# Lowest Memorial Day No. 1 Opening in 29 Years for 'Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga'



"Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga" claimed the No. 1 spot at the box office over Memorial Day weekend with an estimated $32 million in ticket sales. The film, produced by Warner Bros., narrowly edged out Sony's "The Garfield Movie," which garnered $31.1 million. Final figures will be reported on Tuesday.

Despite the close race, "Furiosa," starring Anya Taylor-Joy, had the lowest-grossing opening for a Memorial Day No. 1 film in 29 years, aside from 2020 when theaters were closed due to the pandemic. Memorial Day weekend ticket sales totaled $128.3 million, marking a significant decline from last year's nearly $205 million and much lower than the $314.3 million record set in 2013 by "Fast & Furious 6."

Industry analysts cite various factors for the subdued performance, including the ongoing shift towards streaming and early digital releases. This year’s summer box office has started weak, impacted by the aftereffects of last year’s Hollywood strikes. The reliance on mid-range sequels and prequels, such as "Furiosa" and family-oriented animated films like "The Garfield Movie," hasn't generated the expected revenue.

Top-performing films over four days included “Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga” ($32 million), “The Garfield Movie” ($31.1 million), “IF” ($21 million), and “Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes” ($17.2 million). The summer season remains crucial for the annual box office revenue, historically accounting for around 40% of the total domestic earnings. As such, upcoming major releases are anticipated to potentially revive theater attendance.