

China Box Office Overtakes North America in Q1 2018

The gross theatrical revenue in China in Q1 2018, according to data from China Film Foundation, amounted to RMB 20.217 billion, a 39.82% year-on-year increase from RMB 14.46 billion. Admission totalled 561 million, a 36.44% year-on-year bounce from 411 million. Domestic totals in Q1 2018 grew by a gigantic 93.17% from last year's RMB 7.765 billion (53.7% of overall box office) to RMB 15 billion (74.2% of overall box office).

Grosses for China in Q1 totalled RMB 20.217 billion (USD 3.22 billion), topping the highest single-quarter gross of \$3.085 billion from Q2 2015 in North America and refreshing the single-quarter international film market record.

“Operation Red Sea” topped Q1 box office with RMB 3.597 billion followed by “Detective Chinatown 2”, “Monster Hunt 2”, “The Ex-File: The Return of the Exes” and “Forever Young” respectively. Domestic productions took the first five spots in the top 10, while 27 films surpassed RMB 100 million.

A number of records were shattered in three month's time, including the biggest Lunar New Year day (RMB 1.261 billion), single-week (RMB 4.7 billion), Lunar New Year holiday (over RMB 5.7 billion), single-month (over RMB 10 billion), and single-quarter (over RMB 20 billion). The box office of January (RMB 4.95 billion), February (RMB 10.14 billion) and March (RMB 5.127 billion) each broke the month's record in history.

As of this day, China has 9,965 cinemas housing 54,183 screens, 47,541 (88%) of which are 3D screens; 4,905 are county-level cinemas housing 20,396 screens; 815 are in jumbo screen format with 520 IMAX screens and 295 CGS screens.