western	135	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited
Radical Wolfe (Kino Lorber)	NR Documentary	76	Digital, Flat, SR	NYC
Invisible Beauty (Magnolia)	NR Documentary	115	Digital, Flat, 5.1	Limited

NOTABLE TRAILERS



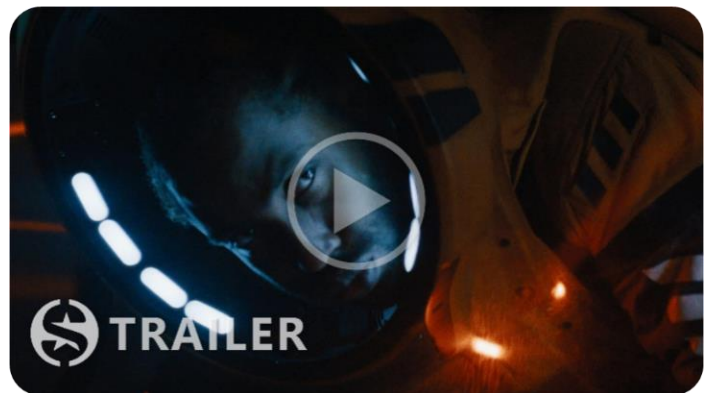
[Maestro](#) (Netflix)
11/22/23 – Limited; 12/20/23 - Netflix



[The Persian Version](#) (Sony Pictures Classics/Stage 6)
10/13/23 - NY/LA



[The Equalizer 3](#) (Sony/Columbia)
9/1/23 - Wide



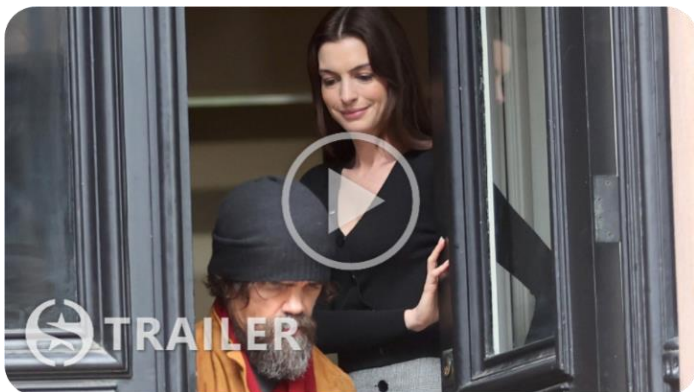
[The Creator](#) (20th Century)
9/29/23 - Wide



[Anatomy of a Fall](#) (NEON)
10/13/23 - NY/LA



[Stop Making Sense](#) (A24)
9/22 – IMAX; 9/29 - Expansion



[She Came to Me](#) (Vertical Entertainment)
9/29/23 - Moderate



[Camp Hideout](#) (Roadside Attractions)
9/15/23 - Moderate

Movie Reviews

THE FILM
VERDICT



GRAN TURISMO: BASED ON A TRUE STORY

VERDICT: A superhero movie with laughs, action, cultural specificity and human-sized stakes — here's hoping there's room for this character in the next reboot of the DC Universe.

Alonso Duralde, August 16, 2023

In bringing Latino superhero Jaime Reyes to the big screen, Warner Bros. isn't just paying lip service to the character's heritage.

Over the course of this funny, thrilling, and genuinely heartfelt adventure, screenwriter Gareth Dunnet-Alcocer (the 2019 remake of *Miss Bala*) works in references to everything from Vicks VapoRub (every abuela's secret remedy for whatever ails you) and 1970s Mexican superhero-comedy *El Chapulín Colorado* to the infamous School of the Americas, a symbol of U.S. imperialism in Central and South America.

What's perhaps most impressive about *Blue Beetle* is that it gives audiences something more tangible than the fate of the universe to care about and root for; Jaime, first and foremost, wants to protect his family, and as superheroics go, those are all the stakes the movie needs.

[Full Review](#)

Movie reviews published in partnership with [The Film Verdict](#)