

Fancy Dance (2023 film)

Fancy Dance is a 2023 American drama film directed by Erica Tremblay in her feature narrative directorial debut, from a screenplay by Tremblay and Miciana Alise. It stars Lily Gladstone, Isabel DeRoy-Olson and Shea Whigham.

Fancy Dance premiered at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival on January 20, 2024. It is scheduled for limited release on June 21, 2024, prior to streaming on Apple TV+ on June 28, 2024.

Plot

Since her sister's disappearance, Jax has cared for her niece Roki on the Seneca–Cayuga Nation Reservation. She devotes much time into finding her missing sister, but also helps Roki prepare for an upcoming powwow. At the risk of losing custody to Jax's father, Frank, the pair hit the road to track down Roki's mother in time for the powwow.

Cast

- Lily Gladstone as Jax
- Isabel DeRoy-Olson as Roki
- Shea Whigham as Frank
- Audrey Wasilewski as Nancy
- Ryan Begay as JJ
- Crystle Lightning as Sapphire
- Dennis Newman as Derrick

Production

In December 2020, the screenplay of *Fancy Dance* was selected as one of The Indigenous List, initiated by The Black List, IllumiNative and Sundance Institute to spotlight the work of Native American writers.^[1] In May 2022, the screenplay also was featured in the Cannes Screenplay List.^[2]

Fancy Dance



Release poster

Directed by Erica Tremblay

Written by Erica Tremblay
Miciana Alise

Produced by Deidre Backs
Erica Tremblay
Heather Rae
Nina Yang
Bongiovi
Tommy Oliver

Starring Lily Gladstone
Isabel DeRoy-Olson
Ryan Begay
Crystle Lightning
Audrey Wasilewski
Shea Whigham

Cinematography Carolina Costa

Edited by Robert Grigsby

In August 2022, it was announced that Erica Tremblay would direct the film with Confluential Films set to produce.^[3] The principal photography took place in Tulsa, Oklahoma and began in August 2022.^[4]

Release

Fancy Dance had its world premiere at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, on January 20, 2023.^[5] Cercamon acquired its worldwide sales rights on February 16, 2023.^[6] It also screened at the 2023 South by Southwest.^[7] It also screened at the 2023 NewFest, where it held its New York City Premiere.^[8] In February 2024, Apple TV+ acquired distribution rights to the film with plans to release it later in the year.^[9] It is scheduled to be released in a limited release on June 21, 2024, prior to streaming on Apple TV+ on June 28, 2024.^[10]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 97% of 36 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 7.5/10. The website's consensus reads, "An urgent drama grounded in its observant depiction of reservation life, *Fancy Dance* establishes director/co-writer Erica Tremblay as a rising filmmaking talent".^[11]

References

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	<u>Wilson</u>
Music by	<u>Samantha Crain</u>
Production companies	<u>Significant Productions</u> <div></div> <u>Confluential Films</u>
Distributed by	<u>Apple Original Films</u> (through <u>Apple TV+</u>)
Release dates	January 20, 2023 (<u>Sundance</u>) <div></div> June 21, 2024
Running time	90 minutes
Country	United States
Languages	English <div></div> <u>Cayuga</u>

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8. "FANCY DANCE" (<https://newfest.org/events/fancydance/>). *NewFest*. Retrieved January 5, 2024.
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10. Peralta, Diego (April 10, 2024). "Lily Gladstone's 'Fancy Dance' Finally Sets Release Date" (<https://collider.com/lily-gladstone-fancy-dance-release-date/>). *Collider*. Retrieved April 10, 2024.
11. "Fancy Dance" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/fancy_dance_2023). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved March 15, 2023.

External links

- *Fancy Dance* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt21813994/>) at IMDb
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