*Creed III* is a 2023 American <u>sports drama</u> film directed by and starring <u>Michael B. Jordan</u> (in his feature <u>directorial debut</u>) from a screenplay by Keenan Coogler and <u>Zach Baylin</u>. It is the sequel to <u>Creed II</u> (2018), the third in the <u>Creed</u> series, and the overall ninth in the <u>Rocky film series</u>. It also stars <u>Tessa Thompson</u>, <u>Jonathan Majors</u>, <u>Wood Harris</u>, <u>Florian Munteanu</u>, and <u>Phylicia Rashad</u>. It is the first in the series without <u>Sylvester Stallone</u> starring as <u>Rocky Balboa</u>, though he still is a producer alongside the <u>Creed</u> director, <u>Ryan Coogler</u>.

A third *Creed* film was officially announced in September 2019, and in October 2020 Jordan was hired to make his directorial debut, and to reprise his role. Majors and the rest of the cast joined between November 2021 and September 2022, and it was confirmed Stallone was not cast. Principal photography was from late January 2022 through April, in <u>Georgia</u>, <u>Tampa</u>, <u>Florida</u>, and <u>Los Angeles</u>, California. It is the first film to be self-distributed by MGM under the ownership of <u>Amazon</u>, which announced the shuttering of the studio's previous distributor <u>United Artists Releasing</u> on the day of the film's release.

*Creed III* had its world premiere in <u>Mexico City</u> on February 9, 2023, and was released by <u>Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer</u> in the United States and <u>Warner Bros. Pictures</u> internationally on March 3, 2023. The film has grossed over \$100 million worldwide and received generally positive reviews from critics.