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POP LIFE.



Considering the [unprecedented](#) last few years that Taylor Swift has had, it might be hard to remember that Taylor Swift's cinematic history is actually a bit spotty.

She's been a part of some successes, including a small role in 2010's romcom ensemble *Valentine's Day* and a voice part in 2012's animated *The Lorax*, which pulled in a strong \$216 million and \$349.2 million worldwide, respectively. But more recently, there have been the notable misses of 2019's *Cats* and 2022's *Amsterdam*, two movies that exist more as memes in 2023 than as actual motion pictures that people widely enjoyed. Unless, that is, you are talking about going to a *Rowdy Cats* screening, which is a different story altogether. (*Rowdy Amsterdam* when!?!?)

But digital fur technology and surprise car flattenings aside, Taylor Swift has never previously been asked to actually carry a movie theater experience. And though the recent writers' and actors' strikes meant a dip in the overall fall box office projections (we'll see you in 2024 *Dune 2* and *Challengers*), *Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour* was going to be a record-breaking cultural moment regardless of whether the cinemas needed saving or not. It couldn't have come at a better time for AMC and the rest of the big theater chains, but Swift's big-screen bow is about more than ticket stubs and popcorn sales.

The big picture meaning of *Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour* can be traced back to March in Glendale, Arizona, when Swift debuted her phenomenon of a tour. Regardless of what fans hoped for or expected,

she demolished all notions of what a stadium tour could be when you are the biggest musician in the world. Over the course of the next few months, the tour evolved and grew. Songs were added and swapped, the runtime extending to three-and-a-half hours by the time its initial US run landed in LA, the site that serves as the setting for the film. Tickets became even in higher demand and harder to get, and that's saying a lot since the initial on-sale exposed Ticketmaster's many flaws and the resale market's unethical practices, something many of us had long known, but was now seeing Congress and The White House weighing in.

Philip Cosores — *'Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour' Movie Comes As Close As Possible*

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Britney Spears' audition tape for *The Notebook* finally surfaced, and it was full of tears.

Billie Eilish denied a recent dating rumor about a celebrity tattoo artist.

Maluma surprised fans with some news while on stage — he's going to be a father!

BTS' Jimin released a new documentary that gives fans a closer look into the making of his solo album, *Face*.

NUMBER ONE STUNNERS



TAYLOR SWIFT

If the introduction wasn't enough proof that it's Taylor Swift's world and we're all just living it, her 2019 song, "Cruel Summer," reaching No. 1 this week just might be. Four years later, the song saw a significant boost for a few reasons. First, it has seriously been a fan-favorite, as Swifties begged for a music video and for Swift to acknowledge it. Secondly, *The Eras Tour* movie helped propel it close to the top.

Given it was a ways away from becoming a hit on the *Billboard* Hot 100, Swift decided to drop both a live recording of it from the movie, and a remix. And it's clear that definitely helped.

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BUBBLING UNDER



BABY QUEEN

Baby Queen proved she was a rising force back in 2021 with her EP, *The Yearbook*. Two years later, she's followed it up with a handful of equally-impressive singles, as she gears up for the release of her debut album, *Quarter Life Crisis*. As the title describes, it deals with the struggle of trying to step into serious adulthood. The opening track, "We Can Be Anything," takes you through her stream-of-consciousness while at a party and on the way home.

"I've been having a prolonged existential crisis for the better part of the past 5 years and would consider myself to be a nihilist in many ways, which has made being alive quite bleak at times," she shared in a

statement about the song. "I think we all, beings really crave purpose but there is ultimately no clear-cut reason we're here and if there is one, we're just not intelligent enough to figure it out."

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CHECK OUT

DUA LIPA PANGAIA X FUTURE NOSTALGIA HOODIE



The colder months are upon us, so cozy up and show off your style in this Dua Lipa hoodie.

[PICK IT UP](#)

REMEMBER WHEN



KATY PERRY

On this day in 1984, pop star Katheryn Hudson was born — or, better known to fans as Katy Perry. While she started her career with a gospel record, her largest success came after adopting a stage name and releasing some of her biggest hits. Her debut single from her 2008 album, *One Of The Boys*, topped the charts.

Perry's follow-up record, 2010's *Teenage Dream*, was what really propelled her, though. It had five number one hits: "California Gurls," "Teenage Dream," "Firework," "E.T.," and "Last Friday Night (T.G.I.F.)." So far, it is the only album from a female performer to achieve that record. Now, the pop star is currently running her *Play* residency in Vegas.

LOVE LETTERS



HOLLY HUMBERSTONE

Holly Humberstone's new album, *Paint My Bedroom Black*, has been one I've been waiting to hear for quite some time — and it did not disappoint. A while back, Humberstone did an intimate performance in NYC, where she previewed one of the tracks, "Cocoon." Opening with a reference to *The OC*, she paints a picture of how she's struggling as a "taxidermy version" of herself. Another key highlight from the record is "Lauren," which taps into the feelings of missing someone who goes quiet, leaving Humberstone to point out the flaws that led to it. "Say the word and I'll call / Say the word and I'm coming back," she sings.

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