

# Yellow Rose (2019 film)

***Yellow Rose*** is a 2019 American-Filipino musical drama film co-written and directed by Diane Paragas. It is produced by Cecilia R. Mejia, Diane Paragas, Rey Cuervo, Orian Williams, and Jeremiah Abraham. The film stars Eva Noblezada, Dale Watson, Princess Punzalan, and Lea Salonga. The plot follows Rose, a Filipina undocumented immigrant, who dreams of leaving her small town in Texas to pursue her country music dreams. Her plan is put on hold when her mother is taken by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Rose is forced to flee to Austin, Texas.<sup>[3]</sup>

The film premiered at the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival on May 2, 2019 and received positive reviews. Stage 6 Films acquired the film and released it on October 9, 2020.<sup>[4]</sup>

## Cast

- Eva Noblezada as Rose Garcia
- Lea Salonga as Gail Garcia
- Dale Watson as himself
- Princess Punzalan as Priscilla Garcia
- Gustavo Gomez as Jose
- Libby Villari as Jolene
- Liam Booth as Elliot Blatnik

## Production

In May 2019, it was announced that the film would premiere at the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival (LAAPFF) on May 2, 2019. Director and screenplay writer Diane Paragas told reporters that the film has been in the works since 2004. It was also announced that Paragas would sing on the soundtrack as well as Eva Noblezada, Lea Salonga, and Dale Watson.<sup>[5]</sup>

Principal photography began in Austin, Texas and Manila, Philippines on August 17, 2018. Filming wrapped in January 2019.

## Soundtrack

The soundtrack of the film was released by Sony Music Masterworks on October 9, 2020.<sup>[6][7]</sup>

All tracks are written by Christopher Hoyt Knight except where noted

Yellow Rose	
<span></span> <div>Theatrical release poster</div>	
Directed by	<span><span>Diane Paragas</span></span>
Written by	<span><span>Diane Paragas</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Annie Howell</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Celena Cipriaso</span></span>
Produced by	<span><span>Cecilia R. Mejia</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Rey Cuervo</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Diane Paragas</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Orian Williams</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Jeremiah Abraham</span></span>
Starring	<span><span>Eva Noblezada</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Dale Watson</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Princess Punzalan</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Lea Salonga</span></span>
Cinematography	<span><span>August Thurmer</span></span>
Edited by	<span><span>Iron Reiter</span></span> <div></div> <span><span>Taylor Levy</span></span>

No.	Title	Writer(s)	Performer(s)	Length	Music by	Christopher Hoyt Knight
1.	"Square Peg"	<u>Dale Watson</u> , <u>Thia Megia</u> , <u>Diane Paragas</u>	<u>Eva Noblezada</u>	4:05	<b>Production companies</b>	<u>Stage 6 Films</u> <u>ABS-CBN</u> <u>Global Cinematografo</u> <u>Originals</u> <u>Home Away Productions</u> <u>Civilian Studios</u>
2.	"Life Out on the Road"	Watson	Watson	2:00	<b>Distributed by</b>	<u>Sony Pictures</u> <u>Releasing</u> <u>(United States)</u> <u>Star Cinema</u> <u>(Philippines)</u>
3.	" <u>Dahil Sa Iyo</u> "	Mike Velarde, Jr.	<u>Lea Salonga</u>	2:01		
4.	"Circumstance"	Watson	Noblezada; Watson	1:21	<b>Release dates</b>	May 2, 2019 <u>(Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival)</u> October 9, 2020 <u>(United States)</u>
5.	"Quietly Into the Night"	Paragas	Noblezada; Watson	1:59		
6.	"I Ain't Going Down"	Watson	Noblezada; Watson	2:13	<b>Running time</b>	94 minutes <sup>[1]</sup>
7.	"Yellow Rose"	Watson	Watson	1:42		
8.	"Are You Priscilla Garcia"		Knight	2:16	<b>Countries</b>	United States Philippines
9.	"Running Through Hayfield"		Knight	2:26		
10.	"We Could Have Used Your Help"		Knight	1:19	<b>Languages</b>	English Filipino
11.	"N35"		Knight	1:04		
12.	"Leaving Tita Gail's"		Knight	1:37	<b>Box office</b>	\$367,849 <sup>[2]</sup>
13.	"Rose and Elliot"		Knight	1:00		
14.	"Rose Leaves Broken Spoke"		Knight	1:02		
15.	"They Take Everything Away"		Knight	1:16		
16.	"This is Home For Me"		Knight	2:28		
17.	"Yellow Rose (Instrumental)"	Watson	Watson	1:43		
<b>Total length:</b>				<b>32:00</b>		

