

Monica (2022 film)

Monica is a 2022 drama film directed by Andrea Pallaoro from a screenplay by Pallaoro and Orlando Tirado. It stars Trace Lysette, Patricia Clarkson, Emily Browning, and Adriana Barraza.

The film had its world premiere at the 79th Venice International Film Festival on September 3, 2022, and it was released by IFC Films in the United States on May 12, 2023.

Plot

A trans woman estranged from her family returns home to care for her dying mother.

Cast

- Trace Lysette as Monica
- Patricia Clarkson as Eugenia
- Emily Browning as Laura
- Adriana Barraza as Leticia
- Joshua Close as Paul
- Leland and Brennan Pittman as Benny

Production


In 2016, Trace Lysette auditioned for the titular role, winning the role, and then became an executive producer.^[4]

In September 2020, Patricia Clarkson, Trace Lysette, Anna Paquin and Adriana Barraza joined the cast of the film, with Andrea Pallaoro directing from a screenplay he wrote alongside Orlando Tirado.^[5] In June 2021, Emily Browning joined the cast of the film, replacing Paquin who exited the project due to scheduling conflicts.^[6]

Principal photography began in June 2021.^[7]

Release

The film had its world premiere at the 79th Venice International Film Festival on September 3, 2022, where Lysette received an 11-minute standing ovation for her performance.^{[8][9]} Italian

Monica	
	
Poster	
Directed by	<u>Andrea Pallaoro</u>
Written by	Andrea Pallaoro Orlando Tirado
Produced by	Andrea Pallaoro Christina Dow Elenora Granata-Jenkinson Gina Resnick Joana Henning
Starring	<u>Trace Lysette</u> <u>Patricia Clarkson</u> <u>Emily Browning</u> <u>Joshua Close</u> <u>Adriana Barraza</u>
Cinematography	<u>Katelin Arizmendi</u>
Edited by	Paola Freddi
Production companies	<u>Rai Cinema</u> Propaganda Italia Fenix Entertainment

distributor Arthouse (a label of I Wonder Pictures) scheduled a December 1, 2022, Italian theatrical release date.^[10] In December 2022, IFC Films acquired distribution rights to the film.^[11] It was released in the United States on May 12, 2023.^[12]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 84% of 50 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 7.8/10. The website's consensus reads: "Bolstered by a powerful lead performance from Trace Lysette, *Monica* follows a personal quest that's as beautifully filmed as it is emotionally resonant."^[13] Metacritic, which uses a weighted average, assigned the film a score of 74 out of 100, based on 13 critics, indicating "generally favorable" reviews.^[14]

Awards and Nominations

Award	Date of ceremony	Category	Nominee	Result	Ref.
<u>Independent Spirit Awards</u>	<u>February 25, 2024</u>	<u>Best Lead Performance</u>	<u>Trace Lysette</u>	Nominated	^[15]
<u>GLAAD Media Awards</u>	<u>March 14, 2024</u>	<u>Outstanding Film – Limited Release</u>	<i>Monica</i>	Won	^[16]

See also

- List of Italian films of 2022

References

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- "Monica (2022)" (https://www.boxofficemojo.com/release/r1972980993/?ref_=bo_we_table_31). *Box Office Mojo*. Retrieved June 30, 2023.
- Malkin, Marc (May 12, 2023). "'Monica' Star Trace Lysette Says Screening at New York's LGBT Community Center Was 'Heavy': 'I Got My Gender Identity Therapy There 20 Years Ago'" (<https://variety.com/2023/film/columns/trace-lysette-monica-1235610593/>). *Variety*. Retrieved May 14, 2023.

	Alacran Pictures
	The Exchange
Distributed by	Arthouse (Italy) <div>IFC Films (United States)</div>
Release dates	September 3, 2022 (Venice) <div>December 1, 2022 (Italy)<div>May 12, 2023 (United States)</div></div>
Running time	106 minutes
Countries	United States <div>Italy</div>
Language	English
Budget	\$1.7 million ^[1]
Box office	\$182,156 ^{[2][3]}

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9. Rude, Mey (September 6, 2022). "Trace Lysette Gets 11-Minute Standing Ovation at Venice Festival Film" (<https://www.out.com/film/2022/9/06/trace-lysette-gets-11-minute-standing-ovation-venice-festival-film>). *Out*. Retrieved May 14, 2023.
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13. "*Monica*" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/monica_2022). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved August 24, 2023.
14. "*Monica*" (<https://www.metacritic.com/movie/monica>). *Metacritic*. Fandom, Inc. Retrieved July 23, 2023.
15. Brent Lang, Jordan Moreau (December 5, 2023) (December 5, 2023). "Spirit Awards 2024 Nominations List" (<https://variety.com/2023/film/awards/indie-spirit-awards-2024-nominations-film-tv-1235820700/>). Retrieved December 5, 2023.
16. "GLAAD ANNOUNCES NOMINEES FOR THE 35th ANNUAL GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS" (<https://glaad.org/releases/glaad-announces-nominees-for-the-35th-annual-glaad-media-awards/>). *GLAAD*. January 17, 2024. Retrieved January 19, 2024.

External links

- *Monica* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6337816/>) at *IMDb*
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