

'Fast & Furious 8' hits \$1-billion

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'Fast & Furious 8' continued to dominate the North American box office over the weekend, fending off newcomers at home while passing the \$1 billion mark worldwide, data showed Monday.

The eighth instalment in Universal's high-octane series starring Vin Diesel and Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson took \$19.9 million, Exhibitor Relations reported. The film has grossed \$193.3 million domestically and \$873 million internationally in three weeks.

'Fast & Furious 8,' which had a record-breaking global debut weekend, sees Diesel's character coerced by a cyberterrorist played by Charlize Theron to turn against his own team.

The next two films, new releases, were led by Pantelion's "How to be a Latin Lover," a comedy starring Salma Hayek, Rob Lowe, Kristen Bell and Mexican actor Eugenio Derbez.

It took in an estimated \$12.3 million while fantasy "Baahubali: The Conclusion," a sequel to a 2015 movie and only the third Indian film released in Imax format, \$10.4 million.

In fourth place, still performing strongly in its fifth week, is DreamWorks animation "The Boss Baby," which took in \$9.4 million. The tale of rivalry between infants and puppies features Alec Baldwin as the voice of the tie-wearing baby-in-chief.

STX Entertainment's "The Circle," starring Tom Hanks and Emma Watson in an exploration of privacy, paranoia and Silicon Valley ethics in a near-future world, earned \$9 million for fifth spot.

The industry is awaiting the domestic release at the weekend of "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2," which took \$106 million in foreign markets and is expected to outperform the original "Guardians," BoxOfficeMojo.com reported.
