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Film News: 'Battleship' Sinks as 'The Avengers' Continues to Dominate Box Office

Submitted by BrianTT [1] on May 20, 2012 - 1:53pm

- Battleship [2]
- Box Office [3]
- Brian Tallerico [4]
- Dark Shadows [5]
- Film News [6]
- HollywoodChicago.com Content [7]
- The Avengers [8]
- The Dictator [9]
- The Hunger Games [10]
- Think Like a Man [11]
- What to Expect When You're Expecting [12]

CHICAGO – "Marvel's The Avengers" continued to completely dominate at the box office this weekend, grossing another \$55.1 million domestically for a total of \$457.1 million, good enough for 6th place all time after only 17 days in release. The massive hit has already grossed \$1.2 BILLION worldwide, ranking 4th place all time.

The dominance of "The Avengers" came at the expense of three new films, all of which opened to disappointing figures. The highly-advertised "Battleship" made only \$25.3 million in its first three days of domestic release. While the number certainly qualifies as a bomb in the U.S., that may not matter to Universal as it has already made \$215.3 million internationally. Times are changing and the U.S. may not be the most important market any more when it comes to whether or not a film should be considered a success.

While the jury is still out on whether or not to call "Battleship" a bomb, "The Dictator" and "What to Expect When You're Expecting" are more clear cut. Sacha Baron Cohen's comedy opened with a moderate \$17.4 million and the ensemble pregnancy comedy was a complete disaster, mustering a pathetic \$10.5 million, good enough for only 5th place.

As everything fails in the wake of "The Avengers" it leads one to wonder when the tide will turn. Will it be next week with "The Chernobyl Diaries" or, more likely, "Men in Black 3"? Come back in a week and find out.

- 1. The Avengers [13] \$55.1 million down 46.6% \$457.1 million
- 2. Battleship [14] \$25.3 million new
- 3. The Dictator [15] \$17.4 million \$24.5 million
- 4. Dark Shadows [16] \$12.8 million down 57% \$50.9 million
- 5. What to Expect When You're Expecting [17] \$10.5 million new
- 6. The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel [18] \$3.3 million up 21.6% \$8.3 million
- 7. <u>The Hunger Games</u> [19] \$3 million down 33.4% \$391.6 million
- 8. Think Like a Man [20] \$2.7 million down 53.6% \$85.9 million
- 9. The Lucky One [21] \$1.8 million down 57% \$56.9 million
- 10. The Pirates! A Band of Misfits [22] \$1.5 million down 53.9% \$25.4 million

Source: Box Office Mojo [23]



[2/1

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Source URL (retrieved on Apr 18 2024 - 2:22am):

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Links:

- [1] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/users/briantt
- [2] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/battleship
- [3] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/box-office
- [4] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/brian-tallerico
- [5] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/dark-shadows
- [6] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/film-news[7] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/hollywoodchicagodotcom-content
- [8] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/the-avengers
- [9] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/the-dictator
- [10] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/the-hunger-games
- [11] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/think-like-a-man
- [12] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/what-to-expect-when-youre-expecting



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- [13] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18353/summer-movie-season-explodes-with-the-avengers
- [14] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18555/despite-rihanna-peter-berg-battleship-lands-as-one-of-the-best-popcorn-flicks-ever
- [15] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18518/funny-political-the-dictator-with-sacha-baron-cohen
- [16] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18460/keep-tim-burton-s-dark-shadows-out-of-the-light
- [17] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18569/boredom-awaits-during-what-to-expect-when-youre-expecting
- [18] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18394/judi-dench-checks-into-the-best-exotic-marigold-hotel
- [19] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/17924/jennifer-lawrence-in-the-hunger-games-delivers-for-fans
- [20] http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18226/strong-ensemble-carries-funny-think-like-a-man
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- [22] http://hollywoodchicago.com/reviews/18305/clever-fun-adventures-of-the-pirates-band-of-misfits
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