

Girls just want to have fun

Nearly £1 in every £6 spent on cinema tickets in 2016 was for a **comedy**. Laughter is louder, and more contagious, when it's shared in a cinema!

It was a genre led by *female* stars – Renée Zellweger, Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley in UK favourites *Bridget Jones's Baby* and *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie*; US ensembles in releases such as *Ghostbusters*, *Bad Moms* and *How to Be Single*.

Top 12 comedies in UK cinemas 2016

Film	UK distributor	UK cinema release date 2016	UK cinema box-office 2016
1 <i>Bridget Jones's Baby</i>	Universal	16 Sept	£48.0m
2 <i>Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie</i>	20 th Century Fox	1 July	£16.0m
3 <i>Ghostbusters</i>	Sony	15 July	£10.7m
4 <i>Dad's Army</i>	Universal	5 Feb	£8.6m
5 <i>Central Intelligence</i>	Universal	1 July	£8.5m
6 <i>Bad Moms</i> (right)	Entertainment	26 Aug	£8.3m
7 <i>Bad Neighbours 2</i> (opposite)	Universal	6 May	£6.4m
8 <i>How to Be Single</i> (opposite)	Warner Bros.	19 Feb	£6.0m
9 <i>Ride Along 2</i>	Universal	22 Jan	£5.8m
10 <i>Dirty Grandpa</i>	Lionsgate	29 Jan	£5.4m
11 <i>Grimsby</i>	Sony	26 Feb	£5.2m
12 <i>Hail, Caesar!</i>	Universal	4 March	£5.1m
Total top 12			£134m

comScore



Party like a mother: A hit comedy on both sides of the Atlantic, *Bad Moms* showed what happens when three over-worked, under-appreciated mums reach the end of their tether. Its appealing ensemble cast, including Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell and Kathryn Hahn, won the Female Stars of the Year award at the CinemaCon trade show in April 2016. It was swiftly announced that writers/directors Jon Lucas and Scott Moore, who also scripted *The Hangover* (2009), had begun to prepare a second *Bad Moms* movie.



Laugh out loud: The directing team of Josh Gordon and Will Speck cast Jason Bateman and Jennifer Aniston in *Office Christmas Party* having previously paired them in *The Switch* (2010). Kate McKinnon, hot foot from *Ghostbusters*, Olivia Munn and Jillian Bell were also among the revellers. Released on 9 December, *Office Christmas Party* had grossed more than £3m in UK cinemas by the end of the year. The female-led cast of *How to Be Single* included Dakota Johnson, Rebel Wilson, Alison Brie and Leslie Mann.

Furthermore, the hugely popular animated comedy adventure, *Finding Dory* (right), brimmed with strongly drawn female characters. Diane Keaton, Kate McKinnon and Sigourney Weaver were among those on the voice track, supporting Ellen DeGeneres, who returned as the delightfully forgetful Dory 13 years after the original *Finding Nemo*. In the 21 years since *Toy Story* (1995), Pixar's 17 movies have grossed more than \$10 billion in cinemas worldwide.



Too good to be true

108 **documentary** features were released in 2016, offering a variety of intimate, raw and powerful cinema experiences. Two documentaries grossed more than £1m, compared with only one, *Amy*, in 2015.

At the 2016 Grierson Awards, the Best Cinema Documentary category winner was Matthew Heineman's Oscar-nominated *Cartel Land* (2015), which gave a harrowing portrayal of vigilante citizens' attempts to challenge drug gangs' murderous operations along the US/Mexican border.

In January 2017, Gianfranco Rosi's *Fire at Sea*, filmed at Lampedusa on the front line of Europe's migrant crisis, was named Documentary of the year by the London Critics' Circle.

