James Bond fans snap up No Time To Die tickets within minutes of release, boosting cinema chain hopes

J ames Bond <u>fans</u> rushed to buy <u>tickets</u> to see <u>Daniel Craig</u>'s final outing as 007 on their release on Monday, in a welcome sign for hard-hit cinema operators after over a year of pain.

International chain <u>Vue</u> has over 870 <u>screens</u> in the <u>UK</u>. <u>Bosses</u> told the Standard they saw eager fans snap up their first Bond tickets just after midnight, and said <u>sales</u> have "got off to a really promising start".

Fellow giant Odeon, which has over 950 screens in the UK and Ireland, said the release is another "significant milestone" in the sector's recovery from the pandemic, which saw screens shuttered for months on end, the rise of movie streaming habits and the shortening of exclusive screen windows.

The most recent Bond blockbusters, Skyfall and SPECTRE, were the second and third-highest grossing UK box office slots in British cinema history.