

The Silent Twins (2022 film)

The Silent Twins is a 2022 internationally co-produced biographical drama film about the twin sisters, June and Jennifer Gibbons, who were institutionalized at Broadmoor Hospital following years of silence and teenage rebellion. It was directed by Agnieszka Smoczyńska from a screenplay by Andrea Seigel, who adapted the book of the same name by Marjorie Wallace. The film stars Letitia Wright, Tamara Lawrance, Nadine Marshall, Treva Etienne, Michael Smiley, and Jodhi May.

The Silent Twins had its world premiere at the 2022 Cannes Film Festival, under the *Un Certain Regard* section, on May 24, 2022,^[7] was released in the United States on September 16, 2022, by Focus Features,^[8] and was released in the United Kingdom on December 9, 2022, by Universal Pictures.

Plot

Feeling isolated from their unwelcoming community, June and Jennifer Gibbons turn inward and reject communication with everyone but each other, retreating into a fantasy world of artistic inspiration and adolescent desires. After a spree of vandalism inspired by an American teenager they both idolize, the girls are summarily sentenced to Broadmoor Hospital, an infamous psychiatric hospital, where they face the choice to separate and survive or die together.

Cast

- Letitia Wright as June Gibbons^[9]
 - Leah Mondesir-Simmonds as young June Gibbons
- Tamara Lawrance as Jennifer Gibbons^[9]
 - Eva-Arianna Baxter as young Jennifer Gibbons
- Nadine Marshall as Gloria Gibbons
- Treva Etienne as Aubrey Gibbons
- Michael Smiley as Tim Thomas
- Jodhi May as Marjorie Wallace
- Jack Bandeira as Wayne Kennedy
- Kinga Preis as Sister Nowak

The Silent Twins



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Agnieszka Smoczyńska
Screenplay by	Andrea Seigel
Based on	<i>The Silent Twins</i> by Marjorie Wallace
Produced by	Klaudia Smieja-Rostworowska <div></div> Ewa Puszczynska <div></div> Ben Pugh <div></div> Joshua Horsfield <div></div> Anita Gou <div></div> Alicia van Couvering <div></div> Letitia Wright
Starring	Letitia Wright <div></div> Tamara Lawrance <div></div> Nadine Marshall <div></div> Treva Etienne <div></div> Michael Smiley <div></div> Jodhi May

- Amarah-Jae St. Aubyn as Greta Gibbons
- Tony Richardson as Dr. John Rees
- Declan Joyce as George Kennedy

Production

In February 2020, it was announced that Letitia Wright and Tamara Lawrance has been cast as twin sisters June and Jennifer Gibbons in the film *The Silent Twins*, based on the 1986 book of the same name by Marjorie Wallace, with Agnieszka Smoczyńska set to direct and Andrea Seigel set to write the screenplay, it marks Smoczyńska's English-language film debut.^[10] On April 8, 2021, it was announced that Focus Features acquired US distribution rights to the film while parent company Universal Pictures took international distribution rights.^[11] Principal photography wrapped in Poland.^{[12][13]}

Release

The Silent Twins had its world premiere at the 2022 Cannes Film Festival, under the *Un Certain Regard* section, on May 24, 2022.^[7] It was released in the United States by Focus Features on September 16, 2022,^[8] and was released in the United Kingdom by Universal Pictures on December 9. It also screened in the 'World Cinema' section of 27th Busan International Film Festival in October 2022.^[14]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 69% of 84 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 6.3/10. The website's consensus reads, "Although it struggles to really get inside the true story that inspired it, *The Silent Twins* is still a well-acted and poignant dramatization of actual events."^[15] Metacritic, which uses a weighted average, assigned the film a score of 59 out of 100, based on 25 critics, indicating "mixed or average reviews".^[16]

References


- "Letitia Wright and Tamara Lawrance to Debut in 'The Silent Twins'" (<https://blackgirlnerds.com/letitia-wright-and-tamara-lawrance-to-debut-in-the-silent-twins/>). blackgirlnerds.com. February 26, 2020. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20210502195142/https://blackgirlnerds.com/letitia-wright-and-tamara-lawrance-to-debut-in-the-silent-twins/>) from the original on May 2, 2021. Retrieved February 26, 2021.
- "The Silent Twins | BBFC" (<https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/the-silent-twins-q29sbgvjdgvlbjpwwc0xmda4nju3>). Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20230218202738/https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/the-silent-twins-q29sbgvjdgvlbjpwwc0xmda4nju3>) from the original on February 18, 2023. Retrieved February 18, 2023.

Cinematography	Jakub Kijowski
Edited by	Agnieszka Glinska
Production companies	Madants <div>Extreme Emotions 42</div> <div>30West</div> <div>Canal+</div> <div>Kindred Spirit</div> <div>Polish Film Institute</div> <div>Cofiloisir</div>
Distributed by	<div><div><div><u>Focus Features</u></div><div>(United States)</div></div><div><div><u>Universal Pictures</u></div><div>(United Kingdom)^[2]</div></div><div><div><u>Gutek Film</u></div><div>(Poland)^[3]</div></div></div>
Release dates	<div>24 May 2022</div> <div> (<u>Cannes</u>)</div> <div>16 September 2022</div> <div> (United States)</div> <div>9 December 2022</div> <div> (United Kingdom)</div>
Running time	113 minutes ^[4]
Countries	<div>United Kingdom^[1]</div> <div>Poland^[1]</div> <div>United States</div>
Language	English
Box office	\$298,207 ^{[5][6]}

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4. "The Silent Twins" (<https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/festival/films/the-silent-twins>). *Cannes Film Festival*. May 24, 2022. Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20220531220757/https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/festival/films/the-silent-twins>) from the original on May 31, 2022. Retrieved May 27, 2022.
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External links

- [Official website \(<https://www.focusfeatures.com/the-silent-twins/>\)](https://www.focusfeatures.com/the-silent-twins/) 
 - *The Silent Twins* (<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt11052678/>) at IMDb
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