Top documentaries in UK cinemas 2016

Film	UK distributor	Release date in UK cinemas 2016	UK cinema box-office 2016
1 <i>The Beatles: Eight Days a Week - The Touring Years</i> (see page 107)	StudioCanal	16 Sept	£1,183,324
2 Louis Theroux's <i>My Scientology Movie</i>	Altitude	7 Oct	£1,088,052
3 <i>Supersonic</i>	eOne	30 Sept	£755,993
4 <i>Bobby Sands: 66 Days</i> (Ireland)	Wildcard (in Ireland)	5 Aug	£228,084
5 <i>The Eagle Huntress</i> (top right)	Altitude	16 Dec	£194,755*
6 <i>Michael Moore: Where to Invade Next</i> (right)	Dogwoof	10 June	£167,129
7 <i>Lo and Behold</i>	Dogwoof	28 Oct	£108,048
8 <i>Tickled</i>	StudioCanal	19 Aug	£104,069
9 <i>Janis: Little Girl Blue</i>	Dogwoof	5 Feb	£100,885
10 <i>Weiner</i>	Dogwoof	8 July	£80,529
11 <i>Notes on Blindness</i>	CAE	1 July	£80,035
12 <i>The First Monday in May</i>	Dogwoof	30 Sept	£78,509

Total top 12 (out of 108 documentaries released)

£4,183,368

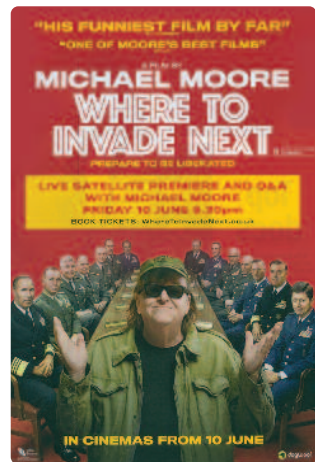
= 74.5% of total 2016 box-office for documentaries

comScore



Altitude

Empowerment: *The Eagle Huntress*, the BAFTA-nominated account of a 13 year-old girl attempting to become Mongolia's first female eagle hunter, was narrated by its executive producer, Daisy Ridley.



Dogwoof

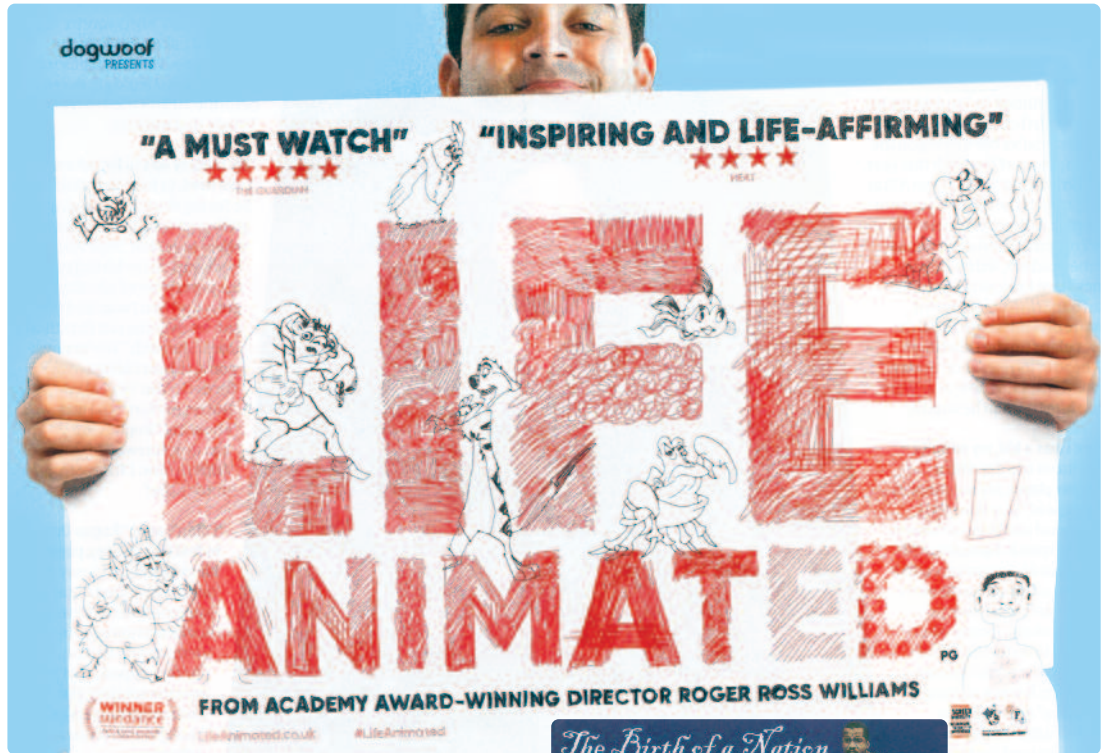
In January 2017, we were saddened by the death of Tiilikum, the orca from Gabriela Cowperthwaite's award-winning documentary, *Blackfish* (2013), aged 37.

