

# Circus Maximus (film)

*Circus Maximus* is a 2023 American <u>musical</u> anthology film cowritten, executive produced, and directed by <u>Travis Scott.<sup>[2]</sup></u> The film is Scott's directorial debut, with segments by <u>Gaspar Noé</u>, <u>Nicolas Winding Refn</u>, <u>Harmony Korine</u>, <u>Valdimar Jóhannsson</u>, Andrew Dosunmu, CANADA, and Kahlil Joseph.

It is a <u>visual companion</u> to the 2023 album <u>*Utopia*</u> and contains a number of music videos as well as concert footage of the songs from *Utopia* performed at the <u>Amphitheatre of Pompeii</u> in <u>Pompeii</u>, Italy, [3] interrupted by segments featuring Rick Rubin.

It was released in select <u>AMC Theatres</u> on July 27, 2023, one day before the release of *Utopia*. It was released on <u>Apple Music</u> on August 7 and on YouTube on August 15.

# **Synopsis**

In interstitial segments, Travis Scott and Rick Rubin have a conversation about Scott's current feelings. These segments were directed by Harmony Korine.

#### **Til Further Notice**

This segment is directed by <u>Valdimar Jóhannsson</u>. [a] Travis Scott is seen walking around mountains in Iceland, and enters an enormous cave, where he is attacked by a monstrous octopus. After the octopus lets go, he continues to trek the mountains and coastline of Iceland, which seamlessly leads into the first conversation between Rubin and Scott.

## Hyaena

This segment is directed by <u>Andrew Dosunmu</u>, <u>a</u> and serves as the music video for "<u>Hyaena</u>". Travis Scott was spotted visiting a village in the <u>Kano State</u> of <u>Nigeria</u> for the video, which consists of documentary footage of Scott and life in the village.

#### Sirens

This segment is directed by Travis Scott and the Spanish production company <u>CANADA</u>, and serves as the music video for "Sirens". Parts of the segment were filmed in Tarragona, Spain. [5]

#### Circus Maximus



Theatrical release poster	
Directed by	Travis Scott
	Harmony
	Korine
	Gaspar Noé
	Nicolas
	Winding Refn
	Valdimar
	<u>Jóhannsson</u>
	CANADA
	Andrew
	Dosunmu
	Kahlil Joseph
Written by	Travis Scott
Produced by	Kathleen
	Heffernan
	Kweku
	Mandela
	Imran Siddiq
	Oscar Tiné
Starring	Travis Scott
	Rick Rubin

James Blake

In this segment, a crowd of people are running around town into an arena, where it's revealed that they're forming a <u>castell</u> around Scott.

#### **Delresto**

This segment is directed by <u>Nicolas Winding Refn</u>, [a] and serves as the music video for "<u>Delresto (Echoes)</u>". In this segment, Scott is in a blue taxi where his eerily masked driver recklessly careens around in Copenhagen, Denmark.

#### **Modern Jam**

Filmed in <u>Paris</u>, this segment is directed by <u>Gaspar Noé</u>, <u>and</u> and serves as the music video for "<u>Modern Jam</u>". In this segment, Scott is DJing at a club. The video has heavy <u>epileptic imagery</u> with 1980s-style transitions throughout the segment.

	Sheck Wes Yung Lean Teezo Touchdown
Cinematography	Benoît Debie
	Magnus Jønck
	Arseni
	Khachaturan
	Tim Lorentzén
	Lukasz Zal
Release date	July 27, 2023
Running time	75 minutes <sup>[1]</sup>
Country	United States
Language	English

### **Pompeii**

This segment is directed by Harmony Korine, [a] and consists of concert footage of Scott performing at the Amphitheatre of Pompeii in Pompeii, Italy.

#### Song list:

- "Hyaena"
- "Thank God"
- "Modern Jam" (performed alongside Teezo Touchdown)
- "My Eyes"
- "God's Country"
- "Sirens"
- "<u>Fe!n</u>" (performed alongside <u>Sh</u>eck Wes)<sup>[b]</sup>
- "Circus Maximus"
- "Delresto (Echoes)"
- "Parasail" (performed alongside Yung Lean)
- "Til Further Notice" (performed alongside James Blake)
- "Telekinesis"

#### Cast

- Travis Scott
- Rick Rubin
- James Blake
- Sheck Wes
- Yung Lean
- Teezo Touchdown
- Jazzelle

# Release and promotion

On July 23, 2023, Scott announced the title of the film at the end of his performance at Rolling Loud Miami 2023. On July 25, 2023, Scott announced the film on his social media and released a trailer and poster of the movie. Although the official poster states that it was produced by  $\underline{A24}$ , the company has denied any involvement with the film.

Circus Maximus was released at select <u>AMC Theatres</u> in the U.S. on July 27, 2023. [8] All attendees were given a free promotional T-shirt. [9] On August 7, 2023 the film was released on <u>Apple Music</u>, hours after Scott performed in Rome. [10] On August 15, 2023, the film was uploaded on <u>YouTube</u> alongside the music videos for "<u>Hyaena</u>", "<u>Sirens</u>", "<u>Modern Jam</u>", and "<u>Delresto (Echoes)</u>", which were included in the film. [11]

#### Notes

- a. Stated in the end credits.
- b. Sheck Wes raps a new verse that's not in the original song.

### References

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