## Release

*Yellow Rose* premiered at the LAAPFF on May 2, 2019. It was screened at several other film festivals internationally. It won thirteen film festival awards, particularly praising Paragas' directing and Noblezada and Salonga's performances.<sup>[8]</sup> Though the film's theatrical release was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was released on October 9, 2020.<sup>[9]</sup> The film is one of the first Filipino-American films to be released by a major Hollywood studio for theatrical release.<sup>[10]</sup>

## Reception

### Box office

*Yellow Rose* opened in 9th place at the US box office, taking in \$150,000 in 900 theaters over its opening weekend.<sup>[11]</sup>

## Critical reception

On review aggregator Rotten Tomatoes, the film has an approval rating of 87% based on 55 reviews, with an average of 7.2/10. The site's critical consensus reads, "A coming-of-age story with a timely twist, *Yellow Rose* offers a fresh -- and sweetly rewarding -- perspective on the immigrant experience."<sup>[12]</sup> On Metacritic, the film has a weighted average score of 71 out of 100, based on 13 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".<sup>[13]</sup> Writing for The Philippine Reporter, Ysh Cabana wrote "*Yellow Rose* is the Filipino-American filmmaker's response to the harsh reality of 21st Century America's anti-immigrant policies."<sup>[14]</sup>

A film critic for Minorities Report Film wrote "Yellow Rose is a much needed film that reminds everyone that we are surrounded by people that might be living in sorrow and pain" <sup>[15]</sup>

New York Times said Paragas "spins a story that is both politically timely and personal...the music has the greatest staying power..."<sup>[16]</sup>

## Accolades

Year	Association	Category	Recipient	Result	Ref.
2019	<u>Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival</u>	Best Narrative Feature	<i>Yellow Rose</i>	Won	
		Best Breakthrough Performance	<u>Eva Noblezada</u>	Won	
	<u>Bentonville Film Festival</u>	Best Competition Narrative	<i>Yellow Rose</i>	Won	
	<u>Asian American International Film Festival</u>	Best Narrative Feature		Won	
	<u>CAAMFest</u>	Best Narrative		Won	
	<u>Urbanworld Film Festival</u>	Best Film		Won	
		Best Narrative Feature		Won	
	<u>Austin Film Festival</u>	Marquee Feature		Nominated	
	<u>Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival</u>	Best Narrative Feature Film		Won	
	<u>San Diego Asian Film Festival</u>	Audience Award		Won	
	<u>Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival</u>	Menkes Audience Choice Award		Won	
		Fasken Martineau Best Feature Film		Won	
	<u>Vancouver Asian Film Festival</u>	Best Overall Feature		Won	
	<u>Hawaii International Film Festival</u>	Best Narrative Feature		Won	
<u>2021</u>	<u>Houston Film Critics Society Awards</u>	Texas Independent Film Award	<i>Yellow Rose</i>	Won	
2021	<u>Guild of Music Supervisors Awards</u>	Best Music Supervision for Films Budgeted Under \$5 Million		Nominated	

## References

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## External links

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- [Official site \(http://www.yellowrosefilm.com\)](http://www.yellowrosefilm.com)

- *Yellow Rose* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6862538/>) at IMDb
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