*Still on release in UK cinemas at the end of 2016

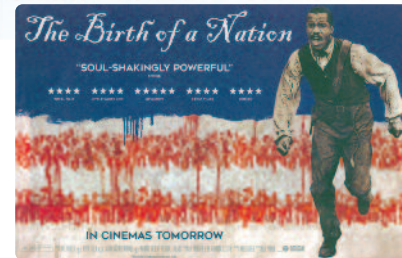
Real-life cinema

As well as documentaries, numerous 2016 releases were based on true stories, for example *Life Animated* (right), *The Birth of a Nation* (recounting Nat Turner's slave rebellion of 1831, below right), *Dangal*, *Eddie the Eagle*, *The Danish Girl*, *Race*, *Snowden*, *Spotlight*, *A Street Cat Named Bob*, *Sully: Miracle on the Hudson*, *A United Kingdom*, *War Dogs* and *Florence Foster Jenkins*.

The trend continued in early 2017 with true-story adaptations including *Lion*, *Jackie*, *Gold*, *Hacksaw Ridge* and Mick Jackson's *Denial* starring Timothy Spall as historian, David Irving.



The power of cinema: The true story of how a young autistic boy, Owen Suskind, who had retreated into silence, came to understand the world through Disney's animated characters. Their words and actions helped Owen to find his own voice and go on to lead as full a life as possible. Roger Ross Williams's inspiring, award-winning film was based on a book (2014) about 20 years in Owen's life by his journalist father, Ron. He appears in *Life, Animated*, a December release in UK cinemas, alongside his wife and Owen himself.



20th Century Fox

Restorations and rediscoveries

A wide range of digitally remastered classic films were brought back to UK cinema screens, looking and sounding as good as new.

Top 10 film reissues in UK cinemas 2016

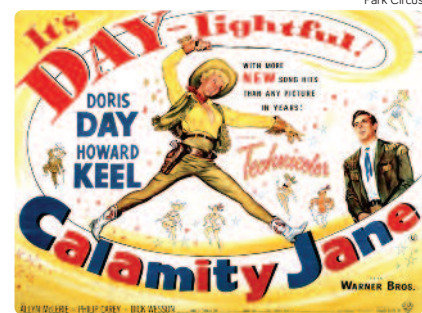
Film (Year of original release)	UK distributor 2016	UK cinema re-release 2016	UK box-office gross 2016
1 <i>The Nightmare Before Christmas</i> (1993)	Park Circus	2 Dec	£197,877*
2 <i>Barry Lyndon</i> (1975)	BFI	29 July	£120,597
3 <i>Akira</i> (1988)	Natl. Amusements UK	16 Sept	£92,864
4 <i>Le Mépris</i> (1963)	BFI	1 Jan	£74,133
5 <i>Blue Velvet</i> (1986)	Park Circus	2 Dec	£52,803*
6 <i>Ran</i> (1985)	StudioCanal	1 April	£52,536
7 <i>Napoléon</i> (1927)	BFI	11 Nov	£50,947
8 <i>The Man Who Fell to Earth</i> (1976) (above right)	Park Circus	9 Sept	£50,863
9 <i>Richard III</i> (1995)	Park Circus	22 April	£48,088
10 <i>Calamity Jane</i> (1953) (right)	Park Circus	8 April	£47,634
Top 10 total			£788,342

*Still on release at end of 2016

comScore



Park Circus



Park Circus

The selection of digital reissues in 2016, available to cinema programmers and local audiences, also included: *Donnie Darko* (2001), *In the Heat of the Night* (1967), *Poor Cow* (1967), *Sid and Nancy* (1986) *Solaris* (1972) and the Director's Cut of *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (1977).

Summary of UK cinemagoing by genre


		2016	2015
ACTION	No. films	81	86
	Genre gross	£253,942,603	£480,783,409
	% of year's box-office	20.2%	38.0%
	Top 3 films	<i>Deadpool</i> <i>Captain America: Civil War</i> <i>Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice</i>	<i>Spectre*</i> <i>Jurassic World</i> <i>Avengers: Age of Ultron</i>
ADVENTURE	No. films	16	12
	Genre gross	£268,818,919	£129,600,413
	% of year's box-office	21.3%	10.2%
	Top 3 films	<i>Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*</i> <i>Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*</i> <i>The Jungle Book</i>	<i>Star Wars: The Force Awakens*</i> <i>Cinderella</i> <i>Into the Woods</i>
ANIMATION	No. films	43	28
	Genre gross	£222,494,723	£201,802,058
	% of year's box-office	17.6%	15.9%
	Top 3 films	<i>Finding Dory</i> <i>The Secret Life of Pets</i> <i>Zootropolis</i>	<i>Minions</i> <i>Inside Out</i> <i>Home</i>
COMEDY	No. films	160	145
	Genre gross	£192,725,098	£123,768,797
	% of year's box-office	15.3%	9.8%
	Top 3 films	<i>Bridget Jones's Baby</i> <i>Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie</i> <i>Ghostbusters</i>	<i>Pitch Perfect 2</i> <i>The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel</i> <i>Spy</i>
DOCUMENTARY	No. films	108	100
	Genre gross	£5,616,940	£7,103,950
	% of year's box-office	0.4%	0.6%
	Top 3 films	<i>The Beatles: Eight Days A Week - The Touring Years</i> <i>My Scientology Movie</i> <i>Supersonic</i>	<i>Amy</i> <i>Cobain: Montage of Heck</i> <i>Salt of the Earth</i>
DRAMA	No. films	288	236
	Genre gross	£155,186,133	£221,698,558
	% of year's box-office	12.3%	17.5%
	Top 3 films	<i>Me Before You</i> <i>Arrival*</i> <i>Passengers*</i>	<i>Fifty Shades of Grey</i> <i>The Theory of Everything</i> <i>American Sniper</i>

Summary of UK cinemagoing by genre continued


		2016	2015
FAMILY	No. films	3	3
	Genre gross	£3,131,549	£664,673
	% of year's box-office	0.2%	0.1%
	Top 3 films	<i>Swallows and Amazons</i> <i>Babu Bangaram</i> <i>Molly Moon and the Incredible Book of Hypnotism</i>	<i>Bill</i> <i>Up All Night</i> <i>Doctor Proctor's Fart Powder</i>
HORROR	No. films	30	41
	Genre gross	£35,161,478	£33,975,592
	% of year's box-office	2.8%	2.7%
	Top 3 films	<i>The Conjuring 2: The Enfield Case Lights Out</i> <i>Ouija: Origin of Evil</i>	<i>The Woman in Black: Angel of Death</i> <i>Insidious Chapter 3</i> <i>Poltergeist</i>
ROMANCE ROMANTIC COMEDY	No. films	16	19
	Genre gross	£1,379,401	£1,024,381
	% of year's box-office	0.1%	0.1%
	Top 3 films	<i>Kapoor and Sons</i> <i>Ambariariya</i> <i>Remo</i>	<i>Shaandaar</i> <i>Katti Batti</i> <i>Angrej</i>
SCI-FI	No. films	9	8
	Genre gross	£28,211,394	£1,466,188
	% of year's box-office	2.2%	0.1%
	Top 3 films	<i>Star Trek Beyond</i> <i>Independence Day: Resurgence</i> <i>The Man Who Fell to Earth</i> (reissue 2016)	<i>Blade Runner: The Final Cut</i> (reissue) <i>Self/Less</i> <i>Monsters: Dark Continent</i>
SUSPENSE	No. films	59	47
	Genre gross	£53,072,100	£27,751,850
	% of year's box-office	4.2%	2.2%
	Top 3 films	<i>The Girl on the Train</i> <i>Now You See Me 2</i> <i>10 Cloverfield Lane</i>	<i>Legend</i> <i>The Gift</i> <i>No Escape</i>
EVENT CINEMA	No. titles	96	117
	Genre gross	£28,619,729	£34,096,701
	% of year's box-office	2.3%	2.6%
	Top 3 titles	<i>Miss Saigon: 25th Anniversary Performance</i> <i>Dirty Dancing</i> (Secret Cinema) <i>Andre Rieu: Christmas with Andre 2016 Concert</i>	<i>The Empire Strikes Back</i> (Secret Cinema) <i>Hamlet - NT Live</i> <i>Branagh Theatre Live - The Winter's Tale</i>
OTHER FILMS	No. films (including Musicals and Westerns)	7	11
	Genre gross	£14,067,017	£2,293,986
	% of year's box-office	1.1%	0.2%
Total no. of films all genres		916	853

*Still on UK cinema release at the end of the year

CERTIFICATE 'U'

No. films
Category gross
 Top 3 films

CERTIFICATE 'PG'

No. films
Category gross
 Top 3 films

CERTIFICATE '12A'

No. films
Category gross
 Top 3 films

CERTIFICATE '15'

No. films
Category gross
 Top 3 films

CERTIFICATE '18'

No. films
Category gross
 Top 3 films






OTHER

No cert./unknown
Category gross

Total releases

2016

including event cinema

No. films	53
Category gross	£156,325,973
 Top 3 films	<i>Finding Dory</i> <i>The Secret Life of Pets</i> <i>Trolls</i>
No. films	121
Category gross	£197,058,111
 Top 3 films	<i>The Jungle Book</i> <i>The BFG</i> <i>Zootropolis</i>
No. films	315
Category gross	£498,761,613
 Top 3 films	<i>Rogue One: A Star Wars Story</i> <i>Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them</i> <i>Captain America: Civil War</i>
No. films	368
Category gross	£393,403,549
 Top 3 films	<i>Bridget Jones's Baby</i> <i>Deadpool</i> <i>Suicide Squad</i>
No. films	47
Category gross	£13,117,056
 Top 3 films	<i>The Hateful Eight</i> <i>28 Days Later</i> (Secret Cinema) <i>Dr Strangelove</i> (Secret Cinema)
No cert./unknown	12
Category gross	£103,892
Total releases	916






2015

including event cinema

No. films	45
Category gross	£200,359,026
 Top 3 films	<i>Minions</i> <i>Inside Out</i> <i>Home</i>
No. films	97
Category gross	£83,341,675
 Top 3 films	<i>Big Hero 6</i> <i>The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel</i> <i>The Good Dinosaur</i>
No. films	281
Category gross	£683,282,660
 Top 3 films	<i>Spectre</i> <i>Star Wars: The Force Awakens</i> <i>Jurassic World</i>
No. films	351
Category gross	£241,601,944
 Top 3 films	<i>Mad Max: Fury Road</i> <i>Kingsman: The Secret Service</i> <i>American Sniper</i>
No. films	51
Category gross	£55,134,543
 Top 3 films	<i>Fifty Shades of Grey</i> <small>(became the UK's highest grossing '18' of all time in its 2nd week of release)</small> <i>Legend</i> <i>Knock Knock</i>
No cert./unknown	28
Category gross	£2,310,708
Total releases	853

2014

including event cinema

No. films	61
Category gross	£125,793,322
 Top 3 films	<i>The Lego Movie</i> <i>Rio 2</i> <i>Mr Peabody & Sherman</i>
No. films	115
Category gross	£116,466,708
 Top 3 films	<i>Paddington</i> <i>How to Train Your Dragon 2</i> <i>Maleficent</i>
No. films	240
Category gross	£476,441,184
 Top 3 films	<i>The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies</i> <i>Dawn of the Planet of the Apes</i> <i>Guardians of the Galaxy</i>
No. films	317
Category gross	£292,209,317
 Top 3 films	<i>The Inbetweeners 2</i> <i>12 Years A Slave</i> <i>22 Jump Street</i>
No. films	47
Category gross	£50,844,142
 Top 3 films	<i>The Wolf of Wall Street</i> <i>Gone Girl</i> <i>Sin City: A Dame to Kill For</i>
No cert./unknown	58
Category gross	£9,115,453
Total releases	838